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<http://ucanr.org/wildfireawarenessweek>

Living with Fire

Press Release

Announcing Lake Tahoe Basin Wildfire Awareness Week May 26th to June 3rd, 2012

Wildfire Survival: Your Family. Your Home. Your Responsibility.

South Lake Tahoe, CA, April 2nd, 2012: The third annual Lake Tahoe Basin Wildfire Awareness Week will be held May 26th to June 3rd 2012. The theme this year is “Wildfire Survival: Your Home, Your Responsibility”. The focus of the week will be to promote homeowner and resident actions that reduce the risk from wildfire to homes and communities. These include upgrading vulnerable home components and conducting defensible space activities. Also consider having an evacuation plan in place – make a plan, assemble a kit, stay informed. Visit www.co.washoe.nv.us for more information. Fire agencies, fire safe chapters and local organizations will collaborate to hold community clean up days including offering free chipping and pine needle pick-ups and hosting neighborhood meetings and educational activities including a webinar series on reducing wildfire risk so those living remotely can participate in the week’s events. Check the website at <http://ucanr.org/wildfireawarenessweek> to find out about events and the webinar series.

The goal of the Lake Tahoe Basin Wildfire Awareness Week is to encourage individual action to reduce the threat of wildfire to homes and communities. Activities will provide information and resources to upgrade homes and create defensible space around them. Fire resistant homes have fire-rated roofs, covered vents to reduce the risk of ember intrusion, fire resistant construction materials and are in good repair. Creating defensible space involves selecting and maintaining vegetation near the home, thereby reducing the risk homes will be ignited and destroyed during a wildfire.

It takes coordinated effort between individuals and local fire and other agencies to prepare a community to survive wildfire. We are counting on you to take responsibility to reduce the risk from wildfire to your home and community in the Lake Tahoe Basin. Please join in wildfire week activities. For information on how to upgrade homes or create defensible space in the Tahoe Basin see <http://ucanr.org/wildfireawarenessweek>, or contact Susie Kocher at 530-542-2571 or sdkocher@ucdavis.edu.

For Immediate Release