



Meadow Valley Multi-Agency Wildland Fire Exercise

Plumas County Office of Emergency Services, Plumas National Forest and the Meadow Valley Volunteer Fire Department, along with many others, will be conducting a wildland fire training exercise in Meadow Valley, CA on Sunday, June 1, 2014. Although there is no actual fire, residents should expect emergency vehicles and operations throughout the community, particularly between 11:00 am - 4:00 pm.

The objectives of this training exercise are to test and improve the participating agencies notification, response, coordination and communication systems used during an incident in addition to expanding participant's knowledge and use of the Incident Command System. Other objectives include increasing community awareness about the Firewise communities program, how to create defensible space around homes and how to be prepared for an evacuation.

Background: The five hour training exercise will be based on a fire starting west of Silver Creek Road in Meadow Valley. Fire suppression resources will include local volunteer fire departments, USDA Forest Service and CAL FIRE.

The Plumas County Sheriff's Department, California Highway Patrol and Plumas County Search and Rescue will be simulating an evacuation. The American Red Cross, Plumas County Social Services, Public Health and all Plumas County hospitals will simulate emergency shelter operations at the Plumas-Sierra County Fairgrounds. The operations will include an animal shelter component simulated by Plumas County Agriculture Department.

Other cooperators include CA Office of Emergency Services, PG&E, Soper Wheeler, Plumas Amateur Radio Club and private landowners among others.

Community Information: In addition to individual outreach being conducted by the Meadow Valley Volunteer Fire Department, two community meetings have been scheduled. The pre-meeting is on Thursday, May 8, 2014 from 7-8:00 pm. and the post-meeting on Thursday, June 19 from 7-8:00 pm. Both will be held at the Meadow Valley Church to insure access for people with special needs. Various Firewise meetings will be scheduled through-out the season.

Pre-planning information resources include:

Plumas County Office of Emergency Services (<http://countyofplumas.com/index.aspx?nid=88>), Plumas County Fire Safe Council (<http://www.plumasfiresafe.org>) and Firewise Community Program (<http://www.firewise.org>).

Incident information during the training exercise may be found at: <http://inciweb.nwcg.gov> .

Questions may be directed to Lori Pini, Health Education Coordinator - Plumas County Public Health/Office of Emergency Services (530) 283-6988 or loripini@countyofplumas.com.