

Fire & Life Safety Information

“Arson Watch”

Fire & Arson Awareness

Arson is the crime of deliberately burning property. Arson is a crime against people, because people, including Firefighters are often injured or killed in fires set by arsonists.

Arson results in death, injury, and property damage, rising insurance costs, taxes, loss of business and jobs, loss of homes and valuables, wildland environment including rare plants and animals. All arson crimes are considered felonies in California, and could result in a sentence of prison and / or large fines. Some of Sutter County is within a wildland/urban interface area, where brush grows next to homes. Many of the brush fires in Sutter County are intentionally set by arsonists during hot, dry, windy weather in wildland/urban interface areas such as the Sutter Buttes.

Watch Out for suspicious situations that citizens should be aware of in wildland/urban interface areas:

- Extreme fire danger WEATHER, North Winds, low humidity, hot temperatures at any time of the year
- SUSPICIOUS INDIVIDUALS or groups in vehicles or on foot in brushy areas
- Individuals or groups engaged in UNUSUAL BEHAVIOR in those areas
- SUSPICIOUS VEHICLES

Arson Investigators Need to Know:

- Where the fire started
- What or how the fire started
- Who started the fire

How can the community help stop arson?

Citizen's groups such as Neighborhood Watch, Neighborhood Councils, and Disaster Assistance Response Teams are trained observers. You can help stop arson by getting involved:

- BE AWARE of conditions in your wildland/urban neighborhood and patterns of weather that would encourage arson,
- TAKE PREVENTATIVE STEPS, protect your neighborhood. Citizen groups can help Fire departments and Law Enforcement by keeping an eye on any local danger areas,
- REPORT SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITIES in your neighborhood by calling the Sutter County Sheriff's Department (530) 822-7307.

Call 9-1-1 if you suspect that arson is being committed or you see smoke or flames.

- RECORD SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITIES on the “Community Fire & Arson Watch Log”. This information will then be forwarded to appropriate Law Enforcement; Fire personnel,
- ENCOURAGE YOUR NEIGHBORS to become involved in Community Fire and Arson Watch in your area.

Remember... If smoke or flames are visible, call 9-1-1 immediately!

Community Fire & Arson Watch Log

Date: _____ Time: _____

Location (include address, if available, landmarks, cross street) _____

General Weather: _____

Vehicle Description:

Make: _____ Model: _____

Year: _____ License#: _____

Color: _____ No. of Occupants: _____

Other (skateboard, bicycle, etc.): _____

Remarks: _____

Individual Description:

Sex: _____ Height: _____ Weight: _____

Color of Hair: _____ Color of Eyes: _____

Identifying marks or scars: _____

Clothing: _____

Remarks: _____

Group Description:

No. In Party: _____ Male: _____ Female: _____

Identifying Information: _____

Type of Activity: _____

Name of reporting party: _____

Work Telephone Number: _____ Home Telephone Number: _____

Home Address: _____