



# The Foothills Creek Fire & Emergency Planning Committee

1057 Foothills Creek Road, Gold Hill, OR 97525

Phone: 582-2020 Fax: 582-2087

Visit our website at [www.foothillscreek.org](http://www.foothillscreek.org)

Spring/Summer 2014

Dear Foothills Creek Resident,

The following should explain what the Foothills Creek Fire & Emergency Plan is all about and how it works. We encourage you to sign up today, its quick and easy, just complete the enclosed voluntary Fire Survey form and return – that's it.

This is a free community service that was established in 2003 (after the Biscuit Fire) in an effort to help residents stay informed, coordinate effectively with emergency responders and to help keep our Foothills Creek community as beautiful as it is today.

According to the Oregon Department of Forestry, the Foothills Creek area is considered a high fire risk area. Also Foothills Creek has a long history of fires both manmade and lightning caused. Now is the time to prepare – before fire season hits. We all know that temps can go from 50 to 90 degrees in a blink and before you know it the fire and equipment use restrictions are in place.

As part of the FC Fire and Emergency Plan our resident volunteer dispatchers will help keep you informed about fires, wildlife issues, other emergency situations and about general info beneficial to our community.

## **Some reasons to consider signing up:**

- ◆ *Only those on the Phone Tree will be called when there is fire or emergency in your area.*
- ◆ *Only those signed up will receive Email updates on the status of fires and/or emergencies, wildlife issues and those issues that are potentially harmful or beneficial to our community.*
- ◆ *Accessibility through a Sheriff enforced closed traffic barricade during a fire. This is a Pilot Project where we coordinate with the Sheriff to allow those who are confirmed as a part of the Fire Plan and for those coming in to help you evacuate or help move your animals or livestock.*
- ◆ *When we have wildlife issues that pose a threat to our community (i.e. cougars etc.) we email alerts about where and when so you can take steps to protect your children, pets and livestock.*
- ◆ *From the Fire Survey data we created an comprehensive and organized community resource list of the available water sources, heavy equipment, staging areas and skilled residents (medical, law enforcement, etc) . Example: livestock and horse trailers, tractors to make fire breaks etc.*
- ◆ *If you or someone living with you has a medical issue and needs extra time or help evacuating, we have those residents red starred (\*) in our phone tree and they are contacted first.*
- ◆ *The Fire Chief, Oregon Dept. of Forestry and County Sheriff all have a copy of our Phone Tree and Resource lists so they can act quickly to contact residents, find water, equipment, etc*
- ◆ *Only your Area FC Dispatchers and the Fire Chief have a copy of your Fire Survey. The Left Fork Dispatcher has only the Left Fork Surveys and so on. There is only one Master Book with all and it is kept by the Foothills Creek Fire and Emergency Manager and is strictly confidential. All Dispatchers do have the complete Phone Tree and Resources lists.*

## How the Foots Creek Volunteer Fire & Emergency Committee works:

Foots Creek is divided into 5 areas:

Before Fork, Left fork, Lower Right Fork, Upper Right Fork, and Hosmer Lane.

We don't have a middle fork to avoid confusion. From the fork - all odd numbers addresses are Left Fork and even numbers are Right Fork. We split the Right Fork into two dispatch areas (upper and lower) at 2500 due to the large number of residents.

Each of these five areas has 2-3 different Dispatcher Teams. Husband and wife are considered 1 dispatch Team. All dispatchers are Fooths Creek property owners with a vested interest in our community and all are volunteers. Once you are sign up you will be given a contact list for all the FC Dispatchers.

The phone tree is only activated when there is serious concern or a possible threat to residents whether that is from fire, wildlife, etc. We do not call if there is a fire in Jacksonville or in Wimer, only if it poses a possible threat to our community. All Fooths Creek Dispatchers receive emergency text notification from the Oregon Dept. of Forestry if there is a wild land fire on or in close proximity to Fooths Creek.

If need be during a fire or other emergency situation you can call your dispatchers to get an update but please do not drive to a fire or emergency scene. Cars clog roads and can prevent fast responses by first responders. If you have an emergency call 911 FIRST.

If you have not filled out a Fooths Creek Fire Survey form you will NOT be called or emailed. Only those who have completed the form are included in the phone tree and email lists. Yes, we keep all your information private. We value our own privacy so we can appreciate that concern.

For the record we do not come and evacuate you or your pets, we do not house sit or tend pets - we are here to provide our residents with as much helpful information and resources as quickly as possible. We are also here to assist the emergency first responders by coordinating our community's resources and providing information as needed. Only the Sheriff, Fire Chief or ODF Fire Boss can make the call on whether or not to evacuate residents.

We hope you will join the Fooths Creek Community Fire Plan. Working together we are much stronger and because of this our community has a voice that will be heard and an earned reputation of being informed, organized and prepared.

Please feel free to call if you have any questions.

Best regards,

*Shayne Maxwell*

Shayne Maxwell, Manager

### **Important Tips:**

*FYI: If you have a locked gate or gate code we do not want that information & recommend you provide a key or the code to the Rogue River Fire Chief so they can gain access quickly if necessary.*

*FYI: If you cross a bridge to access your property it should be certified by a structural engineer and weight rated. If first responders have ANY doubts about your bridge they will not cross it. If you do get it certified be sure to call the Fire Chief and let him know asap.*

*\*\* We recommend all property owners contact the Oregon Dept. of Forestry 541-664-3328 and ask to have your property evaluated. There are funds that come available to help pay for removal of fuels (brush, low limbs). There are liabilities if you do not reduce your fuels and a fire starts on your property. The ODF can explain all of this to you. Be sure to be evaluated "before" you brush clear or you will not be entitled to any available funds if you remove the brush first.*



## FOOTS CREEK FIRE & EMERGENCY PLANNING SURVEY

This information will be used to assist you and your community in case of an emergency.  
Completion is voluntary.

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ HOME PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

PHYSICAL ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ WORK PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

CELL PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

SPECIAL DIRECTIONS/HAZARDS (locked gate, light load bridge, steep road, propane or fuel tanks):

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

NAME OF ADULTS LIVING AT LOCATION: \_\_\_\_\_

NUMBER OF CHILDREN AND AGES: \_\_\_\_\_

IN CASE OF EMERGENCY NOTIFY: NAME \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

\*MEDICAL OR HEALTH PROBLEMS (evacuation assistance): \_\_\_\_\_

SPECIAL NEEDS FOR EVACUTATION: \_\_\_\_\_

TYPES AND NUMBER OF ANIMALS: \_\_\_\_\_

SPECIAL TRAINING/SKILLS OF RESIDENTS (medical, heavy equipment, tree faller, firefighting):

LIST ALL EQUIPMENT THAT WOULD BE AVAILABLE IN CASE OF A COMMUNITY EMERGENCY  
(trucks, trailers, backhoes, water tanks, ponds, pumps, generators, any type of heavy equipment):

OTHER RESOURCES (water sources, irrigated pastures, animal storage areas, staging area):

I am covered by a local fire district in event of fire: YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_

Indicate whether you own or rent the subject property: OWN \_\_\_\_\_ RENT \_\_\_\_\_

**I hereby release the above information as needed only for emergency purposes to emergency responders.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**SIGNATURE**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**DATE**

**Please return by Fax 541-582-2087 or by Mail to: Foothills Creek Fire & Emergency Planning, 1057 Foothills Creek Road, Gold Hill, OR 97525 or by email to [4shayne@charter.net](mailto:4shayne@charter.net) Document must be signed and dated. You will receive a confirmation phone call or email of receipt.**