

Catherine Palmer <council@babcnc.org>

More for tonight

4 messages

Patricia Templeton ptempleton@babcnc.org>
To: Catherine Palmer <council@babcnc.org>

Thu, Nov 10, 2022 at 5:52 PM

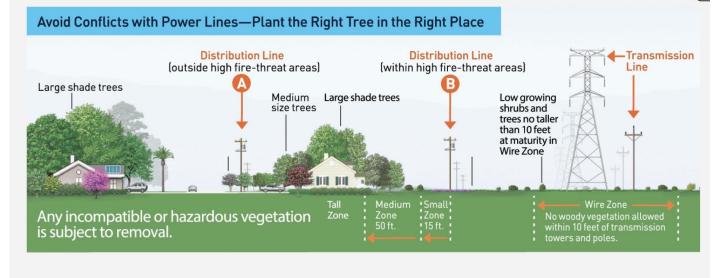
Hi Cathy!

Can these photos be added also?

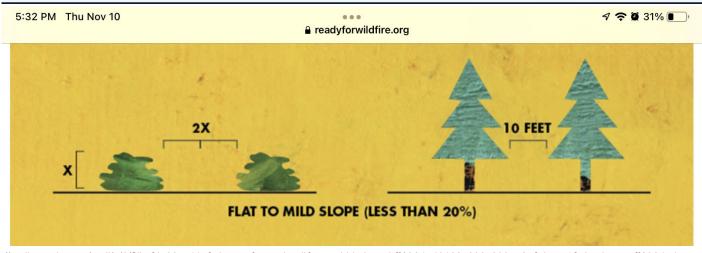
Within High Fire-Threat Districts (HFTD)

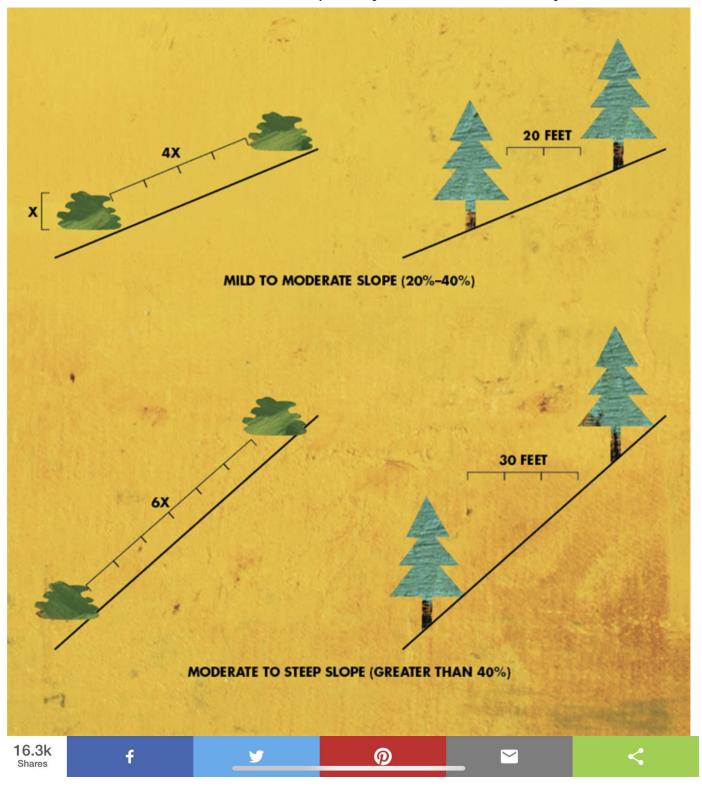
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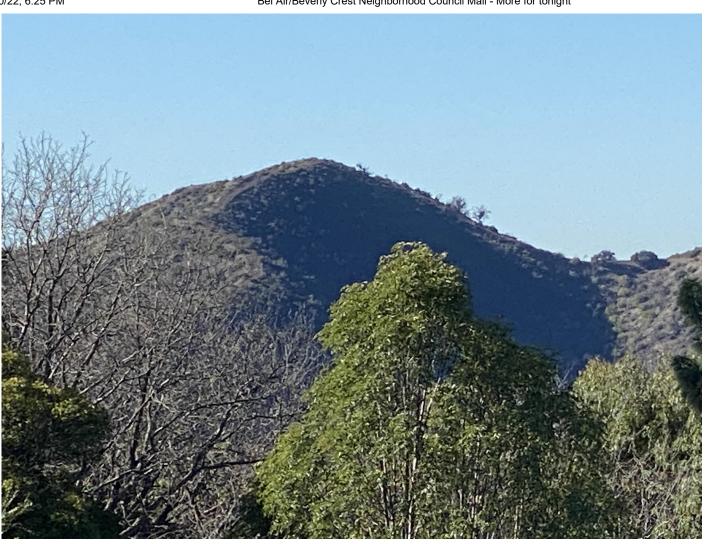


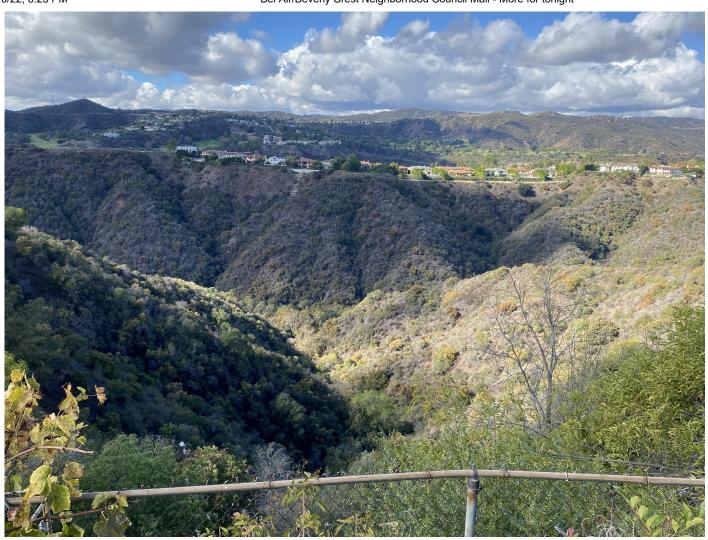


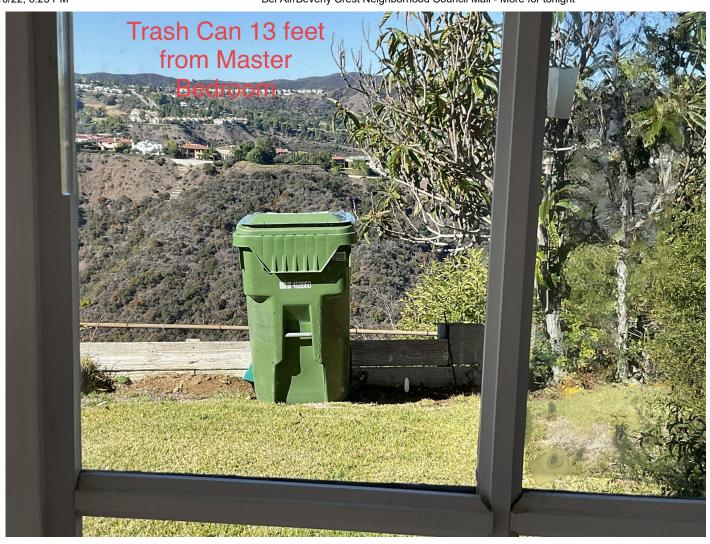
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5:42 PM Thu Nov 10

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One of the easiest ways to be proactive in protecting neighborhoods and wildlife is to have bear locking carts, or garbage cans. Steve Milewski, senior civil engineer for the LA County of Dept. of Public Works, shared a presentation on bear carts that will be available in the coming weeks through Burrtec, the trash pickup service in the unincorporated area of Los Angeles County/La Crescenta. The normal \$9 monthly charge by Burrtec will be paid by LA County for residents in its La Crescenta area. The carts are recommended for residents who live near the Angeles National Forest but are available for all La Crescenta residents.

The new bear carts have yet to arrive at Burrtec but are expected soon. The carts are designed with a mechanism that allows the containers to be easily opened by people but prevents bears from opening the can whether through the use of claws, paws or teeth.

"It was initially anticipated that we would finish the agreement [with Burrtec] by Dec. 1," Milewski said.

But those negotiations were not completed until just recently

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Initially there was confusion by Burrtec employees when residents called the company to order the carts but now it appears that everyone, including operators at Burrtec, is familiar with the program.

"[Burrtec] customer service people should be a little more educated starting [Wednesday]," Milewski added.

Though the carts are not ready for delivery residents can order them now with an expected delivery date in January when they are expected to arrive at the Burrtec plant.

Milewski added the cans are tested in the field by filling them with food and seeing if bears can tear into them. So far they have proven to be pretty much bearproof.

Burrtec will provide bear-resistant carts upon request and the carts will be provided free to La Crescenta residents.

"These carts are the property of Burrtec not the resident," he reminded.

In the future, the departments of Public Works, Angeles National Forest and California Fish and Wildlife will work together to create "bear zones" where it will be mandatory to use the bear-resistant carts.

Rebecca Barboza, wildlife biologiet with the California Dept. of

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About 3,000 of the "bear-resistant residential carts" are already in use in Wrightwood. Others are securely keeping garbage from the maws of bears in Alaska and Montana, said Steve Thompson, spokesman for BearSaver. He said Monrovia would be the first urban area to deploy the receptacles.

While the steel-reinforced hull of the can prevents bears from squashing it, Thompson said the self-locking lid is the key. Once the lid is firmly closed, only a human finger can reach in and depress the release switch.

"It's fine for humans, but it can't be done by animals," said Monrovia spokesman Dick Singer. But the can costs about \$150, twice as much as a regular plastic roll-out bin. Monrovia officials, working with waste haulers, are trying to determine who will pay the extra cost.

Also, Scott said using the devices in one neighborhood, but not others, might cause bears to forage deeper into urban areas, where they would face more dangers with people and vehicles.

"If you have a neighborhood that has a problem and does something, and another neighborhood that doesn't, the bears will move to the other neighborhood," Scott said. "Is there a guarantee the bear will go back into the woods? Or will it go straight into the city? That could be a problem."

Given that concern, Thompson said his company has begun talks with waste haulers in nearby Duarte about deploying the new cans. The Monrovia City Council is expected to consider a final proposal to start using the trash cans in January.

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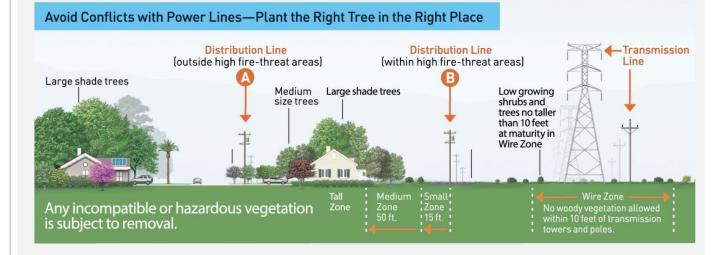
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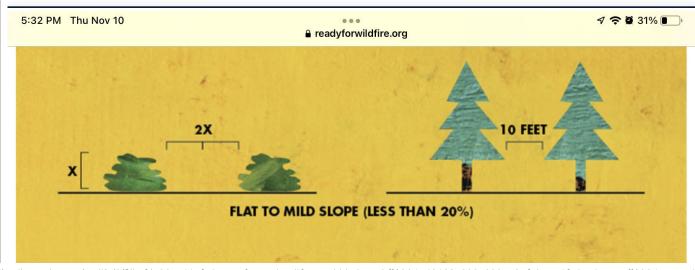
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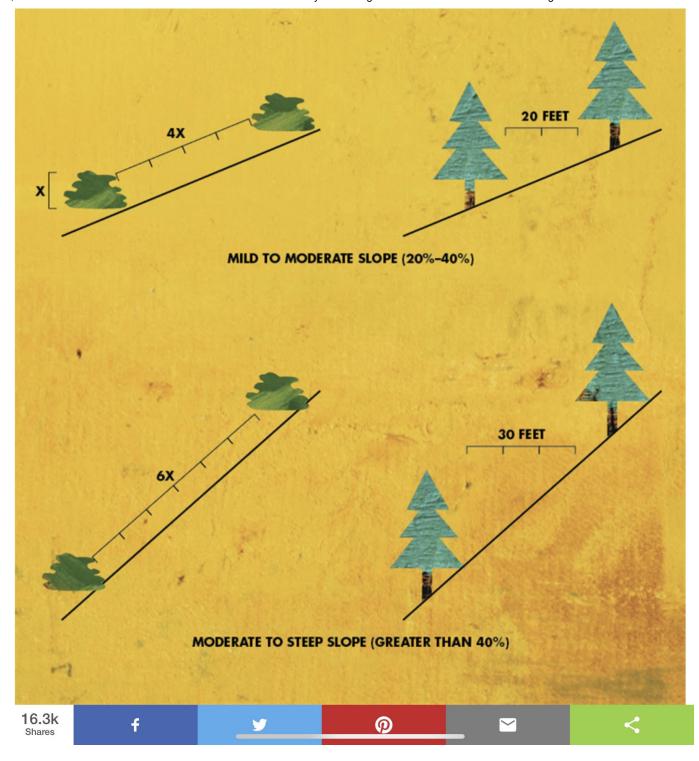
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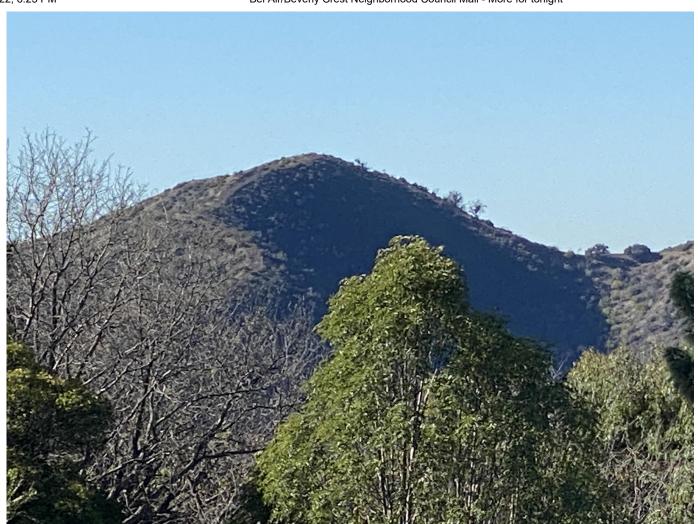


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Los Angeles Times





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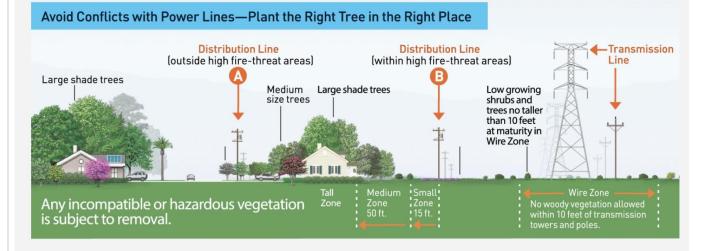
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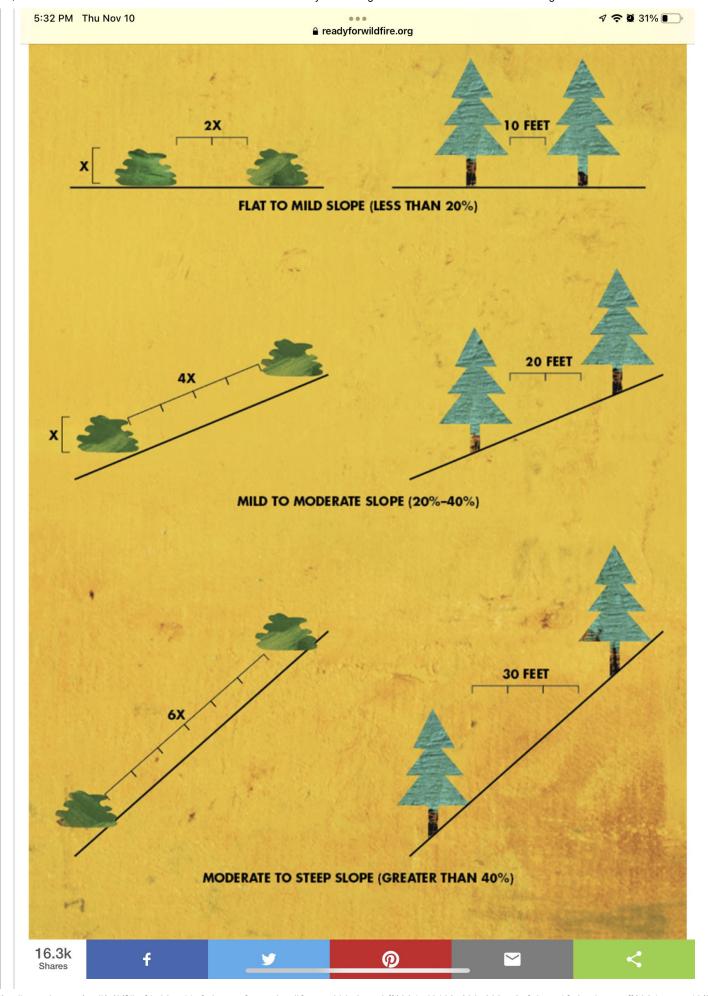
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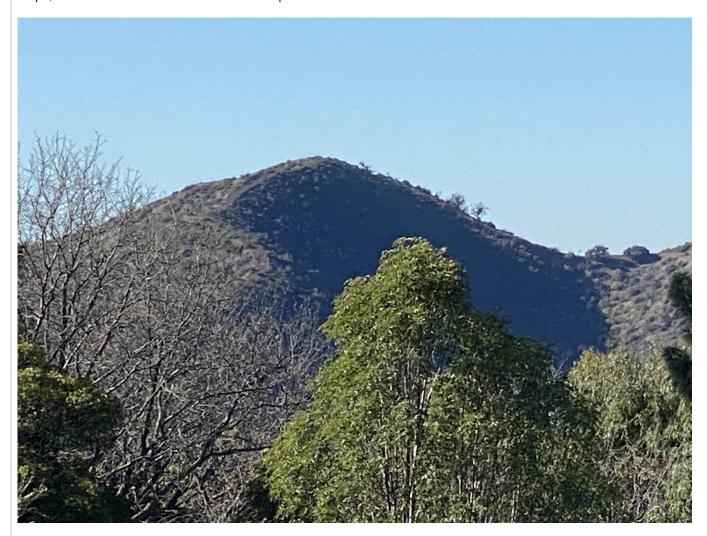
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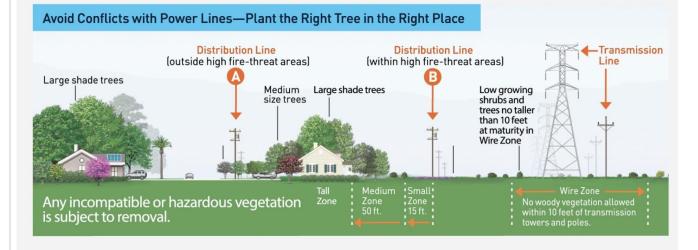
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