

President Messages

SLASH PILE HISTORY & STATUS - The timeline below chronicles the communications about the slash pile that was recently removed from a neighbor's property. Over the past few months, every possible option was pursued to get the neighboring landowner to remove the slash piles. RECOA consulted with the landowner, the Redmond Fire Department Fire Marshall, the Deschutes County Forester, Board Directors, our RECOA attorney, members of the Community Wildfire Prevention (CWP) committee, members of the Finance and Contracts Committee, Eagle Crest Management, Eagle Crest Accounting staff, insurance purveyors, experienced vendors, and concerned homeowners. The consensus of fire experts was that the accidental ignition of this dry brush in such close proximity to RECOA homes, could have been disastrous, not only to homeowner property but RECOA property as well.

The slash pile was first noticed in late February or early March of this year. Its presence was first mentioned in the eBlast on June 29th alerting homeowners to the problem and listing possible solutions being pursued. An update on the status of those unsuccessful resolutions was provided in the July 12th eBlast. After over two more months of attempting to address the situation at no cost to Eagle Crest, in the September 7th Board meeting, it was resolved to pursue three bids to share the cost for removal of the slash pile. In the October 4th Board meeting, the Board voted 5 to 1 to approve a \$7000 expenditure to share cost with the neighboring property owner to remove the piles as a fire safety measure. The decisions in those meetings were shared in eblasts on September 13th and October 4th, respectively. As of October 11th, the slash piles have been removed and the risk of a catastrophic fire in our community has been reduced. For additional details, you can find copies of all the eblasts on the RECOA website at [RECOA - Ridge at Eagle Crest Owners Association \(ridgeowners.org\)](http://ridgeowners.org).

Members of our CWP committee have inspected the landowner's property to ensure the work has been performed to our expectations. The \$7000 cost divided by our 1742 homeowners is approximately \$4.01/address, this to reduce the risk of millions of dollars in damage that a wildfire could have caused. There is no intention to repeat this one-time only relationship with the current landowner, or other landowners who share a boundary with RECOA. The RECOA Board of Directors always strive to balance financial cost vs. benefit for every decision made. We understand that we cannot meet the expectation of every homeowner and did not take this decision lightly.

MAIL DELIVERY UPDATE - The Redmond Post Office is experiencing a perfect storm of fewer employees, new employees, new contract labor (rural carriers), more Redmond residents, and vastly more parcels to handle. Our specific situation at Eagle Crest has been affected by all new carriers on both routes, #67 and #68. Although the contracted carriers are working to a contract, the contract owner of one route is located either in the mid-west or the East Coast. RECOA has no way to contact the route owner to ask for improved performance, and we will need to communicate these problems through our contact at the Redmond Post Office. I have spoken to our Redmond Post office contact every other day for the last two weeks, letting him know what issues we are facing. He is passing those concerns on to our carriers (the carriers corroborate to me that they are hearing about them!).

For the next two weeks, please document the errors you experience and the dates and send the final log of errors to skaggsrecoa@gmail.com on November 1st. The compiled list will be presented to the Redmond Post Office. Hopefully this documentation helps the Post Office bring about much faster improvement with documentation of error types, frequency, and fallout.

While we are dealing with this disappointing situation, we are aware that many of you have received mail and packages that weren't addressed to you and have gone out of your way to contact the addressee to hand the mail to them directly. Thank you to every neighbor who has taken the time and effort to "deliver" mail to another homeowner. Your behavior is like a breath of fresh air. Your neighborliness is a testament to the wonderful people who live here. THANK YOU!

ECM Announcements

Coopers Hawk Mailbox Key Distribution – Eagle Crest Management will distribute keys until January 31st, 2023. Any owners not able to pick up their new keys by January 31st, 2023, will have to go through the post office to have their mailbox re-keyed and a new set of keys assigned. The post office does have a fee for this process.

ECM's open lobby hours per the contract are **Tuesday and Friday, 8 am-12 pm. Owners are welcome to make an appointment with the ECM staff Monday-Friday 8 am-5 pm.**

If you need to schedule an appointment outside of our lobby hours, please contact Eagle Crest Management by emailing Ownerservices@eagle-crest.com, or calling (541) 548-9300.

Please be sure to bring a photo I.D to collect your new mailbox key. If you do not live here full time, you can send ECM an email with the name of whom you are allowing to pick up your keys, they must bring a photo I.D.

General Announcements

MORE TRAFFIC? – Interested in how the new Thornburg Resort Development may impact traffic in the area? Check out the new Thornburgh FAQs on the RECOA website: [Check out the new FAQs listed as 29-33](#). And if you have additional questions regarding the Thornburg Resort Development, send them to cc@ridgeowners.org. Every attempt will be made to find and share the answers.

ELECTION INFO – A new 2022 Election Webpage is available on the RECOA website under Owner Resources. This website will be continually updated with new information as it become available. Link: [2022 Election Information \(ridgeowners.org\)](#).

Committee News

PENDING COMMUNITY WILDFIRE PROTECTION ACTIVITY: Your Community Wildfire Protection Committee (CWP) is advising Ridge Owners of two up-coming activities both of which are related to our conclusion of the FEMA Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP). The HMGP operations on the Ridge were initiated in conjunction with Deschutes County in February 2022.

The two pending activities are:

Fuel Burn Operations on the West Ridge High Terrain Up-slope from Highland View

Loop: We anticipate the staged fuel piles that were produced in February and reside within the expanded 150 foot "buffer" upslope from the Resident Property Lines will be burned. This activity is a planned element of the Contract process and is to occur between now and the end of the calendar year. This is normal planning for these operations, and the burn operations will be conducted when prescribed weather conditions allow. The operations will be conducted by Summitt Forests of Ashland, Oregon under contract to Deschutes County Project Wildfire and in

coordination with RECOA. Summitt Forests will prepare and coordinate the Burn Plan with the County and Redmond Fire and Rescue.

This is the third fuels burn activity conducted on the Ridge High Terrain. The burn operations are expected to take one day. In the next two weeks, you may observe CWP on the high terrain validating the pile count for planning coordination with Summitt Forests. Burn operation updates will be announced as they become available.

Completion of planned Fuel Mitigation activities within the adjacent Unirrigated Areas of the Ridge and Challenge Golf courses: When the initial HMGP project was conducted in February, there were 12 golf course holes where wildfire protection treatment was deferred because of an inadvertent mapping error. We are planning to complete this treatment between now and February 2023. In anticipation, CWP will be validating the boundary marks (orange tape) and trees previously identified for thinning (green tape). Our validation survey will be conducted in the next two weeks. If you live adjacent to the golf course on the following Challenge(C) or Ridge(R) Fairways: C1/C2/C17/C18/R1/R2/R5/R6/R7/R8/R9/R14, you may see us in your area. Updates will be provided. Contact CWP at cwp@ridgeowners.org with any questions.

Upcoming Meetings and Events

We welcome your participation! Please join us for the following upcoming meetings:

Communications Committee Meeting – Thursday, October 20, 2022, 1pm -3pm
Click [here](#) to join the Zoom – **NEW DATE (this month only)**

RECOA Rules Review Committee Meeting - Thursday, October 20, 2022, 2pm - 3pm
Click [here](#) to access the Zoom link

Social Committee Meeting – Wednesday, October 26, 2022, 3:30pm - 4:30pm
Administration Building- 7555 Falcon Crest Drive

RECOA BOD Meeting - Thursday, October 27, 2022, 10am - 12pm
Administration Building- 7555 Falcon Crest Drive or click [here](#) to access the ZOOM link

Annual Meeting – Details to be announced.