

The Camp Fire ~ Phones, Fires and Failures

Draft AGENDA for Meeting of the Coloma Lotus Fire Safe Council
Thursday, November 6, 2019, 7:00p.m. - 8:30 p.m.
Gold Trail Grange No. 452, 319 Highway 49, Coloma CA 95613

1. Welcome, Introductions and Announcements

- a. Introductions
- b. Huge thank you to CLFSC Sponsors – Gold Trail Grange and Coloma Lotus Business Council
- c. Announcements

2. Business – Coloma Lotus Fire Safe Council amendment of boundaries and update of the El Dorado County Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP), CL Portion Map. There will be a public vote. Here is the current CWPP portion covering Coloma Lotus - <http://www.edcfiresafe.org/about-the-council/satellite-councils/lotus-coloma-fsc/community-wildfire-protection-plan/>

3. Presentation: The Camp Fire ~ Phones, Fires and Failures

Alan Thompson was part of a four-person, disaster-recovery team dispatched to Butte County on November 17 to help restore cell phone service destroyed by the 2018 Camp Fire, which decimated the communities of Paradise, Magalia and Concow. Working there turned him into an "Accidental Advocate" for community and fire safety. He realized that a disaster just like the Camp Fire could happen in his own home town of Placerville. It could happen anywhere in California.

This is an audio/video presentation about The Camp Fire, with an emphasis on emergency communications planning and execution that went terribly wrong and offers suggestions on how to help our communities stay safer in the event of similar disasters here.

Alan states - One thing is clear: We must find more resilient solutions to help ensure our communities get timely, life-saving information about fast-moving disasters like the Camp Fire, especially in light of our present-day over-reliance on cell phones and the Internet for everything - technologies which, in turn, depend on a trillion dollars of vulnerable infrastructure not to fail. The Presentation also offers suggestions on how we all can help to make our communities safer in the event of local disasters like the Camp Fire, and provides an introduction to Neighborhood Radio Watch Programs. The presentation shares:

- Time Line detailing events that unfolded on November 8, the first day of the fire
- Catastrophic points of failure that impacted emergency communications, alerts, and evacuations, placing peoples' lives at risk
- Our Team's role in restoring damaged cell phone communications, and day-lighting cell-phone service vulnerabilities that caused us to be there in the first place
- Steps we can all take right now to help support better emergency communications in our own, local communities
- Introduction to second presentation "Radio For The Rest of Us" picks up where the Camp Fire presentation leaves off. It details how to set up "Neighborhood Radio Watch Programs" in local communities to help keep us safer during disasters:

http://www.alanthompson.com/The_Camp_Fire_Phones_Fires_and_Failures_Presentation_by_Alan_Thomson_W6WN.asp

4. Meeting Wrap-up and Close - please assist with putting away tables and chairs if you can.

RESOURCES FOR YOUR USE

- **El Dorado County Fire Protection District (EDCFPD)** – <http://www.eldoradocountyfire.com/>
- **El Dorado County Fire Protection District (EDCFPD) – Stations and District Map**
<https://www.eldoradocountyfire.com/district/community-stations/>
- **EDC Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO) info on Special Districts -**
<https://www.edlafco.us/fire-protection-districts>
- **Chipping Program 2019** – <http://www.edcfiresafe.org/programs-grants-2/chipper-program/>
- **Before You Burn Check Local Burn Regulations and Air Quality District Information**
[https://www.edcgov.us/Government/AirQualityManagement/Pages/burn_information_\(outdoor\).aspx](https://www.edcgov.us/Government/AirQualityManagement/Pages/burn_information_(outdoor).aspx) **AND** http://www.fire.ca.gov/fire_protection/fire_protection_burnpermits
- **Emergency Notifications:** The El Dorado County reverse 911 system provides home and business, land line, mobile phone text and email notifications. <http://ready.edso.org/>
- **El Dorado County Fire Safe Council educational materials** – <http://www.edcfiresafe.org/>
- **El Dorado County Fire Safe Council Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) portion covering Coloma Lotus** - <http://www.edcfiresafe.org/about-the-council/satellite-councils/lotus-coloma-fsc/community-wildfire-protection-plan/>
- **FireWise (National Fire Protection Association) webinars and other educational materials** - <https://www.nfpa.org/Public-Education/By-topic/Wildfire/Firewise-USA>
- **American Red Cross: Gold County Region - training and volunteer opportunities**
<https://www.redcross.org/local/california/gold-country.html>

Purpose of a Coloma Lotus Fire Safe Council

to bring together public and private organizations and neighbors to form a local group, share information about defensible space and other fire safe topics, to solve problems and link related fire prevention programs in ways that save us money and time. The public safety issues we discuss will extend beyond fire safety to emergency preparedness and response, and greater community resilience.

Coloma Lotus Fire Safe Council Volunteers Sought - All support, including meeting attendance, is very appreciated. Secretary sought. Ask Tim, Bill, Linda or Deborah for more information.

- Chair/Secretary – Deborah Kruse
- Treasurer – Linda Kirkbride
- Communications – Sara SK
- Project Coordinator – Bill Deitchman
- Project Coordinator – Tim Kulton
- County FSC Liaison – Your Name Here
- Neighborhood Coordinator for Your Area - Your Name Here