## Homeowner's Meeting May 1, 2010 9:30 A.M. Sierra Recreation Park Hall

Dear Sierra Recreation Park Property Owners,

## How do you exit the Park if Wheeler Road is blocked by fire or fire fighting equipment? What is defensible space? How do you clear your lots so as to create defensible space and help firefighters defend it against wildfire? These and other questions will be answered at the Homeowners' Meeting May 1, 2010.

During fire season, as wildfires take a relentless toll on the forests and destroy many homes in our state, we worry about our properties. Sierra Recreation Park has been spared many times through the years. Fire experts assure us, we will not always be that lucky.

Last September, a group of homeowners formed an Evacuation Plan Committee to develop a plan which would enable us to leave the park by alternate routes if Wheeler Road were being used by fire equipment, or was blocked by fire. After gathering information from various agencies including: Tuolumne County Administration, County Fire Department, CALFIRE, US Forest Service and Hwy 108 Fire Safe Council, three alternate routes were designated "Evacuation Routes" and approved by the Board of Directors. The padlocks on these gates were replaced by combination locks and the combination published.

Our park is a prime candidate for a wildfire. Experts state "when" not "if' a wildfire will occur. There are steps we can take as a community to reduce the fuel load and make our properties more defensible.

Barry Rudolph, Battalion Chief, Twain Harte Battalion, CALFIRE will be in the Sierra Recreation Park Hall, May 1, 2010, at 9:30a.m. to do a presentation to all property owners addressing these issues. If firefighters are to defend our property, we have an obligation to make our property as defensible as possible. Defensible space does not mean clear cutting. Clear Cutting in the state of California is illegal. But there are other things we can do to assist the firefighters.

We encourage all property owners to attend the meeting. Copies of the Evacuation Plan will be available. After the presentation, there will be a question and answer period. Mr. Rudolph will then evaluate a property in the park and make recommendations on what should be done to make the property more defensible.

We hope all of you will make it a priority to attend the meeting to become informed on how to best protect your property. If each individual does his/her part to protect their property, it enhances the possibility that our park will be defensible and saved when a wildfire threatens.

Please, share this information with other property owners who share in your property.

See the attached "Evacuation Plan".

## **Reserve the date:**

May 1, 2010 9:30 A.M.

## Sierra Recreation Park Hall.

Sincerely,

Evacuation Plan Committee

Gloria and Wayne Harvey, Linda Clark, Pat Monahan, Yvonne Peter, Shirley and Mike Rainwater, and Bob Cloak and Sue Reynolds.

For more information call: Wayne and Gloria Harvey, 209-586-6161, glonway1037@yahoo.com