

Wildfire Community Preparedness Day

Q&A Portion -May 6, 2017

- 1. How do you open the front gate if it is stuck closed and evacuation has been ordered? (See PowerPoint presentation for details)**
 - Doug Walters on RH security committee has thoroughly checked out procedures for opening gate.
 - Intruder alert Security can open gates; question on who calls Intruder Alert. To be further researched.
 - Gate opens automatically if power goes off
 - Or manually flip circuit breakers by gate
 - Lastly using drill bit to open; assigned duty to 4 persons in RH
- 2. Are there alternate exit routes out of Roseheart?**
 - Besides having both gates opened, option 2 is leaving out parking lot along side of power lines on country road headed to Storage Business.
 - Requires an auto with high clearance though.
 - Turning right on Bulverde may be easier and faster for exit. Fire Department representative response: When they get called to fire, evaluate situation and call Police Department for traffic control if needed.
- 3. Question asked about the brush right along our exit road around bridge and gate area, full of cedar and other fuel for wildfire—if fire there, problem getting out as well as a bottleneck for evacuating families.**
 - The wooded area is a nice deterrent to have privacy in neighborhood, but possible fire threat.
 - Bennie noted that a clearing of 10 feet from first house in RH on Roseheart has been completed to give neighbor a 'firebreak.'
 - Will work with SAFD and Forest Service to evaluate priority areas for future Firewise clearing projects.
- 4. How do ambulance/FD/ PD open gate in emergencies?**
 - They have code/key to enter.
- 5. What about our neighbors who may need physical assistance?**

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- Considering sending out survey to every residence to respond / “opt in” if assistance wanted or needed.
- Those needing help could change from month to month.
- Plan would be to identify at least 2 neighbors per resident needing assistance.
- More detail needs to be worked out before a plan can be finalized.

6. Question about wooden lattice under ‘plastic’ deck and if a coating can be put on wood.

- SAFD said Home Depot or Lowe’s sells a fire resistant/retardant coating product.

7. What about sticks/leaves in the yard acting as a fire hazard?

- Forest Service replied, only if the wind blows them close to house and they accumulate in a pile. Danger of embers in air; plus talked about keeping shrubs trimmed along side home to prevent “ladder fuels.”
- Bennie Newman said HOA Board still working on common area leaf problem. Question again from Residents concerned about stack of dry leaves piled along fences & paths. Bennie said leaves are up to 12 inches deep in some areas and HOA recognizes this is an issue and working on solution.
- Added note: the common areas are meant to be natural as possible with balance for fire mitigation. Important to have trees create a shady canopy and no ladder fuel under 6 feet.

8. Can a drone be used to check the gutters and roofs of RH homes?

- HOA Board will consider this. Could be a service to alert residents to gutter congestion. May be privacy issues.
- SAFD advised that if a drone is in operation, FD has to suspend their air operations in fighting a fire.

9. Can link to interactive map showing Texas areas under high risk for wildfires be posted to RH website?

- Roseheart webmaster (Tony) will post on FW section on website.

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10. Has Quarry done their clearing along our fence line?

- Don't think so, but at least rock inhibits wildfires. Aerial map of Vulcan site borders posted on RH website.
- Will check with SAFD Captain Stanush to see if discussion has occurred with Vulcan.