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NAPA FIREWISE TO HOST COMMUNITY WORKSHOP IN ANGWIN

NAPA, Calif., June 1, 2006 – Napa Firewise (www.co.napa.ca.us/firewise), the County's wildland fire prevention and education program, is sponsoring a free workshop on June 25th, between 9:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. at Pacific Union College in Angwin. The event is targeted at the high fire-risk communities of Angwin, Deer Park and Pope Valley. The goal of the workshop is to inform residents of the threat wildland fire poses to them and provide specific steps that can be taken to protect lives and property in the event a major wildland fire occurs in the area.

"We are facing a very serious fire season," said Gabrielle Avina, Napa County Fire Marshal and CDF host for the workshop. "Communities like Angwin, Deer Park and portions of Pope Valley are extremely vulnerable to the types of fires that have devastated the Oakland Hills and portions of Southern California in the past. This workshop is our way of increasing awareness and offering the community the kind of advice that can save lives."

The workshop will be held in Chan Shun Hall on the campus of Pacific Union College and will include presentations by the California Department of Forestry (CDF) on wildland fire risks, defensible space planning and evacuation preparedness. In addition, a representative from the Personal Insurance Federation of California (www.pifc.org), an advocate organization to help educate the public on insurance issues at state and local levels, will address the issues of insurability in wildland fire country.

A free lunch will be served following the presentations, and attendees will be able to view displays of fire equipment and talk with local vendors about fire-resistant building materials and landscape design. Space is limited and reservations are requested. To make a reservation, call the Firewise hot line at 707.967.1426 or email napafirewise@co.napa.ca.us. Please state your name, phone number and the number of people attending.

Future workshops will be offered in other high-risk neighborhoods in coming months. For information about Napa Firewise, visit www.co.napa.ca.us/firewise or call 707.967.1426. Napa Firewise is funded in part through grants from the Western States Wildland Urban Interface Program.

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