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CITY OF ELKO - FIRE DEPARTMENT

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Community Wildfire Preparedness Day!

The City of Elko Fire Department is excited to celebrate the importance and magnitude of wildfire preparedness and risk reduction with Northeastern Nevada and the City of Elko!

According to the Insurance Information Institute (III), Nevada sustained 551 wildfires scorching over 42, 479 acres in 2015!

As many as 90 percent of wildland fires in the United States are caused by humans, according to the U.S. Department of Interior. Some human-caused fires result from campfires left unattended, the burning of debris, negligently discarded cigarettes and intentional acts of arson. The remaining 10 percent are started by lightning or lava.

The 2015 fire season set a new record for the number of acres burned in the United States. Between January 1 and December 30, 2015 there were 68,151 wildfires, which burned 10,125,149 acres, according to the National Interagency Fire Center. During the same period in 2014, 63,417 fires burned 3,577,620 acres. The previous record was set in 2006 at 9,873,745 acres.

The Citizens and visitors of the City of Elko are invited to participate in the observance of Wildfire Awareness Month by attending our annual Wildfire Preparedness Day Celebration on Saturday May 7th, from 12pm- 3pm at Home Depot!

The Wildfire Awareness Month celebration will showcase two mock landscaped homes. One home will utilize fire wise planting materials recommended by the University of Nevada Reno Cooperative Extension Living with Fire Program, and the other with non-fire wise planting materials. All landscape materials used for the display will be provided by Home Depot and design by Green Day Landscaping.

The City of Elko Fire Department was the recipient of a grant in the amount of \$500.00 from State Farm Insurance and the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) for community wildfire awareness. These funds will be utilized to purchase fire wise plants that thrive in Northern Nevada will be provided to the first 75 children who attend.

In addition, we will be providing free annual flowers to mothers in attendance for Mother's Day (while supplies last)!

Firefighters from Elko Fire Department, Elko County Fire Protection, Bureau of Land Management, and Nevada Division of Forestry, and the National Forest Service will be on site to showcase wildland fire suppression, urban interface tactics, apparatus, and equipment. University of Nevada Reno Cooperative Extension Living with Fire Program will be showcasing the renowned "Ember House" from Reno to educate children on the dangers of wildfire to your home.

Several industry and community services organizations such as; American Red Cross, Elko County CERT, Elko County Sherriff, Southwest Gas, and Shobonya Dutton with State Farm Insurance, Liberty Mutual Insurance, and Green Day Landscaping will be onsite offering valuable preparedness and awareness information! Home Depot will have the famous Kids Construction Corner for children and adults to test their construction skills.

Firefighters from the City of Elko Fire Department will be onsite with the Fire Safety Trailer, and will be providing information on Youth Firesetter Intervention and Prevention in conjunction with Fire Prevention Association of Nevada (FPAN).

Elko Fire Department is excited to introduce the "Fully Involved" Home Safe Fire Escape system from Prevention Connection International (PCI) at the event. The "Fully Involved" system is an interactive fire prevention and community risk reduction training program for the whole family!

Bring your camera to take pictures with Smokey the Bear!

We look forward to the opportunity to educate the public and offering tools to protect your family and property for the upcoming wildland fire season.

Fire prevention is a community effort. Together, we can keep our community aware and prepared!

Sincerely,

Joshua Carson
Fire Marshal
Elko Fire Department