

Utilities Commission to increase the amount of energy produced from woody forest residue (biomass) as an alternative to fossil fuels.

“Climate change affects temperature, precipitation and localized weather patterns. These

changes will affect the frequency and intensity of wildfires; forest growth, composition, and distribution; and forest health,” explained Tuttle. “At this point, California’s forests can be part of the solution to global climate change. If we aren’t successful,

the nature of the fire threat will certainly increase.”

For more information on the Climate Action Team’s plan to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in California or the Governor’s other environmental action initiatives, visit [www.climatechange.ca.gov](http://www.climatechange.ca.gov).

## Communications Corner

### Wildfire Awareness Week 2007

*By Alisha Herring, staff services analyst, Communications, Sacramento Headquarters*

Wildfire Awareness Week 2007, May 6-12, offers CAL FIRE an annual opportunity to get the word out about wildland fire prevention and preparedness for all who live in wildfire areas of California.

This year’s theme, “**Why 100 feet?... Because defensible space is YOUR responsibility,**” promotes the idea that protecting a home starts with the homeowner. The CAL FIRE Communications Office is working with units statewide to reach as many property owners as possible with this message by hosting a week’s worth of public events statewide.

CAL FIRE Headquarters will kick off Wildfire Awareness Week with a ceremony at the State Capitol in Sacramento on Monday, May 7. A number of distinguished guests will be on-hand to promote safety as well as to officially introduce the term CAL FIRE. Vehicles freshly striped with the CAL FIRE markings will debut at the Capitol and will travel to each event throughout the week. We have also prepared displays featuring defensible space, CAL FIRE, and a demonstration of the

vast responsibilities our department has and responds to.

The Capitol event will be followed by events in El Dorado, Shasta, Fresno, San Diego and Riverside Counties. During each event, CAL FIRE will focus public and media attention on the how and why of defensible space. CAL FIRE has arranged to run a week of pre-event radio promotion in each area leading up to the event followed by a live radio broadcast at each event location.

The day of the event, the host unit will provide media tours that showcase homes with good defensible space and crews assigned to fire prevention projects. In the afternoon, the public is invited to come out and participate in defensible space and fire safety demonstrations, see equipment displays, pick up fire safety educational materials, and talk with fire fighters and fire prevention specialists.

In addition, CAL FIRE has partnered with local hardware stores to raffle a limited number of yard tools such as saws, rakes, trimmers and gloves at each event to encourage residents to create their own defensible space.

#### Event Schedule

Monday, May 7

City: Sacramento

Time: 10 a.m. – 12 p.m.

Location: State Capitol - Kick-off with the presentation of the Governor’s Proclamation.

County: El Dorado County

Time: 2 p.m. – 6 p.m.

Location: Cameron Park Station, 3200 Country Club Dr, Cameron Park

Tuesday, May 8

County: Shasta County

Time: 4 p.m. – 6 p.m.

Location: Sunset Marketplace, 3685 Eureka Way, Redding

Wednesday, May 9

County: Fresno County

Time: 4 p.m. – 6 p.m.

Location: Millerton State Park, 5290 Millerton Road, Friant

Friday, May 11

City: San Diego County

Time: 4 p.m. – 6 p.m.

Location: San Diego Headquarters, 2249 Jamacha Rd, El Cajon

Saturday, May 12

City: Riverside County

Time: 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Location: Hemet Air Attack Base, 4710 West Stetson Ave, Hemet