



MEDIA ADVISORY

May 4, 2017

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Santa Clara County Fire Department Preparing for Fire Season

Wildland fire training and fuel reduction projects lead preparedness efforts

Santa Clara County, CA – With the 2017 fire season and California Wildfire Awareness Week (May 7-13) quickly approaching, the Santa Clara County Fire Department (SCCFD) is preparing. Firefighters are busy conducting readiness exercises at Stevens Creek County Park and Hollister Hills Off Highway Vehicle trails, and the department has made a \$50,000 grant to the Santa Clara County FireSafe Council for fuel reduction/chipping program work in the Lexington basin.

This year's winter rains have produced a large crop of tall grass that when dry, can spread fire very rapidly. Just as firefighters are busy preparing their equipment and completing annual preparedness training, now is also the time for residents to prepare by maintaining defensible space around their homes.

B-roll and Interview Opportunities

- What: Wildland Firefighting – Training Exercise
- Where: Stevens Creek County Park
- When: May 5, 9, 12 from 9:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. OR 1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

- What: Off Road Fire Engine Driving Course – Training Exercise
- Where: Hollister Hills State Vehicular Recreation Area
- When: Thursday, May 11 from 8:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Please call the PIO if you plan to send a reporter/videographer to one of these training events.

Saturday, May 13

- What: Open House at Redwood Fire station
 - o Display: New Type 1 (Wildland Interface) and Type 6 (Wildland Patrol) Fire Engines
 - o \$50,000 – Grant/check presentation to Santa Clara County FireSafe Council
- Where: Redwood Estates Fire Station
- When: Saturday, May 13 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Additionally, residents living in a hillside area, served by SCCFD, can schedule a free defensible space inspection of their property. For more information, visit:

www.sccfd.org/fire-prevention/wildland-urban-interface.

Contact information:

Bill Murphy, Fire Captain / PIO

Santa Clara County Fire Department

bill.murphy@sccfd.org OR 408.341.4444

###