

Gold Ridge Forest

Gold Ridge Forest Property Owners Association
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December 2019

Next Board of Directors Meeting
Wednesday, January 22, 2020
7:00 pm at the Lodge

Presidents Message Joan Fuquay

Greetings of the Season, Fellow GRF Members

As 2019 draws to a close, I would like to thank you for the opportunity to serve you as president of Board of Directors. We have undergone some changes and have finally stabilized the board to its' full five members with the addition of Kevin Monsma and Marie Zandona-Harger. Now we can finally focus on our goals of maintaining our common areas and facilities, improving our governing documents, and making our community safe and a desirable place for a viable investment and place to call home. This year Sherry Hawk, Pat Schoggins, Bob Ritzman and Rich Wade formed the Gold Ridge Forest Fire Safe Council. Though this group is not an official branch of our association, we have been working closely with them by distributing information and meeting notices and other assistance. To their great credit, because of the formation of the Council, we will be having over 50 designated acres of our greenbelt "treated" and made fire safe at no cost to us. The council is also working diligently to procure grants which will financially assist in making other areas of our greenbelt fire safe. Thank you to the whole council for your hard work.

We have been working on updating our CC&Rs and governing Bylaw. Legal work on the Bylaws had already been completed by our attorneys. But, because the state government has been busy creating many new association laws, we find ourselves going back to the drawing board. We hope to get the new documents to you sometime later 2020 for your approval.

Have you had an opportunity to visit our www.goldridge.org website? Thank you, Joan Schepplemann, for taking your time and expertise producing that site. I must also mention, Joan has been a committee of one reaching out to our community with her email updates.

GRF Office Closed

December 20
thru
December 29

2019-2020
Board of Directors

President
Joan Fuquay

Vice President/Secretary
CC&R
Marie Zandona-Harger

Finance
Kevin Monsma

Greenbelt
Dominique Smith

Recreation /
Bob Ritzman

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She deserves all the credit in the world and appreciation that we can extend.

Well, our work is cut out for us in the new year and we would like to invite your participation. I would really like to encourage you to get involved in planning and participating in fun community activities. Our facilities provide wonderful opportunity for such events. Other committees such as; greenbelt, finance, architecture/CC&R rules committee also would welcome your involvement. So that's it for the end of 2019. I wish you all a wonderful and safe holiday season.

See you in 2020!



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**GOLD RIDGE FOREST FIRE SAFE COUNCIL  
Sherry Hawk**

The Gold Ridge Forest POA is excited to announce that it recently approved a major project for the C-20 Greenbelt located near Pearl and Garnet. The Gold Ridge Forest Fire Safe Council has collaborated with the El Dorado County Resource Conservation (RCD), to masticate and clean up the understory in this area. This project will include removing trees up to 12", as well as clear and remove brush so as to reduce ladder fuels.

The shaded fuel break will: 1) Provide a natural reduction of energy sources available for advancing the fire, thus reducing the fire's intensity and slowing its rate of growth. 2) Provide a better environment for aerial firefighting operations thus allowing further slowing or even blocking the fire's spread. 3) Provide a more open environment through which to move firefighting personnel and equipment, allowing more concentrated resources to be applied toward slowing or stopping growth of the fire and will provide more safety to personnel as well.

If you are in the C-20 area of Pearl and Garnet, the Fire Safe Council will be reaching out to you to discuss this project and discuss right of entry options so that the RCD may encroach and clean up the area near your property. They look forward to working with each of you to make this a safe and effective project.

If you have any questions regarding this project, please email [GoldRidgeForestFSC@yahoo.com](mailto:GoldRidgeForestFSC@yahoo.com) or call Sherry Hawk at (707) 888-9331.

## Finance Update

Kevin Monsma

At the November meeting, the Board adopted the budget for 2020. The adopted budget was developed using historical averages from the last five years along with any information that was available regarding possible increases for services and utilities. Additionally, on January 1, 2020, the minimum wage will increase by one dollar an hour. We will continue to see minimum wage increases for the next three years until it reaches \$15/hour. The Board worked diligently to address these issues and to develop a conservative budget. I would invite anyone who is interested in participating on our budget committee to contact the Gold Ridge office and give your contact information to Karen. Serving on the budget committee will assist all of us to fully understand the needs of our association and to provide input as we progress through the year. Additionally, if you are interested in how we are doing financially during the year, come to the monthly Board meeting where we always provide a budget update. Finally, at the December Special meeting, the board adopted the Reserve study budget for 2020. Highlights of the scheduled work that we will be undertaking utilizing our reserves include: seal coating of the parking lots, driveways and walkways, seal coating of the basketball court, resurfacing the tennis courts, replacing the mercury vapor lights with LED lights, redoing the large pool deck and install required ADA access to the large pool, and painting the cabana and restoring and reseal the deck by the lodge. If you have any questions around the budget, please let me know. I am always happy to respond to any questions.

Kevin

# Winter Holiday Safety

Winter holidays are a time for families and friends to get together. But that also means a greater risk for fire. Following a few simple tips will ensure a happy and fire-safe holiday season.

## HOLIDAY DECORATING

- Be careful with holiday decorations. Choose decorations that are flame resistant or flame retardant.
- Keep lit candles away from decorations and other things that can burn.
- Some lights are only for indoor or outdoor use, but not both.
- Replace any string of lights with worn or broken cords or loose bulb connections. Read manufacturer's instructions for number of light strands to connect.
- Use clips, not nails, to hang lights so the cords do not get damaged.
- Keep decorations away from windows and doors.



## HOLIDAY ENTERTAINING

- Test your smoke alarms and tell guests about your home fire escape plan.
- Keep children and pets away from lit candles.
- Keep matches and lighters up high in a locked cabinet.
- Stay in the kitchen when cooking on the stovetop.
- Ask smokers to smoke outside. Remind smokers to keep their smoking materials with them so young children do not touch them.
- Provide large, deep ashtrays for smokers. Wet cigarette butts with water before discarding.



## Before Heading Out or to Bed

**Blow out** lit candles when you leave the room or go to bed. **Turn off** all light strings and decorations before leaving home or going to bed.

## FACTS

- ! More than **one-third** of home decoration fires are started by candles.
- ! More than **two of every five** decoration fires happen because decorations are placed too close to a heat source.



**NATIONAL FIRE  
PROTECTION ASSOCIATION**  
The leading information and knowledge resource  
on fire, electrical and related hazards

**Gold Ridge Forest Fire Safe Council**

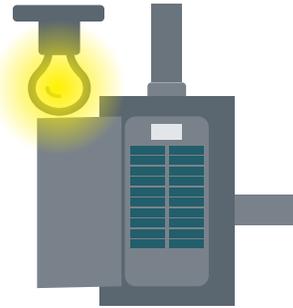


# Be fire smart

with electricity in your home.



There are approximately **45,000** home electrical fires each year.



**3 in 5** home electrical fires involve lighting equipment or home electrical wiring.



Home electrical fire deaths peak between **midnight and 8 a.m.**

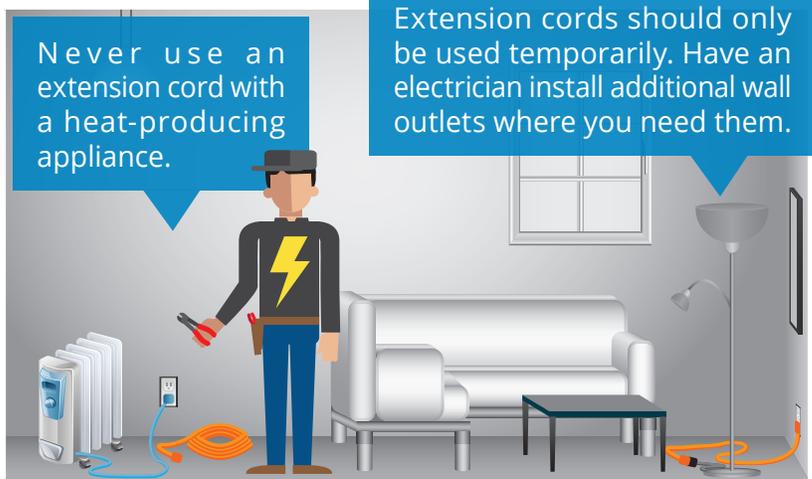


Peak months for electrical fire deaths are **November through March.**

Plug only 1 heat-producing appliance (such as a coffee maker, space heater or microwave) directly into a wall outlet at a time.



Never use an extension cord with a heat-producing appliance.



Extension cords should only be used temporarily. Have an electrician install additional wall outlets where you need them.



FEMA



U.S. Fire Administration



For more information about electrical fire safety, visit [www.usfa.fema.gov](http://www.usfa.fema.gov) and [www.nfpa.org/public-education](http://www.nfpa.org/public-education).