From: **FireSafe Occidental** firesafeoccidental@gmail.com
Subject: Free Chipping starts next week - signup now
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To: bburnett@sonic.net

Fire Safe Occidental July 10, 2020 Newsletter

Free Chipping Starts Next Week

Thank you! to all the neighbors who continue to reduce fuel on their property. Sonoma County's FREE CHIPPING crew will be in the Occidental area next week, starting July 13. They will be chipping on Joy Rd, Joy Ridge, Jennifer, Lauri, Burl, Coleman Valley, Willow Creek and Westwood if you have already submitted you application. They inspected those roads today.

Anyone who has not already submitted and wants free chipping must apply and have your piles ready before Friday July 17th to be part of the FSO chipping project the following week. Your piles will be inspected Friday July 17th and chipping will occur the week of the 20th. Go here to apply: (look for the **Residential Curbside Chipping** item in the Report an Issue list)

Submit-a-Service-Request

YOU MUST NOTE YOU ARE PART OF THE FIRE SAFE OCCIDENTAL COMMUNITY PROJECT on the application to get your piles chipped the week of July

20th. (There is a box labeled description and the question is: "Anything else we should know about the issue?") The county has very few spots for the entire year's budget left, so if you are thinking of applying for free chipping through the county--apply today!

AND...Other News

Update on EMS services in the Occidental area: As many of you may know, our Emergency Medical Services have been in transition. FSO recently got word from Lynda Hopkin's office that the surrounding Fire Protection Districts of Russian River and Bodega Bay and American Medical Response/Sonoma Life Support have agreed together to step into the role that FALK Northern California was playing for us. Sonoma County EMS assures us we will have fast response times with this solution.

Sept 3rd Occidental Area Emergency Alert Drill
Sonoma County Emergency Preparedness group will be conducting an alert system drill on September 3rd in our area to make sure systems work and residences can receive alerts. Please make sure you have signed up for all the alert systems at SoCo Alert Signup. If you have a weather radio, make sure that it is plugged in and has batteries installed (and that are still working; please check your batteries). We will be asking for volunteers from each neighborhood to help us track the success of the alert system and get the county feedback.

FYI we also wanted to pass along that the county continues to look for solutions to downtown Occidental's waste/sewer system and believe they have found a solution with neighboring Graton. It will require a pipeline between the two towns sometime in the future. In the meantime, the county is helping local businesses by starting to charge by use to minimize expenses during times like these when activity is low and thus revenue to cover expenses are low.

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Stay safe and keep in touch. Fire Safe Occidental is always looking for people who can get involved or ideas you may have about how we can best serve our community.

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