



Homeowners Association

# Monterra Newsletter

July 2024

## Notes From Your Board

PLEASE NOTE: Along with your newsletter and event calendar, also included as attachments will be copies of the approved minutes (please note that these are from the previous month's Board meeting) and current financial documents for your information.

### Save the Date:

#### Next Board Meeting:

**Thursday, July 11, 2024 at 2 pm**  
**Monterra Clubhouse**

All members are welcome to observe the Board at work. Members are welcome to ask agenda-related questions during the open forum portion.

#### July 4th Picnic

The July 4<sup>th</sup> picnic starts at noon with a social hour and will be followed at 1 pm with food. If you already signed up to come, please bring an appetizer, side dish, or dessert to share. If you want to sit outside, please bring along an outdoor chair. Hope to see you there.

### Questions?

If you have a question pertaining to the HOA, start by contacting your division

representative or alternate. If they don't know the answer to your question, they will route it to the correct person to get an answer for you.

2024 Division Representative Board and Alternate Members:

Cypress	Dawn Wolff, rep. Connie Jo Smith, alt.
Heather	Tyler Conkle, rep. Diane Gemmer, alt.
Holley	Lori Ferry, rep. Judi Norton, alt.
Ivy	Moses Zakarian, rep. Larry Morgan, alt.
Mont/ Sea Bluff	Dorrit Jensen, rep. Doug Markham, alt.

## Volunteer Corner

Susan Zarit, our Activities Director, has asked for any ideas for upcoming events and volunteers to help set up and take down items used at our events such as tables and chairs.

If you are interested in volunteering to help clean up the grounds/RV lot please contact Steve Cassaboom. Any assistance will be greatly appreciated.

## REPORT FROM THE COVENANT & BYLAW REVIEW COMMITTEE (CBRC)

by Dennis Blair, CBRC Chairperson

In its meetings of June 1st and 13th, 2024 the CBRC developed the explanations for all of the Board-approved Covenant amendment proposals we wrote. All of our comments are based either on the advice we received from the Condominium Law Group as it reviewed the proposals or on the homeowner input we received from our many open meetings. These explanations will appear in the voters' guide and on the secret ballot that the Committee is creating.

On 27 June, 2024 the CBRC refined and edited the language for the guide and ballot, deciding which pieces of information will appear in which document. We worked to achieve a balance between brevity and clarity for each item. We will send the drafts of both documents to the Board for its consideration when it meets on 11 July.

I will hold more open CBRC meetings to answer your questions and keep you informed when the voters' guide and secret ballot are ready for voting. Watch for the times and dates.

Once again, I strongly urge you to attend! Joining us will make voting faster and less confusing for you. Finally, Monterra

is where we've all chosen to live. So we need each other to take part in updating our governing documents, preserve our identity as a community, and address our common concerns. Please come. And if you can't attend, please read our meeting minutes posted in the clubhouse or contact one of the CBRC members for information.

### Wildfire Preparedness - Are You Ready?

The Olympic Peninsula has been identified as being at high risk for wildfire incidents this summer. At the June Member Meeting, we had a speaker come from Clallam County Fire District 3 to talk about what you can do to help reduce the risk of wildfire on your property and develop an action plan in case we are told to evacuate our homes due to wildfire risk. Attached is the handout that was given to attendees. Hopefully, we won't need this information, but it is better to be prepared and not need it than to be caught unaware.

If wildfire alerts or evacuation orders are given, they will be sent via the Clallam County Alert and Notification System. If you want to sign up to receive email/text/phone messages, go to [www.clallamcountywa.gov/497/sheriff](http://www.clallamcountywa.gov/497/sheriff). Note that if you had signed up for the alert system in the past, the system was

upgraded last year, and you need to register again.

## July 4<sup>th</sup> Fireworks

An important reminder: Fireworks are NOT allowed anywhere in Monterra, including the Sea Bluff Greenbelt area.

Did you know? More pets go missing on July 4th than any other day. Keep your pets inside for their safety, or make sure they are securely leashed if you go outside and that they have up-to-date tags if they are not microchipped. Have a current picture handy just in case. Consider taking your walks earlier in the day, before the fireworks start. And remember that some people set off fireworks on days other than just the 4th. Consider running a fan or playing music to help block outside fireworks noise.

## Monterra Yard Sale

Our annual Monterra yard sale will be held on Saturday, August 10th, from 9 AM to 3 PM. Hang balloons on your mailbox to indicate you are participating in the event. Take down the balloons if you are done selling. Please be respectful of your neighbors. Be sure your buyers don't block driveways and don't allow your sale to spill over onto green belts or others' yards. We are looking for two people to put up (and then later in the day, take down) signs directing buyers to Monterra on the day of the sale. If you want to help with the signs, please inform

the Communications Director at [communications@monterrahoa.com](mailto:communications@monterrahoa.com).

## Community Bulletin Board

Just a reminder that the Clubhouse Community Bulletin Board has lots of helpful and fun local events and information. Take a look anytime.

## Cascadia Water

As we all are aware, Cascadia Water filed a request with the Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission (WUTC) to increase the water rates they are charging us for the water supplied to our homes. The UTC approved the proposed 94% rate increase as of July 1, 2024.

## Monterra HOA Communications

Would you like to receive emailed HOA Communications or Division News via Email?

When you sign up for official Emailed HOA Communications it includes the Monterra Newsletter, Activity and Event Calendar, Financials, and Board Meeting Minutes.

If you feel you have already signed up but haven't received any past email communications or would like to; contact the Communications Director directly with your email address or any changes that need to be made.

Sherry Stout is our Communication Director and has access to update and send communications directly to you and can be reached at

[Communications@monterrahoa.com](mailto:Communications@monterrahoa.com)

## Bridge, Anyone?

A resident is wondering if anyone in Monterra would be interested in getting together to play bridge. If so, please reach out to our Activities Director, Susan Zarit at

[zaritglassworks@gmail.com](mailto:zaritglassworks@gmail.com)

## July Events For Our Members

### Mini BUNCO Bootcamp.

**Wednesday, July 10, 2024 at 1 PM  
Monterra Clubhouse**

BUNCO was a BLAST!

Fun, laughter, a traveling bear, and 5 BUNCOs!!! Don't know what these are? Come to our Mini BUNCO Bootcamp on Wednesday, July 10 at 1 pm and find out! It's FREE! Light refreshments will be provided. Regular BUNCO will then follow at 1:30 pm for only \$5. Please RSVP Anne before Monday, July 8 at 520-227-4937. Come join us and see what all the fun is about!

### **Ping Pong:**

**Where: Monterra Clubhouse**

**When: Friday, July 26, 2024  
11:00 AM - 1:00 PM**

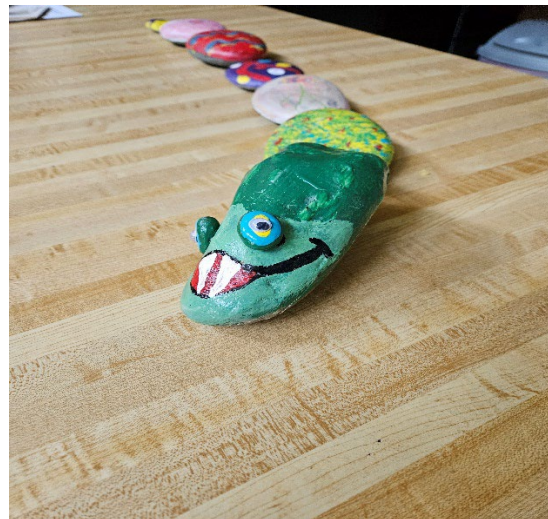
July 26<sup>th</sup> will be the day to have some fun playing ping pong. Show off your skills or just learn the fun of playing ping pong. Be sure to mark your calendar.

### **Rock Painting**

**Where: Monterra Clubhouse**

**When: Thursday, July 25, 2024  
2:00 PM - 4:00 PM**

On July 25<sup>th</sup> we will have another great time painting rocks. It will be from 2 PM to 4 PM. We will have rocks, paints and other items to put onto the rocks. Bring your own rocks or we will have rocks available. We had a great time on June 19<sup>th</sup>. We created "Monterra Max", the rock snake. We will be placing Max in the front garden area and want more painted rocks to add to Max's length. Join us for rock painting.



## Outings Are Back!

Susan Zarit, our Activities Director, reports that she has heard that many of you are interested in a "field trip" to the



casinos. Please email me at [zaritglassworks@gmail.com](mailto:zaritglassworks@gmail.com) to let me know. I'll plan a trip or two in August if there's enough interest.

## Ongoing Event Reminders

In addition to our special events, we have lots of events and activities that occur regularly:

### Chair Yoga

Chair Yoga is every Wednesday from 10:30 to 11:30 am. Bring a water bottle and wear comfortable clothing for movement.

### Exercise Group

Exercise is every Monday and Friday (note the new day) beginning at 10 am (please note the new start time) at the clubhouse. The exercises are geared toward seniors and are a great way to get moving and toning.

### Bingo!

**PLEASE NOTE:** Bingo is being suspended until the fall. A date when Bingo will resume will be announced at a later time.

### Mexican Train Dominoes

Mexican Train Dominoes is the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday and the 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of every month from 2-4 pm at the clubhouse.

Please note this minor change.

# Thank You

## Have a Seat

If you have been out to the Monterra greenbelt park areas lately, you may have noticed we now have 3 new benches to sit on so we can watch the cruise ships go by, view the eagles soaring, watch the spectacular sunsets, or just enjoy the beauty of our surroundings. Those benches were made and placed by residents Doug and Patricia Markham. If you see them around the neighborhood (they are often out walking their dog), please thank them for their work and for helping to make Monterra a great place to live.



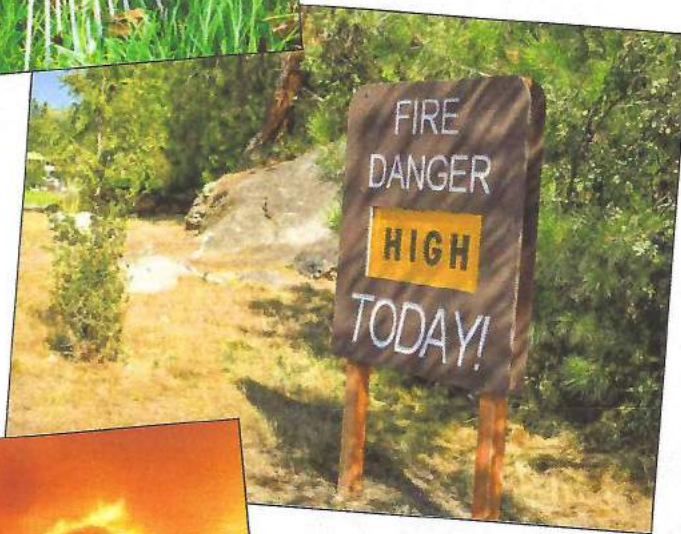
Connie Jo Smith, newsletter editor  
Phone: 909.214.6505  
E-mail: [newsletter@monterrahoa.com](mailto:newsletter@monterrahoa.com)

**NOTE:** 7/26-last day for July newsletter submissions

# My Personal Wildland Fire ACTION GUIDE



*Ready*



*Set*



*Go!*



10th Edition



# Ready Create Defensible Space

**D**efensible space is the area around your home in which vegetation, debris, and other combustible fuels have been removed to slow the spread of fire to and from the home.

It can better protect the home from igniting due to direct flame contact and radiant heat. Defensible space is essential to help protect a structure and create a safer area for firefighters during a wildland fire.

You should create defensible space by removing weeds, brush, and firewood, and by spacing out vegetation around your property.

Although this might seem like a daunting task, we recommend starting in Zone 1 and working your way out. Follow the considerations below for each zone and your property can become safer with each step.



## ZONE 1

### 0-5 feet around your home or to property line

- Use hard scape such as concrete or noncombustible rock mulch around your home.
- Clean roofs and gutters of dead leaves, debris, and pine needles.
- Store firewood and other combustible materials away from your home, garage, or attached deck.
- Prune away touching or over-hanging branches from the roof to a distance of at least 10 feet.
- Replace or repair any loose or missing shingles or roof tiles to prevent ember penetration.
- Rake and remove flammable vegetation, such as leaves and needles or wood mulch, from underneath your deck and away from your home.
- Use non-wood, low-growing herbaceous vegetation. Succulents, or other fire-resistant plants, are recommended choices.

## ZONE 2

### 5-30 feet around your home or to property line

- Create vegetation groups or islands to break up continuous fuels around your home.
- Remove ladder fuels to create a separation between low-level vegetation and tree canopies to keep fire from climbing into trees.
- Remove leaf and needle debris from the yard.
- Keep lawns, native grasses, and wildflowers less than four inches in height.
- Store firewood and other combustible materials away from outbuildings such as a shed or barn.
- Move trailers, recreational vehicles, storage sheds, and other combustible structures out of this zone and into Zone 3. If unable to move, create defensible space around them as if they were a part of your home.

## ZONE 3

### 30-200 feet around your home or to property line

- Create and maintain a minimum of 10 feet between the tops of trees.
- Safely remove ladder fuels up to a height of 10 feet, while retaining at least 75 percent of the foliage, to create separation between the ground and tree branches. This keeps fire from climbing into the tree canopies.
- Store firewood in this area, keeping it a safe distance from your structure.
- Create space between shrubs and trees to eliminate a continuous fuel bed at the ground level.
- Remove dead trees, shrubs, and all other dead or dry vegetation.
- Create separation between your property and your neighbors. Consider that your trees may pose a greater risk to your neighbor's home than to your own.

## Remember the Ember Zone

Embers are burning pieces of airborne material that can be carried more than a mile by the wind. Research points to embers and small flames as the main ways homes ignite in wildland fires.



## Ember Zone

An ember is a small, glowing fragment from a wildland fire that is carried by the wind. Embers are light enough to travel long distances and are the primary reason homes ignite, often at significant distances from the actual flame front of a wildland fire. Embers travel inside your home through vents, windows, and other openings.



## Create Your Own Action Plan

Your Wildland Fire Action Plan must be prepared with all members of your household well in advance of a wildland fire. Use these checklists to help you get Ready and Set with situational awareness in the threat of wildland fire.

### Ready Get Ready

- Create an Action Plan that includes evacuation meeting locations and communication plans - rehearse it regularly. Include the evacuation of all pets and large animals, which may include horses and livestock, in your plan.
- Sign up for your local emergency notification system. Check your local fire department or emergency management agency websites for information on the system used in your area.
- Designate an emergency meeting location outside the wildland fire hazard area.
- Plan and practice several different evacuation routes.
- Have fire extinguishers on hand and teach your household how to use them.
- Ensure that everyone in your household knows where your gas, electric, and water main shut-off controls are located and how to use them.
- Assemble a Go Kit as recommended by the American Red Cross. Keep an extra kit in your vehicle. Check this page for a list of recommended emergency supplies.
- Check this page for a list of recommended emergency supplies.
- Have a portable radio or scanner so you can stay updated on the fire and weather emergency announcements.

### EMERGENCY SUPPLIES LIST FOR GO KIT

The American Red Cross recommends every household have an emergency supply kit assembled long before a wildland fire or other emergency occurs. Use the checklist below to help assemble yours. For more information on emergency supplies visit [redcross.org/get-help](http://redcross.org/get-help).

- Three-day supply of water (one gallon per person, per day) and non-perishable food for household members (3 day supply).
- First aid kit and sanitation supplies, including toilet paper and baby wipes.
- Flashlight, battery-powered radio, and extra batteries.
- An extra set of car keys, credit cards, cash, or traveler's checks.
- Extra eyeglasses, contact lenses, prescriptions, and medications.
- Important household member documents and contact numbers, including insurance documents.
- Map marked with evacuation routes. It is important to have a printed map in case your phone dies. It may also be easier to see the printed map than a phone screen under smokey conditions.
- Easily carried valuables and irreplaceable items.
- Personal electronic devices and chargers.
- Keep a pair of old shoes and a flashlight handy in case of a sudden evacuation at night.



## Set Prepare and Be Aware

- Monitor fire weather conditions and fire status. Check your local fire department or emergency management websites and social media accounts for wildland fire information. Stay tuned to your TV or local radio stations for updates, including Red Flag Warnings in your area.
- Alert household and neighbors.
- Dress in appropriate clothing (i.e., clothing made from natural fibers, such as cotton, and work boots). Have goggles and a dry bandana or particle mask handy.
- Ensure your Go Kit includes all necessary items, such as a battery powered radio, spare batteries, emergency contact numbers, and drinking water.
- Remain close to your house, drink plenty of water, and ensure your household members and pets are accounted for and ready to leave.

### INSIDE CHECKLIST, IF TIME ALLOWS

- Close all windows and doors.
- Remove all shades and curtains from windows and ensure all blinds remain open, unless you have metal blinds. Close all metal blinds.
- Move furniture to the center of the room, away from windows and doors.
- Turn off pilot lights and air conditioning units.
- Leave your lights on so firefighters can see your house in smoky conditions

### OUTSIDE CHECKLIST, IF TIME ALLOWS

- Make sure combustible items are a safe distance away from the exterior of the house (e.g., patio furniture, children's toys, door mats, etc.) If you have time, place these items inside your garage or home where they will not become a hazard.

- Turn off propane tanks and other gas at the meter.
- Don't leave sprinklers on or water running. They can affect critical water pressure.
- Leave exterior lights on.
- Back your car into the driveway to facilitate a quick departure. Shut doors and roll up windows.
- Have a ladder ready to use to cover attic vents. Use pre-cut plywood or commercial seals. Use the same for ground vents. Do so in a safe manner, and only if time permits.
- Patrol your property and extinguish small fires, if you can do so safely, until you leave.

### IF YOU ARE TRAPPED: SURVIVAL TIPS

- If you have become trapped and cannot evacuate, call 9-1-1 immediately.
- Stay in your home, sheltering away from walls, until the fire passes or emergency personnel tell you differently. Follow their instructions and commands.
- Look for spot fires and extinguish if found inside house.
- Wear long sleeves, long pants, and a bandana made of natural fibers, such as cotton.
- Stay hydrated.
- Ensure you can exit the home if it catches fire. Remember, if it's hot inside the house, it is four to five times hotter outside. Be prepared.
- Fill sinks and tubs for an emergency water supply.
- Place wet towels under doors to keep smoke and embers out.
- After the fire has passed, check your roof and extinguish any fires, sparks, or embers if you are able to safely do so. Check the attic as well.



## Go! Act Early

Leaving early gives you and your household members the best chance of surviving a wildland fire. You also help firefighters by keeping roads clear of congestion, enabling them to move more freely and do their job in a safer environment. Be sure to follow the direction of your local authorities.

### WHEN TO LEAVE

Do not wait to be advised to leave if there is a possible threat to your home or evacuation route. Leave early enough to avoid being caught in fire, smoke, or road congestion. If you are advised to leave by local authorities, do not hesitate!

### WHERE TO GO

Go to a predetermined, low-risk area such as a relative's house, a Red Cross shelter or evacuation center, motel, etc.

### HOW TO GET THERE

Have several travel routes in case one route is blocked by the fire or by emergency vehicles. Choose the safest route away from the fire.

### WHAT TO TAKE

Take your Go Kit containing your household members' and pet's necessary items.

### REMEMBER THE 8 P'S!

- People & Pets
- Pictures & Photo Albums
- PC's
- Papers (important)
- Prescriptions & Medications (for your pets too)
- Plastics (credit cards)
- Personal Devices (phones and chargers)
- Passports & IDs



IAFC Wildland Fire Programs are funded through DHS/FEMA/AFG/FP&S grants awarded FY2018 (EMW-2018-FP-00279) and FY2019 (EMW-2019-FP-00412) and in cooperation with the USDA Forest Service. In accordance with Federal law and U.S. Department of Agriculture policy, this institution is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) To file a complaint alleging discrimination, write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington DC 20250-9410 or call toll free voice 866-632-9992, TDD 800-877-8339, or voice relay (866) 377-8642. USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.



# My Personal Wildland Fire ACTION PLAN

Write up your Wildland Fire Action Plan and post it in a location where every member of your household can see it. Rehearse it with your household.

During high-fire-danger days in your area, monitor your local media for information and be ready to implement your plan. Hot, dry, and windy conditions create the perfect environment for a wildland fire.

## IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

Out-of-Area Contact \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Work \_\_\_\_\_

School \_\_\_\_\_

Other \_\_\_\_\_

## EVACUATION ROUTES

1 \_\_\_\_\_

2 \_\_\_\_\_

3 \_\_\_\_\_

## WHERE TO GO

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

## LOCATION OF GO KIT(S)

\_\_\_\_\_

## NOTES

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Contact your local fire department for more tips on preparing before a wildland fire.



# My Personal Wildland Fire ACTION PLAN

## Ready

### Get Ready

- Sign up for your local emergency notification system.
- Dispose of or relocate combustible material from around your home.
- Trim trees and bushes allowing ample space between your home and landscape vegetation.
- Arrange your Go Kit with prescription medication, emergency supplies, important documents, and other essential items.

## Set

### Prepare and Be Aware

- Make sure you have your Go Kit on hand in an accessible place.
- Alert household and neighbors of your action plan. Ensure your household members and pets are accounted for and ready to leave.
- Monitor local fire weather conditions and listen to emergency notification systems.

## Go!

### Act Early

- Get your Go Kit and leave well before the threat approaches using a planned, accessible route.
- Stay aware of the situation and follow your plan.
- Cooperate with local authorities during evacuation and re-entry processes.



FEMA

wildlandfireRSG.org





# HOW TO STAY SAFE

## WHEN A WILDFIRE THREATENS



**Sign up for your community's warning system.** The Emergency Alert System (EAS) and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Weather Radio also provide emergency alerts.

**Know your community's evacuation routes** and find several ways to leave the area. Drive the evacuation routes and find shelter locations. Have a plan for pets and livestock.

**Gather emergency supplies, including N95 respirator masks** that filter out particles in the air you breathe. Keep in mind each person's specific needs, including medication. Don't forget the needs of pets.

**Keep important documents** in a fireproof safe. Create password-protected digital copies.

**Use fire-resistant materials to build, renovate, or make repairs.**

**Find an outdoor water source with a hose** that can reach any area of your property.

**Create a fire-resistant zone** that is free of leaves, debris, or flammable materials for at least 30 feet from your home.

**Review insurance coverage** to make sure it is enough to replace your property.

**Evacuate.** Leave immediately if authorities tell you to do so.

**If trapped, call 9-1-1** and give your location, but be aware that emergency response could be delayed or impossible. Turn on lights to help people find you.

**Listen to EAS, NOAA Weather Radio, or local alerting systems** for current emergency information and instructions.

**Use an N95 masks** to keep particles out of the air you breathe.

**Listen to authorities** to find out if it is safe to return and whether water is safe to drink.

**Avoid hot ash, charred trees, smoldering debris, and live embers.** The ground may contain heat pockets that can burn you or spark another fire. Consider the danger to pets and livestock walking the ground.

**Send text messages or use social media** to reach out to family and friends. Phone systems are often busy following a disaster. Make calls only in emergencies.

**Document property damage with photographs.** Conduct an inventory and contact your insurance company for assistance.

### Take an Active Role in Your Safety

Go to [Ready.gov/wildfires](https://www.ready.gov/wildfires). Download the **FEMA app** to get more information about preparing for a **wildfire**.

