

# TAHOE DOUGLAS FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

Guy LeFever, Fire Chief  
Mark Novak, Fire Marshal  
Van Ogami, Assistant Chief



Roy Clason, Chairman  
Brad Dorton, Vice-Chairman  
RJ Clason, Trustee  
Frank Forvilly, Trustee  
Steve Seibel, Chairman

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Dear Tahoe Douglas Residents:

In 2008 the voters in the Tahoe Douglas Fire Protection District voted to approve a property tax to create the Fire Safe Community Fund. The 2009 field season was our first year with this important funding source and we want to inform you of our accomplishments and let you know our plans for the 2010 field season.

The 2009 field season was a huge success. The creation of the Fire Safe Community Fund gave us the opportunity to maintain our community chipping program and the fully fire qualified, twenty person, Zephyr Fire Crew. The Zephyr Fire Crew completed fuels reduction on 209 acres throughout the District. These projects are located next to communities we have identified as being at-risk for catastrophic fire in our **Community Wildfire Protection Plans**. Additionally we completed mechanical fuels reduction on 60 acres near Whittell High School and in Glenbrook. We are pleased that the China Gardens Project in Glenbrook has been awarded the Best in the Basin Award by the TRPA. Of the 209 acres treated by the Zephyr Fire Crew, 50 acres were on urban lots. In addition to fuels reduction, the Zephyr Fire Crew also responded to four fires in the District and four fires as a part of our Local mutual aid agreements. The Zephyr Fire Crew effectively doubles our firefighting capacity during the high fire hazard season and during 2009 that extra capacity proved invaluable, in extinguishing fires before they have the chance to grow into uncontrollable conflagrations.

The 2010 season is shaping up to be an even bigger year for the Zephyr Fire Crew. Our goal is to thin 240 acres identified in our **Community Wildfire Protection Plans**. We will also be continuing our defensible space inspection program, the community chipping program, the "Compost Your Combustibles" program and the Fire District will continue to offer "a fuels reduction crew for a day" for homeowners who replace their wood shake roofs. We will also continue to issue Tree Removal Permits as a part of our defensible space program.

We understand that in these tough economic times and that increased taxes place a burden on our residents, however we cannot afford to turn our back on the fire hazard that currently exists. The Fire Safe Community Fund is solely used to fund the forest fuels management program, including the Zephyr Fire Crew. If you have any questions or comments, please feel free to give me a call; **we value your input.**

Sincerely,

Guy LeFever, Fire Chief  
Tahoe Douglas Fire Protection District  
775 742-3705

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