



For Immediate Release

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Carla Ruigh Joins the Santa Clara County FireSafe Council

Former Operations Manager for the City of Gilroy will manage fuel reduction projects and programs for the South County FireSafe Council

Morgan Hill, September 10, 2012 – The Santa Clara County FireSafe Council (SCFSC), a non-profit organization dedicated to wildfire prevention, is pleased to welcome Carla Ruigh as the new South County Area Manager.

Carla, a former Park Ranger and Park Planning Manager who most recently served as the Operations Manager for the City of Gilroy, will coordinate hazardous fuel chipping projects and related education programs for residents and homeowners in South San Jose, Morgan Hill, Gilroy and San Martin. In addition, she will work with the community to promote and manage the volunteer-lead South County FireSafe Council.

“Carla brings a wealth of knowledge and experience as a public employee for the City of San Jose and Gilroy and former Park Ranger,” notes Bob Livengood, SCFSC Executive Director. “She’s the right person to help expand our programs in South County by working with residents, community groups and businesses.”

Before joining the FireSafe Council, Carla served the City of Gilroy for nine years as the Operations Manager, overseeing parks, landscape, and public infrastructure maintenance, including urban forestry, parks and water production, storage and distribution.

Prior to the City of Gilroy, Carla served nearly twenty years with the City of San Jose, managing and improving parks, facilities and community services. Carla is trained in Wildfire Suppression and holds a Master of Science degree in Construction Engineering and Management from CAL and a Bachelor of Arts degree in Management from St. Mary's College.

Carla and her family live in South Santa Clara County.

The Santa Clara County FireSafe Council is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. Our mission is “Mobilizing the people of Santa Clara County to protect their homes, communities and environment from wildfires.”

Help us keep our community Green - it's our Mission

1. Be [careful with equipment](#) that can start wildfires and observe [Red Flag Days](#)
2. Help protect [migratory birds](#)
3. Use [fire resistant, native plants](#) and trees and remove invasive fire prone species
4. [Educate your children](#) - [Smokey Bear](#) teaches kids to prevent wildfires and protect the environment
5. Educate your neighbors – [Defensible Space](#) can mitigate losses from wildfire and positively impact forest life

The council meets at 2:00 PM on the second Tuesday of each month. Interested organizations and individuals are welcome to attend! For more information and meeting locations, see www.SCCFireSafe.org, e-mail info@SCCFireSafe.org or call (408) 975-9591. SCFSC appreciates tax-deductible donations of any amount.

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