

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Napa Firewise  
Contact: Roger Archey, 707.255.7667 or  
[rarchey@balzac.com](mailto:rarchey@balzac.com)

**NAPA COUNTY CHIPPING PROGRAM RECEIVES \$40,500 IN GRANTS**

NAPA, Calif. — Malloy, Imrie & Vasconi Insurance Services, LLC, Fireman's Fund Insurance Company and the Bay Area Air Quality Management District (Air District) have awarded Napa County and the Napa Firewise program a total of \$40,500 in grants for the purchase of an industrial-scale wood chipper.

The grants of \$23,000 from Fireman's Fund Insurance and \$17,500 from the Air District will enable the county Firewise program to provide free chipping service for residents living in high fire risk communities through the end of August.

"Our chipping program is central to our countywide wildland fire prevention and education program," said Napa County Fire Chief Ernie Loveless. "The new equipment will enable us to reduce agricultural burning – thus reducing dangerous air pollution – provide a tool to help people dispose of their hazardous brush and allow us to expand our free chipping service to residents throughout the county. Everyone benefits."

The removal of dangerous fire-prone vegetation is a key part of the State's defensible space law that requires residents to provide a 100 foot "safe zone" around their home where firefighters can safely defend the property and where the risk of wildland fire is greatly reduced.

For more information about the Napa Firewise chipping program and defensible space landscaping in wildfire country, visit the Firewise Web site at [www.co.napa.ca.us/firewise](http://www.co.napa.ca.us/firewise) or call 707.967.1426.

###