



Christian Valley Park Community Service District

P.O. Box 6857, Auburn, CA 530-878-8050

Update on the Reservoir Replacement Project

Here's the latest on the progress of our reservoir replacement project from Gerry LaBudde, Principal Engineer at Hydros Engineering, Inc. Thanks, Gerry!

The existing reservoir was built in the 1960's as an in-ground uncovered reservoir, open to the atmosphere and susceptible to contamination. Regulations changed and required that all uncovered reservoirs be eliminated. In 1992, a floating cover was installed to comply with the regulations. These types of covers were installed on reservoirs throughout California during that era. Ultraviolet radiation has deteriorated the cover over the decades. Several emergency repairs have been made to

repair leaks in the cover in the last five years. A number of alternatives were considered to ensure the reliability and safety of our water supply, including rehabilitation and replacement of the existing facility. The decision was made to replace the existing 1.5 million gallon in-ground covered reservoir with two 750,000 gallon steel tanks that meet modern regulatory requirements. Utilizing two separate steel tanks will protect water quality and increase the reliability of our water supply. The design of the improvements for the reservoir replacement project are wrapping up and will be submitted to the United States Department of Agriculture Rural Utility (USDA-RUS)

Service (USDA-RUS) for approval.

The project funding has been structured to be made up of a significant contribution from District reserves and a low interest loan from the USDA-RUS. At this time the lowest bid is still higher than the amount projected, resulting in the need to explore additional financing options.

Once funding issues are resolved and the project gets underway, the existing underground reservoir will be replaced with two steel 750,000 gallon tanks designed and constructed to meet current water works standards and the long-term needs of the community.



Useful Information

All residents are welcome to attend our board meetings on the 2nd Tuesday of each month.

Meetings are currently held at 7pm. Please see the information on page two regarding meeting location.

The newsletter is a community publication and we are happy to include items of mutual interest. **To reduce the expense of mailing the newsletter, we would like to send as many as possible via Email. Please contact the district and we'll sign you up!**

A reminder that our website www.christianvalley.org contains board meeting agendas, minutes, reports and other helpful information. You can even pay your bill electronically with a credit or debit card.

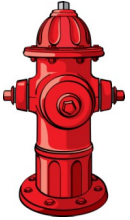
Please ensure that you have our correct address: P.O. Box 6857, Auburn CA 95604 so that your payment is credited promptly.

Board Member Opening and November Elections



At the March board meeting, we appointed newest board member Kathi Daugherty while at the same time, regretfully accepted the resignation of Chris Calvert who has moved out of the District. Chris served our community for more than five years and his contributions are greatly appreciated. The board will interview candidates and appoint his replacement at the May 12th meeting. Letters of interest should be sent to manager Don Elias prior to that time. This position, as with Kathi Daugherty's, will be up for election in November. Additionally, two incumbent seats will expire at the end of the year, resulting in four open positions. Residents interested in serving will need to apply at the Placer County Office of Elections in July in order to be on the ballot in November.

Fire Safe ~ Fire Smart ~ Firewise



Attend any type of gathering over the past year and homeowner's (fire) insurance is likely to be a hot topic. No pun intended. While many residents have received notices of non-renewal, others have received mandates from their insurer to make their property fully compliant with defensive space protocols. Unfortunately, there are stories of some cancellations even after work has been completed, creating a time-sensitive challenge to find new coverage. The District cannot offer advice on specific insurance situations, however, we can remind residents about the importance of maintaining defensible space and provide resources that can assist you in developing a plan for your own property. As we have discussed in previous newsletters, Firewise Communities are one way for neighborhoods within large districts such as ours to collaborate on mitigating risk.

Huge thanks to resident Steve Moeller for contributing an excellent article on the impact of developing Firewise communities within Christian Valley. His article on **Page Four** outlines what can be done at a neighborhood level and provides some great resources. Please read his article - it's not only informative but provides great resources for taking the next step.

Steve estimates that we need about ten FIREWISE communities in Christian Valley alone. You can learn more about starting or joining a FIREWISE USA community by going to their website. There is an organized process that you must go through to become recognized: Start by creating a "leadership board," request a neighborhood wildfire risk assessment, draft an action plan, invest in your community, and start educating your neighbors. All the details are on their website.

Luana Dowling is Placer County's FIREWISE USA coordinator. If you are interested in starting a FIREWISE USA community, she will help you get started. Her office number is 530-367-6159 and her email is dowlingluana@gmail.com.

By joining forces with our neighbors, our local FIREWISE coordinator, and our Emergency Responders we can keep our beautiful community of Christian Valley as safe as possible. With a little knowledge, effort, and help from our friends, our homes and communities can survive an otherwise devastating wildfire.

Steve Moeller is the Vice President of Marketing for Sherman Homes Construction, a designer and builder of luxury homes and remodels in Meadow Vista, CA. He founded the Stanley Drive & Barbara Lane FIREWISE community. Steve is the author of [En-dorphinomics: The Science of Human Flourishing](#), a book about money, happiness, and quality of life.

Call to Community Artists

You may have noticed new street signs installed in areas of Christian Valley. Many of the original signs were rusted or discolored and the new signs will make it easier for both residents and emergency vehicles to navigate our roads. The District is now planning to replace our "Welcome to Christian Valley" signs and is looking to the community for design ideas. The existing signs are weather resistant powder coated metal.

Interested artists should view the existing signs (one is located on Christian Valley Road by Gregg Way) and develop a design to be considered at the June 9th board meeting. Please note that this is not a contest and there is no compensation or award. Submissions should be made to the District at P.O. Box 6857, Auburn ~ 95604 or by Email to the general manager at: don@christianvalley.org.

Board Meeting Location & Online Meetings

Due to a major project at the California Conservation Corp center, the Christian Valley Park CSD monthly board meetings were recently relocated to the Placer Nature Center at 3700 Christian Valley Road. There is no change in meeting dates or times and the meetings will continue to be held on the second Tuesday of the month at 7pm. All residents of the District are always invited to attend these meetings. The district is currently looking at alternate locations.



Because of the COVID-19 restrictions imposed regarding group meetings, our board meetings will temporarily be held via the Zoom virtual meeting platform. Residents can join the meeting online by accessing the link provided on the first page of the website ~ christianvalley.org The Zoom platform supports audio and visual participation and residents will continue to be invited to speak to items on the agenda at the appropriate times. **Please continue to check the District's website for notification of the resumption of physical meetings and location.**

Welcome New Board Member Kathi Daugherty

We are pleased to introduce our newest board member, Kathi Daugherty, who was selected from a field of six applicants at the March meeting, replacing five year long member Chuck Rust. Kathi and her husband Howard have been residents of Christian Valley for sixteen years and she brings a wealth of experience in organizational management and board development.

Kathi is a retired superintendent of schools with a broad background in charter school development, oversight, monitoring outcomes and public relations. In 2009 she was named Superintendent/Principal of the year for California by the Association of California School Administrators. She also received the key to the City of Napa for her work with the city as part of Leadership Napa Valley. Kathi is a firm believer that it "Takes a Village" and that community involvement is key in supporting schools. Her experience and skills will transfer easily to working with a special district such as ours and we welcome and look forward to her service.

Invitation to Participate on CVPCSD Committees

The Board of Directors for Christian Valley Park Community Service District is seeking community members to serve on a variety of committees to support the work of the District and assist in recommendations for upcoming actions of the Board. The length of service on each committee varies based upon the task of the committee. Your input is very important. You must be a current resident or property owner to serve. It is anticipated that work on the committees will begin immediately. Please fill out this form and submit to the General Manager, Don Elias, if you are interested in serving and do not have access to a computer. We hope that the majority of interested residents will apply using this form online at the link below. We thank you in advance for your time and commitment to the Christian Valley Community Service District.

Link: <http://forms.gle/C5rdDCAt3Pm6JBdU9>

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____ (please indicate home/cell/preferred)

Committee Interest: Please circle all for which you have an interest

Board Bylaw Revision

Board Compensation Study

Fire Safety and Station

Communications

Policy Review/Development

Other Area of Interest (Please explain) _____

Protect Your Home From Wildfires ~ Firewise Communities

How FIREWISE USA Communities Reduce Wildfire Risks

By Steve Moeller

Each year, wildfires destroy homes and kill people throughout California's rural and heavily wooded communities. Unfortunately, the destruction of life and property is increasing. People are worried and homeowner's insurance costs are exploding. But there is a way to fight back and protect your home, your life, and your loved ones from the devastation of wildfires.

The majority of homes destroyed by wildfires are ignited by embers and small fires from combustible materials that are burning right against the structure. Up to 80 percent of homes lost to wildfires could have survived if they were well prepared. The problem is, most of us don't know where to start and can't afford to spend a ton of money on our property.

FIREWISE to the Rescue

That's where FIREWISE USA, a program of the National Fire Protection Association, can help. Volunteers create local FIREWISE community "boards" that learn simple, cost-effective wildfire protection strategies. Then, through educational events, community projects, and one-on-one conversations they "recruit" and educate their neighbors. The board members then encourage, advise, and help their neighbors take action NOW to prevent future losses.

FIREWISE Benefits

One of the key themes of FIREWISE communities is, "Neighbors helping neighbors." And that is exactly what we do. Armed with cutting-edge information and a prioritized action plan that is based on a professional risk assessment, we work together to protect our homes and our neighborhood. In addition to enhanced personal safety and reduced risk of our homes' burning, FIREWISE neighbors benefit in other ways.

Guided by Wildfire Experts We aren't alone. FIREWISE community members are the "boots on the ground" in a bigger effort to reduce wildfire risks. We are implementing proven strategies, at the grassroots level, that national wildfire experts devised—to protect entire communities; not just individual homes.

Potential for Reduced Homeowner's Insurance Costs The California Department of Insurance has approved USAA's request to give homeowners' insurance discounts to members who live in recognized FIREWISE communities. Many insurance companies are refining their wildfire risk assessment tools and are expected to offer similar discounts in the near future. When homeowners collaborate to take proven steps that protect their homes and communities, savvy insurance companies may reward them with lower premiums.

Potential Access to Future Risk Abatement Funding & Assistance State and federal agencies tend to favor FIREWISE USA communities over other groups when granting funds for wildfire mitigation. As more of our groups form, we will gain leverage with insurance companies and grant-funding sources.

Community Cohesiveness Like a barn raising, FIREWISE communities bring people together for a common purpose that is bigger than any one of us. The shared activities foster positive feeling of connection, competence, contribution, security, and self-esteem. The benefits of knowing our neighbors and collaborating with them on worthy causes transcends fighting a common threat. It enhances *social connection and cohesiveness*, key factors in healthy, happy, and smooth-functioning communities.

Increased Property Values No one wants to live in an unsafe, overgrown, and unkempt home or neighborhood. Personal security is critically important to everyone. So homes in FIREWISE communities, whose residents have proactively protected their homes and trimmed up their trees and shrubs are more desirable and, therefore, potentially more valuable.

Christian Valley FIREWISE USA Communities

Placer County has the second highest number of officially recognized FIREWISE USA communities in all of California. There are at least two FIREWISE communities in Christian Valley. The first one is centered around Christian Valley Road and Allen Drive. Kathy Wallace is one of the team leaders for that community. If you live in that neighborhood and want to join, her email address is kwallace952@gmail.com.

The FIREWISE community that I founded includes 71 homes on Stanley Drive from Virginia to its west end cul-de-sac. It includes Barbara Lane, Paul Court, and Ralph Court. If you live in our community and want to learn how to protect your home, send me an email at steve@shermanhomesinc.com.