

Fall 2019 PORTAL III HOA
BRUSH PICK-UP GUIDELINES
October 5th – November 3rd

1. **ONLY GREEN WASTE WILL BE PICKED UP**

Brush, branches, small cut rounds, leaf, cone, needles and grasses

NO HOUSEHOLD GARBAGE OR CONSTRUCTION / LUMBER MATERIALS
THE PILE WILL NOT BE PICKED UP

2. Pile brush on the street-side of the ditches parallel to the street. Do not block the road. Brush piles **MUST** be kept away from utility boxes and out of ditches.
3. **NEEDLES** and/or **MOSTLY NEEDLES** should be piled not bagged, as that is easier for the contractor's equipment to pick up.
4. **LEAVES & PINE CONES** must be bagged, as the contractor's equipment cannot pick them up otherwise.
5. **Branches and small cut rounds cannot exceed 4 inches in diameter and 6 feet in length.**
6. Work with your neighbors to pile brush and needles in as few piles as possible. Several smaller piles are more time consuming and expensive to pick up.

Adhering to these guidelines will help ensure maximum efficiency and cost effectiveness for all Portal III lot owners. **THANK YOU**

Brush Piles can put out starting Oct 5th, but no later than Sunday Nov 3rd.

If you have questions, please contact Darwin Huber at 623-910-3732 or knobhill1296@gmail.com.

THANK YOU – For your cooperation

Please Consider Firewising your property, as shown on the following page.

FIREWISING YOUR LOT

A windblown firestorm can blow embers 3 miles ahead of the fire. The following steps can greatly reduce the chance of these embers causing a fire on your property, your neighbor's property, and within our community.

- 1. REMOVE LEAF, NEEDLE AND CONE LITTER** – Clear your property to a minimum of 10 feet next to your house/deck to protect it from ground fire.
- 2. LIMB-UP** - Prune lower branches up off the ground to keep a ground fire from reaching shrub or tree limbs.
Shrubs: limb-up 12 inches (Such as scrub oaks, manzanita and similar plants)
Trees: limb-up at least 3 feet
- 3. REMOVE OR REDUCE LADDER FUEL** – Bushes such as scrub oak, smaller trees and manzanita that grow under larger trees allow fire to spread to the larger trees. Also, by removing this "ladder fuel", the larger trees get more moisture and nutrients for a healthier life.

If for decorative reasons you can't get yourself to remove the ladder fuel from under large trees, then lower the height of the ladder fuel and limb-up trees so there is at least a 3-foot separation between the tops of the ladder fuel and the lowest branches of the larger tree. Then, limb-up the ladder fuel up off the ground.
- 4. THIN DENSE SCRUB OAK AND MANZANITA** – To help reduce the spread of fire, dense shrubbery needs to be thinned.
Thin the dense shrubbery by removing complete sections in a checkerboard pattern while keeping the roots in place.
The separation between the checker-boarded shrubbery should be wide enough to easily walk between. Keeping the roots in place of the plants you cut down will help reduce ground erosion.
- 5. REMOVE DEAD OR BROKEN TREES, BRANCHES, BRUSH** – This is hazardous fire fuel.
- 6. THIN DENSE TREES** - Tree crowns should be at least 10 feet apart. Trees closer are not only a severe fire hazard but there are not enough nutrients to maintain the health of all the trees. Tall skinny pines with only needles at the tops are very unhealthy and should be removed.
- 7. REMOVE BRANCHES OVERHANGING OR TOUCHING YOUR ROOF**
- 9. CLEAR GUTTERS AND YOUR ROOF OF DEBRIS**
- 10. REMOVE MISTLETOE** - Mistletoe is a parasite that can harm the health of the host tree, and can spread to other trees. Please remove it.

THANK YOU – for Firewising Your Property