



Los Trancos Woods & Vista Verde **Newsletter – April & May 2021**

Los Trancos County Maintenance District - Community Advisory Committee (CAC)

Be sure to get on board with the Fire Safety Program! \$5,000 is available per household within the LTCMD every year. You receive 50% reimbursement of approved work on a first come, first served basis. The whole community benefits from work done by the many folks who have taken advantage of this program, making their homes and properties more fire safe. Schedule your property inspection now with Woodside Fire Protection District Inspector Michael Tamez mtamez@woodsidefire.org. You will get a comprehensive Wildfire Property Assessment that will be valid for 2 years. For more program information, go to <https://www.woodsidefire.org/prevention/los-trancos-vista-verde-defensible-space>.

We hope all stay healthy and happy. The Los Trancos County Maintenance District (LTCMD) CAC exists to advise and offer feedback to DPW and WFPD and to inform the community about LTCMD sponsored programs. Feel free to contact any of us on the CAC: Jerry Hearn, Ken Kormanak, Amanda Lee (Co-Chair), Claudia Mazzetti, David Smernoff, Bill Tagg and Tom Thayer (Co-Chair). Our email addresses and phone numbers are listed in the Community Resource Guide.

Submitted by Amanda Lee, Co-Chair of CAC

Last Weekend Ah-h-h!#@!

It's almost the last weekend to pull invasive weeds like French Broom and Cape Ivy (<https://www.cal-ipc.org/resources/library/publications/ipcw/report41/>) before the ground begins to dry and the roots are impossible to remove. I've been letting out my Covid-confinement stress on these plants during my run around the neighborhood. In particular, during the last two weekends, I had some very good broom pulling sessions along the viewing area between the Frog Pond and the road. As luck would have it, as I was bringing up the last bundle of broom up to the roadside, a truck stopped. Out stepped Joel Valencia from Skyline Tree Service, (www.skylinetree.org). He said he would be happy to chip the branches for no charge, after he finished his other job in about a week. As the Neighborhood Chipper Program is a bit in the future, I thought it would be great to remove the unsightly and flammable pile now. So, I am giving a shout-out to Joel and his company for being neighborly and, hopefully, good for his future business.

Submitted by Ken Kormanak

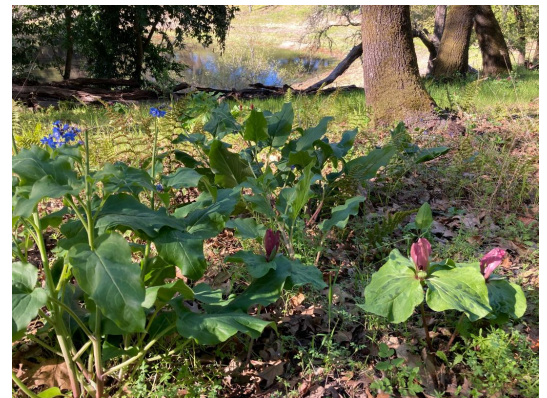
Editor's Note: The wildflowers will establish once the broom, cape ivy and thistle are pulled. Thank you, Ken!!



Broom pile



Cape Ivy



Hound's tongue and Trillium

What is SB440?

Tom Bleier saw this article in the SF Chronicle [dated 3/21/21](#) and titled, “State Bill would protect homes against wildfires and earthquakes”

Here are some of the highlights:

- SB440 written by Senator Bill Dodd, Democrat, North Bay.
- \$100M per year for wildfire mitigation fund (e.g. grants to homeowners to fire-harden their homes).
- \$50M per year for earthquake hardening and extra insurance for earthquake damage fund (including how California Earthquake Authority buys re-insurance for earthquake coverage).
- \$150M per year paid by assessing every homeowners’ insurance policy (not existing earthquake policies) for 2% of their annual homeowner insurance premiums.
- Requires 2/3 vote for passage in the legislature since it is considered a “tax”, so the ultimate passage is not certain.

See the full article at <https://www.sfchronicle.com/california-wildfires/article/A-new-California-bill-could-help-defend-homes-16042604.php>

See the full SB440 Bill text at: https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billTextClient.xhtml?bill_id=202120220SB440

Note:

This SB440 bill has not been approved yet.

If you want to harden your home [this spring/summer](#), be aware of the Los Trancos-Vista Verde Defensible Space Program at Woodside Fire District. Each year a homeowner is eligible for up to \$5,000 for home hardening projects. More info and applications can be obtained at:

<https://www.woodsidefire.org/prevention/los-trancos-vista-verde-defensible-space>

Submitted by Tom Bleier, VV Emergency Prep Chair

Neighborhood Notes

- Gene Hunner graciously supplies our **rainfall data**: February - 1.8”, March - 2.7”, season-to-date - 15.94”
- April is **Earthquake Preparedness Month!** Get out those hardhats and crow bars! Actually revisit your GO-BAG and make sure it is stocked and up to date. Check out this web site, <https://www.woodsidefire.org/ready-set-go/set> for information on how to be prepared in case of an emergency. As we found out in the pandemic, we are a community up here and working together is what we do and NEED to do. Your preparedness will benefit your household and all your neighbors.

2020-21 Community Resource Guide

If you have any changes to the listings please contact Linda at dreynight@aol.com.

Community Associations’ Web Sites

Web site addresses are:

<http://lostrancoswoods.org/>

<http://www.vistaverdepv.org>

To subscribe to group e-mail lists:

vltw+subscribe@groups.io

VistaVerdeCommunityAssoc-subscribe@yahoogroups.com.

Thank you, Jerry Jensen & Rob Kalman for maintaining web site

