

Be Aware - Be Prepared - Be Safe Be Bell Canyon Strong

As we are all aware, several large wildfires are burning in California because of the continuing Santa Ana winds. Another Red Flag Warning is scheduled to begin this evening and last through Thursday morning.

Below is a condensed list of updates, communication channels available, and fire risk information.

- If you see fire or smoke in Bell Canyon, **call 911** immediately from your landline, or from a cell phone ask to be connected to LAFD.
- All BCA firefighting equipment is staged and ready for use if needed, including our water truck and water trailer.
- The CSD's 4-wheel drive SUV and firefighting equipment is also prepared and ready to respond.
- In the event of an emergency, local agencies will take control of evacuation procedures. Follow directions from these agencies.
- The bellcanyon.com website has an easy to locate resource section with links to Bell Canyon emergency preparedness manuals and emergency response information sources. The link is below. While there, sign up for the VC Alert Emergency Notification System - this is the official system that will alert you to evacuation notices and other essential emergency information.
- The emergency exit road through Boeing that begins at the end of Hacienda will only be opened at the Ventura County Fire Department's direction, depending on fire location and direction. The main road has always been the Canyon's evacuation route and the one you should plan on using.
- If you have large animals, prepare early, contact your hauler, and take them out at the first evacuation order or earlier. The Bell Canyon Equine Emergency Preparedness Manual on the BCA website has helpful guidelines, emergency horse shelters information, and transport contacts. The Bell Canyon Equestrian Center is not an evacuation center, so plan on directly hauling large animals to open designated emergency locations like Pierce or Hansen Dam.
- Prepare your home. The Bell Canyon Fire Safe Council is recommending: 1. Replace 1/4 inch screens in the attic with 1/8 inch screens. 1/4 inch is too big and embers can get into the attic and burn down the house. 2. Clear flammable materials away from the house. That includes tree branches overhanging the roof, patio furniture cushions, wood chip mulch in flower beds next to a structure, wood piles, dead plants, and any other flammable materials. 3. Remove flammable debris from rain gutters and eaves. Old bird nests under the eaves and dead leaves in the rain gutters can burn a house down.
- As the BCA office staff learns new information, it will be sent to owners via e-blast.