

*Riviera West/Harbor View Bimonthly Newsletter***PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE****Philip Hartley, President, Riviera West Country Club**

Shoveling foot-deep snow from my driveway is not in my skill set as a native Californian! The community as a whole survived in relatively good shape from the once-in-a-decade snow storm, weeks of rain and an extended power outage. We experienced some downed tree branches and three downed trees, one of which did serious damage to a roof. Our community-wide effort to remove dead trees over this past year did pay off in minimizing the impact.

Our emergency fire siren has been installed at the top of Broadview Drive. Over the next couple of weeks the contractors will coordinate communication links with the Lake County Office of Emergency Services and then test the system. We will give you lots of notice when the testing is scheduled. On an ongoing basis, the siren will self-test once each month, most likely on the first Monday in tandem with the other sirens in the Middletown and Kelseyville Riviera communities.

Current projects underway include:

- ▶ Repair of the ceiling in the office damaged by a roof leak (the new roof is in place).
- ▶ Finish building the stairs from the lower level of the Clubhouse up to the street level.
- ▶ Modifying one side of the BBQ patio in the park to eliminate the drop-off at the edge.
- ▶ Develop a plan to repair and refurbish the poolside bathrooms.

Other new projects are on our list dependent on time, weather, and vendor availability.

The Konocti Fire Safe Council, in consultation with other county agencies, secured a place in their grant applications this Spring for funds to maintain the fire breaks around the area communities (including Riviera West), funds to defray the cost of chipping programs, and to remove an area of dead trees in the Black Forest. The Council recently hosted a meeting of the five Firewise communities in our area to discuss mutual concerns and successful fire prevention strategies. Riviera West was the first certified Firewise Community in the County.

Spring has sprung and soon Bocce Ball will be rolling! Now is the time to begin to recruit members for your team (4 per team), study up on the very simple rules, and start taking some practice shots on the court. Call the office to register your interest and/or ask for help in finding a team to join or to get some instruction in the game. Mark your calendars for the Members' Barbecue and Bocce season opening on Saturday, June 3.

**SIREN TESTING COMING SOON**

Now that the siren is operational, the County will soon begin initial testing. Watch your email for updates on the exact testing dates.

In future, the siren will be tested regularly. You will receive reminder emails about the regular testing along with emergency response information.



Riviera West Country Club
Harbor View Mutual Water Company
 8475 Harbor View Drive
 Kelseyville, CA 95451
 707-279-8544 • fax 707-279-0118
rivierawest@gmail.com
harborviewwater@gmail.com
 website: www.rivierawesthoa.com

Office Hours:

Monday, Tuesday and
 Thursday: 9 am – 3 pm
 Wednesday: 9 – 11 am
 Friday: 9 am – 3:30 pm

Riviera West Board:

President: Philip Hartley
 Treasurer: C. Richard Smith
 Secretary: Clelia Baur
 Director: Doug Moore
 Director: Bob Gunion

Harbor View Mutual Water Company Board:

President: Norma Simmons
 Secretary/Treasurer: Chris Smits
 Director: Laurie Baum
 Director: Carina DeHererra
 Director: Jean Swegle

Regular Board Meetings:

Third Wednesday every other month beginning in January. Riviera West meeting is 4:30 PM; Harbor View meeting is 5:30 PM.

Meetings may be in person, via Zoom or a hybrid of both. Check your email for Zoom invitations and instructions and check the website or call the office for specific meeting information. We ask everyone to follow all public health guidelines that may be in effect at the time of the meeting.

Editor: Elvia Cubilla

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Norma Simmons, President, Harbor View Mutual Water Company

Water, water, everywhere, but ...

We apologize for the last-minute notification of the water shutoff on March 23. A combination of weather, availability of parts and crew, and constant patching of the existing valves forced a decision that was beyond our control. The window of opportunity opened and we had to jump on it. And while this planned work and shutoff has been discussed at previous meetings, we know some people were surprised to learn of it. Better a planned shutoff than an unplanned one.

Your Tax Dollars at Work

We've all seen those signs. Well, with the money we received from the CA DWR Small Community Drought Relief Grant, we have:

- ▶ Three brand new bolted steel tanks with modern digital level and pump controls via internet. These state-of-the-art tanks have active electric corrosion control to extend interior coating life.
- ▶ A new water booster pump at the Lake water intake to be used if the water level should drop to negative 5 in future drought conditions.
- ▶ Replacement of all five Pressure Reducing Valves (PRVs) at three different locations.
- ▶ A new, more efficient 25 HP booster pump at the clubhouse tank including the replacement of a degraded 8" steel high-pressure pipe and check valve.
- ▶ A new tank recirculating mixer pump with tank sprayers and air blower for removal of Volatile Organic Compounds (TTHM) at the clubhouse tank.
- ▶ Three 8" ceramic-coated main valves for tank isolation and numerous smaller valves for system maintenance.

A huge thanks to the staff at CA Department of Water Resources, the crew from Piazza Construction, our engineer Joe Ziemann from Waterworks Engineering, and as always, our remarkable operators Jeremiah Fossa and Dominic Turner. Over the last eight years, Harbor View Mutual Water has received over \$5 million from various State programs to improve our water system and ensure clean and reliable water service delivery.

Many of us moved here from metropolitan areas where large municipal water companies have more staff and resources. But we are small and must be nimble. That is why having an active Board is so important. We will have three seats up for election this June, and only one existing Board member will be running for re-election. Do you have questions about what the Board does? Call the office and you will be put in touch with a member who can give you all the details.

Seasonal Reminder

- ▶ Check any outdoor irrigation system you may have. Sprinkler heads and hoses may have developed small cracks and leaks over the winter.
- ▶ Install smart controls or timers on your irrigation system. Check to make sure these are set to the correct time and operating minutes.
- ▶ Leaky faucets, toilets, and shower heads can drive water usage up. Consider installing low-flow devices.
- ▶ Monitor your water usage by signing up for Eye-On-Water at www.eyeonwater.com
- ▶ Now is the time to repair or replace before a high water bill surprises you. Remember, there is no leak forgiveness.

Important Dates

- ▶ Saturday, April 15, Chili Cook-Off at the clubhouse.
- ▶ Saturday, April 22: Riviera West Spring Tea at the Clubhouse.
- ▶ Water bills will go out in the first week of May. Water payment due by May 31.
- ▶ Friday, May 5: Cinco de Mayo celebration at the Clubhouse hosted by Norma Simmons.
- ▶ Friday, May 12: Annual members' packet mailed. Included are voting ballots, annual budgets and required information for all members.
- ▶ Wednesday, May 17: Riviera West Board Meeting at the clubhouse, 4:30 PM. Check the website for the agenda.
- ▶ Wednesday, May 17: Harbor View Mutual Water Company Board Meeting at the clubhouse, 5:30 PM. Check the website for the agenda.
- ▶ Saturday, June 3: Members' BBQ and Bocce Season Opening at the Riviera West Park. More info to come.
- ▶ Saturday, June 17: Riviera West and Harbor View Annual Meetings at the clubhouse. Watch for more information by email and US Mail.

WATER COMPANY EMERGENCY?

**If you cannot reach the
office, call
707-279-4143**





Riviera West Social Club Update Spring is Here, Time to Get Out and Socialize!

Last winter was one for the books. Record snowfall, power out for days and rainstorm after rainstorm. We're ready for spring! As the days get longer and the redbuds start blooming, the Social Club is preparing for spring and summer events. Sadly, the Chili Cook-Off we all looked forward to in February was cancelled due to weather. The new date is Saturday, April 15. Mark your calendar now for events and activities for spring and summer 2023!

Our Greek Dinner event was an overwhelming success. Host Lisa Wentz served up an enticing menu of authentic Greek food and drink for a full house of hungry guests. We were treated to a delicious, home-made dinner of grilled chicken skewers, hearty Greek salad, fresh pita bread and big platters of appetizers, plus intricate Greek cookies and Ouzo candies for dessert. Thank you, Lisa for hosting, and thanks to the Social Club volunteers for setting up and cleaning up. Photos of the event below.

Upcoming Spring and Summer Events:

April 15: Riviera West Chili Cook-Off: A friendly competition for the tastiest and spiciest. Watch your email for more information.

Riviera West Annual Spring Tea, Saturday April 22: The ever-popular Tea promises to be as delightful as last year's, which was enjoyed by all. Seating will be limited, so make plans now to purchase your tickets before the deadline of Monday, April 17.

Cinco de Mayo, Friday, May 5. Norma Simmons is hosting our legendary Cinco de Mayo celebration. Mark your calendars for this one!

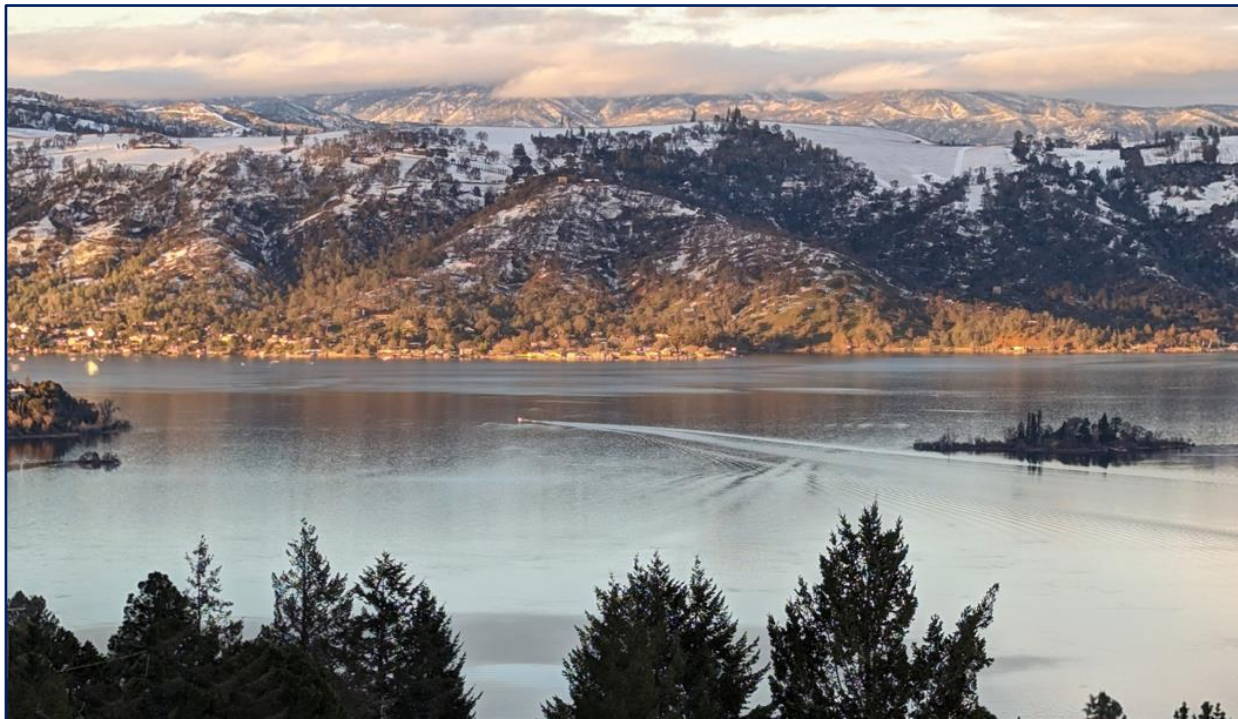
Members Barbecue, Saturday, June 3: The date is set for the annual Riviera West Members Barbecue and Bocce season opening. Watch your email for further information.

TGIFs: As soon as the season warms up and the pool opens, the Social Club will once again be organizing TGIF parties on (mostly) Friday evenings. Many members like TGIFs best because they are informal and spontaneous. Just bring an appetizer to share and relax at the clubhouse, or by the pool or marina. TGIFs are hosted by one or more members.

Water Aerobics: We will be announcing our water aerobics program for 2023 soon. Please watch your email and the Riviera West website for further information.

For more information about the Social Club events or want more information about the Riviera West Social Club, send us an email at rwccsocialclub@gmail.com.





February 2023 Photo by Carina DeHerrera

You Can Keep Clear Lake Free of Invasive Mussels

The following text is quoted from the [Lake County Invasive Mussel Prevention website](#).

The Lake County Quagga/Zebra (QZ) Sticker is required, in addition to a State DMV sticker, for all vessels launched in Lake County water bodies. Remember to check in with a participating screener when you return from any out-of-county trips with your boat - it's the law! Program screeners have current information on counties and water bodies in the western United States infested with invasive mussels. Re-screening and inspections, when needed, are free. Resident and Visitor stickers are \$20.

Clean, drained, dry boats are safe boats display your sticker, **protect your lake**. Visit the Screening Locations page to find a list and a map of all qualified screening locations that can sell QZ stickers.

Lake County Law

- **Requires screening** of all trailered water vessels
- **All watercraft launched** in Lake County **must** display a current Lake County mussel sticker as proof of screening. This is in addition to the State Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) sticker that is proof of the State's mussel fee payment. See the [Sticker Press Release \(DOC\)](#) for further clarification
- **Does not apply to:**
 - Nonmotorized Canoes
 - Nonmotorized Kayaks
 - Car-top boats
 - Float tubes
 - Rafts
 - Wind surfers/boards
 - Boogie boards
 - Nonmotorized paddle boats
 - Nonmotorized sail boats that are 8 feet or less in length
 - **Bans the disposal of** live bait and any liquid that contains or has contained live bait into Lake County water bodies
 - Establishes violation as a fine of up to \$1,000 with boat impoundment



This is what invasive mussels can do to water pipes.

View from the West ♦ April 2023

Save the Date – Saturday, June 17, 2023 Riviera West and Harbor View Annual Meetings

Riviera West and Harbor View Annual Meetings

Every year Riviera West and Harbor View Mutual Water Company host annual meetings for all of our members. We will meet at the clubhouse on Saturday, June 17. Refreshments will be served courtesy of the Riviera West Social Club. Upcoming budget plans, committee updates, fire safety progress and facility improvements are some of the topics we will be reviewing with members.

We encourage you to attend! Your input and participation are important to our community, and the meetings are a great way to meet and socialize with neighbors.

Riviera West Annual Meeting
Saturday, June 17, 2023, 9:00 AM

Harbor View Mutual Water Company Meeting
Saturday, June 17, 2023, 11:00 AM

The meeting agendas will be sent via email, and additional details will be sent via US Mail in the annual member information packet.

Rules and Regulations Deep Dive If you didn't know, now you know

The HOA rules apply to all Riviera West property owners. Following our rules maintains neighborhood harmony, enhances our quality of life and protects our property investment. We will feature a few randomly chosen rules in each newsletter. A complete copy of the Riviera West governing documents is available at rivierawesthoa.com.

Pets and Other Animals

Section Six of the Rules and Regulations refers to animals, including pets and our responsibility to control their actions. Riviera West property owners are generally responsible and considerate pet owners. We do occasionally receive reports of loose dogs or other issues. In addition, Section V of the CC&Rs specifies animals that cannot be kept on our properties, as well as restrictions on breeding, training or dealing in animals.

Section 6. Pets and Animals

This section requires all dogs to be leashed when off the owner's property. Therefore, dogs must be leashed when in the common areas and owners must clean up after them. Absolutely no dogs are to be permitted to run loose in the community. This requirement includes pets and animals belonging to owners, tenants, contractors, guests and/or vendors.

6.2 Country Ordinance Section 5.3 states that pets are not to be a habitual nuisance by reason of barking, howling or making such other loud noises with such frequency and in such manner as to disturb the peace of the immediate neighborhood. Any pet found to be in violation of this ordinance will be reported to the County Animal Control Director or the Association.

6.3 Pets are not allowed in the clubhouse, bathrooms or pool area.

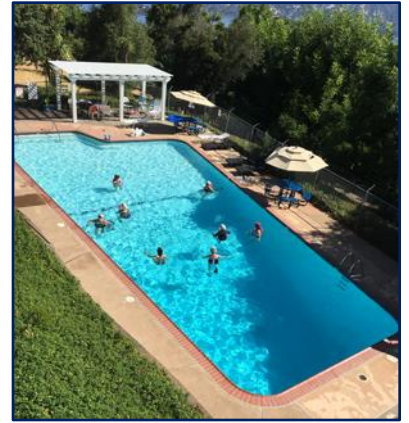
Section V of the CC&Rs: Pets and Other Animals

No horses, cattle, hogs, sheep, goats, poultry, rabbits or livestock of any description may be kept or permitted on the property with the exception of dogs, cats and other animals which are qualified household pets and which do not make objectionable noise or constitute a nuisance or inconvenience to owners of other lots nearby. No raising, breeding, training or dealing in dogs, cats or any other animals may be permitted on or from any lot.

The above are excerpts. For the complete text and more information on any of our Rules, By-Laws or other Governing Documents, visit www.rivierawesthoa.com.



Pool Opens Around Memorial Day



The Riviera West pool will open sometime around Memorial Day weekend. The exact opening date will be determined by the weather. We will open the pool when we can efficiently maintain a comfortable water temperature. Watch for email and website notices for the date, and look for an updated pool rules sheet in your annual mailing packet.



Does Your Dog Have a Lot to Say?

A friendly reminder for property owners whose families include canine members, large or small. Please don't allow your dog's barking to disturb those who live around you. Thank you for helping your pup to be a good neighbor!

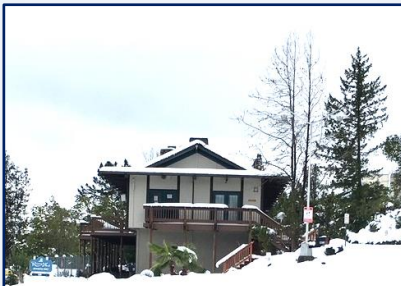


Plan your bocce team now to join the Riviera West Bocce League. It's a great way to socialize and an easy game to learn. Contact the office for information about starting or joining a team.

View from the West ♦ April 2023



Young-at-heart Diane Stawicki braved the cold to create a classic snowman.



February 2023 brought some of the heaviest snowfalls in Lake County history. Here are some pictures submitted by Riviera West residents.



Phil Hartley took this artistic shot during a break in the snowfall.



A Stellar jay visited Carina DeHerrera's birdseed offering.



Norma Simmons took advantage of being snowed in to enjoy a panoramic wintertime view.



Susan Lucatorto took her grandchildren outside for some wintertime fun.



Debi Denham's house at the top of Mountain Crest attracted a couple of enthusiastic snowboarders soon after this picture was taken.



Panette Talia's snow-person is a snowy style icon.



Contact the Fire Safety Committee at 707-279-8544 for specific lot-clearing information, or for local tree removal and brush-clearing referrals.

Let's work together to keep our homes and families safe! Visit our website to view the Riviera West Fire Prevention Policy.

Time to Clear Lots as the Dry Season Approaches

Now is the time to bring your property into compliance with Riviera West lot clearing requirements:

- Grass and weeds must be no taller than three inches.
- Remove brush piles and flammable debris.
- Remove flammable material from under and around your house and deck.
- Remove dead trees.
- Remove "ladder fuels" that allow fire to spread from the ground to tree branches.
- Tree limbs must be trimmed to at least six feet from the ground.
- Trim shrubs and trees, especially of dead branches. No tree branches should be too close to or touching the roof or other parts of the building.
- Lot inspections will take place in May.
- Owners whose lots are out of compliance will receive a written notice explaining the violation.
- If lots are not cleared within 45 days of the notice date, the lot owner may receive a fine.

Free Chipping Day 2023

One of Riviera West's Most Popular Member Benefits

Every year during the summer months, Riviera West arranges a free chipping service for members. This is part of our ongoing effort to reduce fire fuels, making our community more resistant to wildfire. Only our property owners are permitted to have their branches and brush chipped and removed under this program.

Chipping Day will be in July this year (exact date to be announced). Chipping companies are busy and we must work with them to make arrangements as the season progresses. Please watch your email for the exact day and additional details.

Contact the office at 707-279-8544 with the address of your chipping pile. If you are not on the list, we cannot ensure your pile will be removed. Please do not set your chipping pile at the curb before May 15.

To be sure your branch and brush piles are picked up, please follow our Dos and Don'ts guidelines:

Chipping Day Dos

- Important: Oleander is toxic. Keep oleander limbs separate from other materials.
- Stack material next to the road so the chipping crew can easily reach the pile.
- Tree trunks and limbs must be smaller than 6 inches in diameter.
- Stack all chipping material neatly and evenly with ends facing the road.
- Keep your piles under 5 feet high.
- Keep your pile less than 12 feet long.

Chipping Day DON'Ts

- Do not stack brush over existing vegetation or the roadway.
- No roots – dirt and rocks in the roots damage machinery.
- No mud or dirt. Do not drag your branches through mud or dirt.
- Do not cross-stack piles.
- No bulldozed or machine-stacked piles.
- No rocks, berry vines, tree stumps or construction material.
- No poison oak or Scotch broom in the pile.
- **Do not place limb or brush piles next to the street prior to May 15.**

NOTE: We will notify you via email when we have a date for the chipping service. Brush put out after that date or not conforming with the guidelines will not be removed and will be the sole responsibility of the property owner.



Riviera West/Harbor View Office	707-279-8544
Harbor View Water Emergency	707-279-4143
Lake County Sheriff's Office	707-263-2690
Lake County Emergency Svcs.	707-262-4090
Kelseyville Fire Protection Dist.	707-279-4268
Riviera West Emergency Zone	KEL E-122

Introducing the Konocti Fire Safe Council: A Non-Profit, Community Based Coalition Dedicated to Your Safety



Seeing a need for fire prevention measures tailored to our area, Riviera West joined with the three other HOAs in the Soda Bay Corridor to form the Konocti Fire Safe Council (KFSC), an action-based organization. The Council's members combine resources and efforts to reduce the vulnerability of residents, homes and landscapes to wildfire. Founded in June 2022, the Council is incorporated as a California Nonprofit Public Benefit Corporation by four homeowners' associations including Buckingham, Kelseyville Riviera, Riviera Heights and Riviera West.

The Council has been certified as an IRS 501c3 organization which allows it to accept charitable donations and to apply for various grants. KFSC was created in response to the ever-growing need to help residents be ready for wildfire and to obtain funding for mitigation and preparedness projects. KFSC's mission is to increase community wildfire preparedness and survivability through education, project and resource development, evacuation readiness and hazardous fuel reduction.

The Council consists of seven members; one representative from each of the four HOAs and three members selected at large by the Council. Phil Hartley represents Riviera West on the Council. The Council credits Supervisor Jessica Pyska for her encouragement and support as an important factor in the creation of the new fire safe council. On August 30, Supervisor Pyska presented KFSC with a check for \$10,000 to assist with the operational costs of establishing the organization.

KFSC's grant application effort yielded immediate results. To date, the Council has received a \$20,000 grant from the California State Fire Safety Council to build operational capacity. It has also partnered with the Lake County Public Works Department to successfully apply for a \$389,000 grant to reduce hazardous trees along Soda Bay Road, equip the Department with a new masticator to clear roadside brush and employ a consulting firm to develop a master evacuation plan for the area. Since many of the area's 7,000 some residents live in mobile home parks and other non-incorporated areas, the Council has mounted a thorough, door-to-door fire safety campaign and has reached 500 homes thus far.

Konocti Fire Safe Council Goals

Firewise Communities:

Our goal is to have Firewise Communities covering all of our service area. That's why we are reaching out beyond our local homeowners associations to empower local leaders to get their neighborhoods certified.

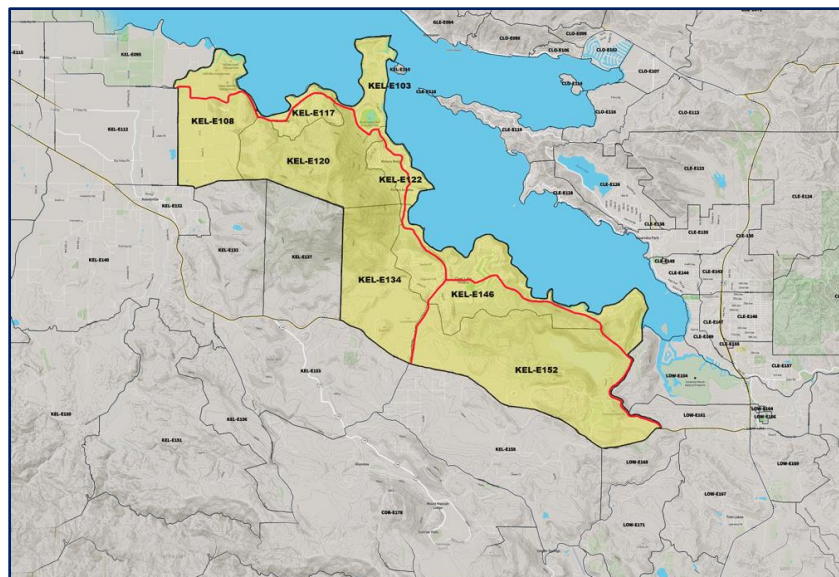
Education and Outreach:

It takes a comprehensive multi-media approach to reach residents throughout our area. That's why in addition to building digital platforms, we are sending out teams to build in-person relationships and are targeting legacy media outlets.

Advocacy:

Partnerships with Government Agencies and Community Groups are critical. that's why we are on the front lines building the relationships that bring resources into our area. Visit the KFSC website for more information

The Konocti Fire Safe Council service area (in yellow) includes the three Rivas, Buckingham, nearby smaller residential groups, mobile home parks and independent landowners. A robust outreach effort is underway to build fire resiliency awareness among all residents.



Wildlife of Riviera West

California Chipmunk

We watch the antics of these little creatures with amusement as they scamper over rocks and retaining walls. They are not extremely common in Riviera West but there are a few, including a family that makes its home in the clubhouse back parking lot. The California chipmunk is on the threatened species list.

The California Chipmunk or Chaparral Chipmunk (*Neotamias obscurus*) is considered a threatened species. It is a member of the squirrel family and is found in California and Mexico.

The National Wildlife Federation features them on their website:

Chipmunks connect with each other through their calls, and those lines of communication may mean the difference between life and death. Hawks, owls, snakes, foxes, dogs, cats, raccoons, coyotes and weasels all prey on the tiny rodents. When a foraging chipmunk detects a predator it sounds an alarm, perhaps to warn others to scurry to safety. “Chips” (sharp, high-pitched calls) mean the predator is on the ground; “chucks” (which are lower pitched, like a stick rapping a hollow wooden block) signal danger from the air.

The skittish rodents use bushes, rocks, fallen trees, fences and woodpiles as cover when foraging. Their most important refuges, though, are their burrows—elaborate excavations that typically extend from 18 to 36 inches below the surface and can reach more than 30 feet in length.

Their eclectic diets and energetic digging make chipmunks valuable ecosystem players: They disperse seeds, aerate soils and distribute microorganisms that deliver nutrients to tree roots. Many gardeners enjoy their antics and install feeders to attract them, while others consider the striped visitors as mulch-scattering, seed-stealing, bulb-munching pests. (For tips on minimizing such annoyances, click on the link below for tips included in the online article.)

Despite the challenges of life as tiny prey, chipmunks are determined survivors, and we ought not let familiarity breed contempt. Couchoux agrees. She hopes that her research will help inspire people to “see chipmunks differently,” she says, “not just as cute little critters, but as complex animals that deserve our attention.”



California chipmunk (Neotamias obscurus)

Chipmunks can be seen scampering around rocks, tree trunks and underbrush in Riviera West. Their underground homes are tunnels extending up to 30 feet long.

Photo credit: Mammalwatching.com

Text credits: National Wildlife Federation.org, Wikipedia

Photo credit: Mammal Watching .com