



## SRCA Newsletter Article October 2009



### Be Proactive

Last month's Newsletter emphasized the need for homeowners to take action to prepare for the forthcoming fire season. As the Newsletters were being distributed we watched as the Station Fire north of Los Angeles burned 100,000 acres and forced 10,000 families to evacuate their homes. In Scripps Ranch many homeowners have gotten the message and are getting proactive.

\* More than three dozen have taken advantage of our free chipping service and cleaned up the volatile fire fuel nearby their homes. We still have funds remaining. Please call 945-6303.

\* Several homeowners have replaced their wood roofs with Class A fireproof material. Metal and concrete tile are favorites. They add to the value and the safety of your homes. Google "Concrete roofing tiles" for more information.

\* At least two homes--and one in Rancho Bernardo--have boxed their eaves with fireproof cement-fiber material that looks like, and works like, wood paneling. Two homes have replaced their wood siding. Google "hardie board."

\* One homeowner reports a new fire-proof product--a Class A fire-rated "wood" fence. Timbersil is a pine wood infused with glass. "...looks quite nice. We are quite happy to get this done before the Santa Ana winds." To see the fence, drive by 10247 Avenida Magnifica. Go to [[www.woodwontburn.com](http://www.woodwontburn.com)].

We have received several inquiries from homeowners living adjacent to dense volatile trees and brush. The San Diego Municipal Code is clear. The owner of the property containing the dangerous fire fuel is responsible for its removal within 100 feet of homes, even homes on neighboring property. We recommend you contact your neighbor. Because your home is threatened, perhaps you can help with the expense of removing the brush. If your efforts fail, call the fire department's message hotline at 619-533-4444 and describe the situation. An inspector will come out, assess the danger, and, if need be, write a citation requiring the removal of the fire fuel.

Finally, many have completed their home inventory and evacuation plan. If you haven't, the time is now.

To reach the Scripps Ranch Fire Safe Council, email us at our new address: [[info@SRFireSafeCouncil.org](mailto:info@SRFireSafeCouncil.org)].

**Jerry Mitchell, SRFSC Director**