

SPRING/SUMMER VEGETATION MANAGEMENT PROJETS

The Sleepy Hollow Fire Protection District will administer several vegetation management projects starting this Spring

1. Chipper Days

We expect to conduct at least four Chipper Day events this year. We have three scheduled roadside pickup weekends. The dates are: May 18-19, June 22-23, and July 20-21. More curbside days might be scheduled. You can sign up now by visiting our website at shfpd.org. We will also provide a “drop off” weekend to coincide with creek cleanup in September assuming that event still takes place.

2. Shaded Fuel Break Grazing

The first of at least three herds of 400 animals each has arrived and is working in Lucas Valley and Terra Linda before eventually coming to Sleepy Hollow. Goats and possibly some sheep will be seen grazing along the ridge tops to maintain our shaded fuel breaks that are designed to create a safe space for fire apparatus placement in the event of a wild land fire. These shaded fuel breaks can prevent fire from spreading from surrounding communities into Sleepy Hollow and vice versa. Grazing areas in Sleepy Hollow will include Open Space, San Domenico School, Triple C and Rocking H.

3. Defensible Space Behind Homes

Where practical, we will again graze in areas behind homes that are next to Open Space or other large open areas.

4. Oak Manor Shaded Fuel Break (see map)

A new project for this year is creation of a shaded fuel break on private property above Oak Manor in what is called the State Responsibility Area (unincorporated Marin). This project is funded by a Cal Fire grant and administered by the Marin County Fire Department in collaboration with SHFPD and property owners. This will provide protection along the North-South running ridge between Sleepy Hollow and unincorporated Oak Manor. We will be targeting invasive douglas fir and monterey pine, mulch dead/down wood and debris, coyote brush (baccharis) and other brush to maintain existing grasslands and shaded oak canopy. Work will initially focus on a 200' expanded ridgetop defensible space zone, and 30' buffer along existing fire roads. The work zone could be expanded in future years. Work will be completed by contract tree crews and a forest mulcher.