



# Kent Woodlands Journal

Newsletter #285

July 2019

The monthly newsletter of the Kent Woodlands Property Owners Association

## *President's Note: It's Fire Season – Harden Your Home!*

### **WILDFIRES ARE OFTEN SPREAD BY AIRBORNE EMBERS**

Embers from a wildfire are light enough to be blown through the air and can result in the rapid spread of wildfire by spotting (in which embers are blown ahead of the main fire, starting other fires).

Should these embers land on or near your house, they could easily ignite nearby vegetation or accumulated debris in roof gutters, or enter the home through openings or attic vents, igniting furnishings or combustible debris in those locations.

Ignitions near your home will subject some portion of your house to either a direct flame contact exposure, where the flame actually touches a home, or a radiant heat exposure (the heat felt when standing next to a campfire or fireplace).

If the fire is close enough to a combustible material, or the radiant heat is high enough, an ignition will result. With enough radiant heat, for example from a burning deck, your windows can break and admit fire into your home.

With any one of these exposures, if no one is available to extinguish the fire and if adequate fuel is available, the initially small fire will grow into a large one.

One of the misconceptions about home loss during wildfires is that the loss occurs as the main body of the fire passes. Research and on-the-ground observation during wildfires have shown that the main flame front moves through an area in a very short time: anywhere from 1 to 10 minutes, depending on the vegetation type. Homes do not spontaneously ignite—they are lost as a result of the growth of initially small fires, either in or around the home or building.

FIREsafe MARIN's "Hardening Your Home Against Wildfire" page [www.firesafemarin.org/home-hardening](http://www.firesafemarin.org/home-hardening) explains the realities of wildland-to-home fire spread, the vulnerabilities of specific components of the house, how they are vulnerable to wildfire, and material and design options to improve the ability of your home to survive.

(Source: [www.firesafemarin.org](http://www.firesafemarin.org))

— Ann Becker, President

### **FROM THE COUNTY: THIS IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY!**

With the summer weather, many walkers and bikers are on the road, so it's especially important that overgrown vegetation is trimmed, street signage is visible and pathways are cleared!

**A friendly reminder that property owners are required to maintain vegetation clearance adjacent to roads and driveways, horizontally and overhead.**

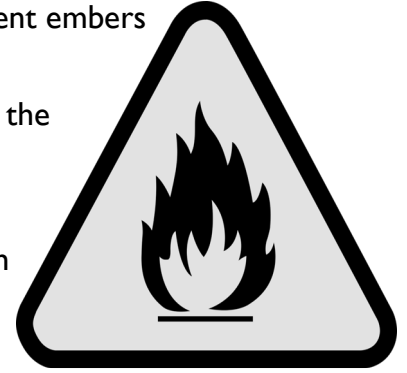
If you have trees that need trimming near power lines, it's important to know that PG&E can help. They can create a safe distance between your trees and power lines, then you can hire a contractor for any additional work. Call 1-800-743-5000 to request this "make safe" service or a temporary service shutoff so you can prune safely. Thank you for making our streets and community safer!

— Supervisor Katie Rice

# Wildfire Preparedness Checklist

**Complete this list of simple action steps each spring (and repeat as needed) to prepare your home and property for wildfire:**

- Clean leaves and debris from gutters, eaves, porches and decks to prevent embers from igniting your home. Repeat often during fire season.
- Remove all dead leaves and vegetation from decks and within 30 feet of the house. Repeat regularly.
- Remove any combustibles stored underneath decks or porches.
- Enclose areas below patios and decks or screen with 1/8-inch wire mesh to prevent debris and combustible materials from accumulating.
- Remove all combustible materials such as firewood, propane tanks, and dry vegetation within 30 feet of your home's foundation and outbuildings, including garages and sheds. If it can catch fire, don't let it touch your house, deck or porch.
- Prune trees annually so the lowest branches are 6 to 10 feet from the ground. Remove shrubs beneath trees.
- Keep grasses cut and maintained. If it's brown, cut it to less than 4 inches. Cut grass early in the day, when fire danger is lower. Repeat as needed.
- Rake and remove debris and lawn cuttings. Dispose of cut material in green cans to reduce fuel on your property.
- Inspect shingles, roof tiles, and flashing. Replace or repair as needed to prevent ember penetration. Consider installing a fire-resistant roof if you don't have one already.
- Cover exterior vents with 1/8-inch metal wire mesh to prevent embers from entering the home.
- Ensure that your address number is visible. 4-inch numbers on a contrasting background are required.
- Maintain driveways and roadways with 10 feet horizontal vegetation clearance and 14 feet vertically.
- Check your emergency and evacuation "Go Kit" and replace perishables like batteries, food, and water annually.
- Conduct a family evacuation drill each year and instruct all family members on safe evacuation practices.
- Check that all phone numbers listed at [www.alertmarin.org](http://www.alertmarin.org) are current and correct.
- Check your homeowner's or renter's insurance and keep a copy of the policy in your "Go Kit."



Learn more about how to keep your family safe and reduce your home's risk of wildfire damage online at [www.firesafemarin.org](http://www.firesafemarin.org). You can find an in-depth "fire ready" checklist at [www.readyforwildfire.org/docs/files/File/Checklist.pdf](http://www.readyforwildfire.org/docs/files/File/Checklist.pdf).

## **Architectural Applications: July 2019**

**Please note:** This newsletter is your **official notice** from the KWPOA regarding property improvements submitted for approval by the Architectural Committee. Please review this section very carefully as some planned development may affect you. Note that Architectural Committee actions are not final until ratified by the Board of Directors.

### ***THIS MONTH'S ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW MEETING: July 9, 2019***

<b>Applicant</b>	<b>Property Address</b>	<b>Category/Project Description</b>
<b>New Applications for July</b>		
Goren	22 Rock	C3 - Preliminary Review
Goshay	75 Rock	C7 - Changes to Approved Plans
<b>Continued Applications to be considered in July</b>		
None		
<b>Applications Approved in June</b>		
Burlingame	226 S. Ridgewood	C2 - Minor Addition
<b>Applications Denied in June</b>		
None		
<b>Open Enforcements</b>		
67 Ridgecrest		
7 Rancheria		
421 Crown		
147 Crown		
14 Madrone		
<b>Exempt and Administratively Approved Applications</b>		
Barr	119 Evergreen	Tree removal
Henderson	101 Crown	Tree removal

**ARCHITECTURAL COMMITTEE:** Jim Schafer (Chair), Anne Barr, Trina Lavigna, Tom Nicholson, Bill Riley

**AC COORDINATOR:** Michael Barber

**MEETINGS:** Held at the KWPOA office at 1010 Sir Francis Drake Blvd., #200, Kentfield, CA on **the 2<sup>nd</sup> and/or 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesdays of each month from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.** To be noticed in the newsletter and placed on the agenda, COMPLETE applications must be received by the 21<sup>st</sup> of the preceding month (or the Friday prior if the 21<sup>st</sup> falls on a weekend or holiday). All calls concerning Architectural Committee matters should be directed to Michael Barber at the KWPOA office at 415-721-7429 or [mbarber@kwpoa.com](mailto:mbarber@kwpoa.com). Materials and applications may be mailed to P.O. Box 404, Kentfield 94914, or delivered to the office by appointment only.



Kent Woodlands Property Owners Association  
PO Box 404  
Kentfield, CA 94914

## *Next Regular Board Meeting*

**Date:** Thursday, August 22, 2019 - 6:00PM  
**Location:** 1010 Sir Francis Drake Blvd. #200

- Call to Order
- Public Comment
- Approval of June 27, 2019 Meeting Minutes
- AC Report and Ratifications
- Officer Reports
- County Update
- Fire Safety Report and Related Votes
- Social Events Update
- Administrator's Report
- Next Regular Board Meeting Agenda
- Adjourn and Reconvene in Executive Session

### **Executive Session Agenda:**

- Call to Order
- Approval of June 27, 2019 Minutes
- Enforcements and Legal Matters
- Personnel
- Adjournment

*(This is a preliminary agenda. Final agenda posted at our office 96 hours prior to meeting.)*

## *KWPOA Contact Information*

**Mailing address:** PO Box 404, Kentfield 94914  
**Office address:** 1010 Sir Francis Drake Blvd. #200  
Kentfield, CA 94904  
**Phone:** 415-721-7429  
**Fax:** 415-532-1487  
**Web Site:** [www.kwpoa.com](http://www.kwpoa.com)  
**Email:** [info@kwpoa.com](mailto:info@kwpoa.com)

## *Board Members and Staff*

Ann Becker, President	<a href="mailto:abecker@kwpoa.com">abecker@kwpoa.com</a>
Bitsa Freeman, Vice President	<a href="mailto:bfreeman@kwpoa.com">bfreeman@kwpoa.com</a>
Steve Gray, Treasurer	<a href="mailto:sgray@kwpoa.com">sgray@kwpoa.com</a>
Mimi Willard, Secretary	<a href="mailto:mwillard@kwpoa.com">mwillard@kwpoa.com</a>
Anne Barr, Director/AC	<a href="mailto:abarr@kwpoa.com">abarr@kwpoa.com</a>
Jeff Leh, Director	<a href="mailto:jleh@kwpoa.com">jleh@kwpoa.com</a>
Sara Wardell-Smith, Director	<a href="mailto:swardellsmith@kwpoa.com">swardellsmith@kwpoa.com</a>
Jeanne Williams, Administrator	<a href="mailto:jwilliams@kwpoa.com">jwilliams@kwpoa.com</a>
Michael Barber, AC Coordinator	<a href="mailto:mbarber@kwpoa.com">mbarber@kwpoa.com</a>