



BEAR VALLEY  
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Greetings!,

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## THINKING AHEAD FOR FIRE SAFETY

- The high snow depth this winter can help with fire safety on your Bear Valley lot. You can remove high limbs on your trees without a pole saw or a ladder. Our fire advisors tell us that limbing up is almost as important as thinning out excess trees. Limbing removes ladder fuels that let a fire go from the ground up into the canopy where it can spread farther faster. The minimum is 6 feet but 10 feet or more is a good idea. And limbing will make it easier for firefighters to move around your lot in case of a fire. Thanks to longtime homeowner Jim Burton for this safety tip.

- Deputy Denver Stoner, the fire liaison between BVRI and the BV Fire Department, says it's not a question of whether a forest fire will reach Bear Valley, it just a matter of when. The McClatchy News Service just published a study naming the ten most likely California towns to suffer the same fate as Paradise - a catastrophic fire. Guess who's on the list: Arnold, a half hour down the road from Bear Valley. The topography, the overforestation, and the warmer summer temperatures make Arnold a prime

candidate for a fire that takes out the whole town. Bear Valley has similar topography, the same overforestation, and the same rising temperatures. Can you take a hint?

BVRI will conduct the annual lot inspections for fire safety this summer. Summer will start later due to snow on the ground so the time available for thinning, limbing, raking, and clearing will be shorter. Start making your plans, whether you do the work yourself or hire some help. The popular chipper program happens again this summer, and we'll let you know how and when to sign up. And consider coming up while the snow's still deep on your lot to do some high limbing. Thanks

Thank you  
BVRI Board

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FORWARD TO A FRIEND