

## **NEWS RELEASE**

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## **Curbside Chipping**

San Bernardino County Fire Fuel Reduction Crews are at it again, chipping, chipping, chipping!!! In an effort to assist homeowners with clearing their property and creating a defensible space, County Fire is once again offering free curbside chipping in the mountain communities.

Residents can leave their cut brush, tree limbs and trimmings at the curb and fuel reduction crews will come and chip the debris or haul it away, all at no cost to the homeowner. Residents are asked not to leave pine needles, leaves, stumps or construction wood.

Through a partnership with the Fire Safe Councils, Community Chipper Days are held throughout the year. Community Chipper Days are currently scheduled:

June 11<sup>th</sup> – Green Valley Lake & Crest Estates in Lake Arrowhead June 18<sup>th</sup> – Mt. Baldy & Wrightwood

During a Chipper Day event, residents need to leave their chipping items at the curbside by 8 a.m. on that day.

Mountain residents can also call the **Curbside Chipping Hotline** at **855-686-2447** to make an appointment for one of the chipping crews to come to their home.

Last year over 3,470 tons of fire fuels were chipped or cut into firewood throughout our local mountain communities. In the first quarter of this year, over 1,250 tons have already been processed. If this trend continues, we will surpass last year's totals by at least 20%.

The Wrightwood Fire Safe Council is sponsoring a Tri-Community Green Waste & Pine Needle clean up. From now until June 10<sup>th</sup>, residents can bring their pine needles, weeds, branches, tree trimmings, grass and pine cones to a drop off location at 1450 Hwy. 2 in Wrightwood, across from the Fire Station. Since June 2<sup>nd</sup>, about ten 40' dumpster have been filled daily. For more information visit WrightwoodFSC.com or call 760-249-5248.

Contrary to common perception, a wildfire does not have to burn everything in its path. In fact, clearing property of debris and maintaining landscaping are important, yet simple, first steps for homeowners. Residents can do their part and take simple steps today to lessen the risk of damage if a wildfire occurs. Learn more in the San Bernardino County Fire Department Ready! Set! Go! plan available at <a href="https://www.sbcfire.org">www.sbcfire.org</a>.

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