

Edgartown Forest Estates Association

2 Dodgers Hole Road, Edgartown, MA 02539 dodgers.hole@gmail.com 774-310-1456 www.dodgershole.com

August 15, 2020

We are excited to announce that the Edgartown Forest Estates Association is enlisting the help of the Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) to help increase our level of fire safety awareness. The program is called Firewise USA. As abutters to the Manuel F. Correllus State Forest fire safety and prevention is a critical issue for Dodger's Hole, especially due to the current drought conditions on the island.

Over the winter the EFEA Board of Directors has been working with Josh Nigro, the fire warden of the DCR Bureau of Forest Fire Control and Forestry, to plan a fire safety assessment of our homes and yards. Josh hopes to complete evaluations of all Dodger's Hole properties in September and October.

To schedule this important assessment, email your request to dodgers.hole@gmail.com. Include your property address, the best way to contact you (email or phone), and days and times that are convenient. Or call 774-310-1456 and leave a voicemail with your request and information. Your request and contact information will then be shared with Fire Warden Nigro and he will contact you directly to schedule an appointment. Once the assessment is complete, you will receive the fire warden's fire safety and prevention recommendations for your property. *Please note--you do not need to be present for this assessment to be done.*

In addition, as part of this program, arrangements are being made for a chipper and crew to come through Dodger's Hole next May. This will give everyone the opportunity to gather brush, small, fallen limbs and other possible fire hazards from their properties and to bring to the roadside for chipping, free of charge.

This opportunity for our neighborhood is made possible due to Edgartown Fire Chief Alex Schaeffer being awarded a FEMA grant for fire management that covers 75% of the cost of the plan. The additional 25% needed has already been raised through on-island donations! We are so fortunate to have this resource on Martha's Vineyard to provide this important fire safety education and planning for the Dodger's Hole community.

Additional information about the FirewiseUSA program and educational videos will be posted on our website www.dodgershole.com and links can be found on the Dodger's Hole Homeowner's Association Facebook page.

And finally. **THANK YOU to Tina Seiler, EFEA Board member, who initiated and is coordinating this project with Josh Nigro.**

Enjoy August!



**Tim Dacey, President
EFEA Board**