



Pile burn success at Jasper Ridge

As part of its [Wildfire Management Plan](#), Stanford created shaded or complete fuel breaks inside the Jasper Ridge Preserve along the Westridge border. In areas where debris could not be chipped, they created piles. During March 4-8, 2024, piles were reduced to ash via a method of prescribed fire known as a pile burn. See Stanford's description of the project [here](#).

Sue Epstein's house borders the Preserve and she nervously witnessed the burn from her patio. The weather, Stanford's planning, the oversight of both WFPD and CAL FIRE, and the hard work of the professional burn crew resulted in little smoke and no unexpected incidents. Stanford will be issuing media and research about the burn, but in the meantime, please enjoy these photos by Sue Epstein and Dee Bailey. The Almanac has excellent [aerial photos](#).



Burning one pile at a time – Sue Epstein



Pile burn at the end of the day – Sue Epstein



Being good neighbors on both sides of Sue Epstein's fence – Dee Bailey

With climate change, we all need to view the vegetation around us differently and learn how to manage it to reduce wildfire risk while honoring the values that brought each of us to Portola Valley.

Want to follow Stanford's lead but don't know what to do? Schedule a Defensible Space Inspection with WFPD by emailing info@woodsidefire.org.

Please subscribe to Portola Valley Town [eNotices](#) from the Wildfire Preparedness Committee!

San Mateo County Alert System [SMC Alert](#) is our primary emergency notification system. Encourage all adult members (18 and older) of your family to subscribe.

All the [Wildfire Preparedness tips](#) are on the [committee's page](#). To rate this tip or submit questions or concerns, please fill out this [Google Form](#).