



MEDIA / PRESS RELEASE
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Idyllwild, CA, March 14, 2023 – The California Inland Empire Council, BSA (CIEC) is hosting a Wildfire Prep and Safety Community Fair. Fire Prevention and Safety is for Everyone!

The first **Wildfire Prep Community Fair** will be held on Saturday, March 18, 9 a.m. – 1 p.m. at Camp Emerson, located at 53155 Idyllbrook Dr. in Idyllwild. This program exists to educate our communities, or ways to reduce the risk of wildfires and, if necessary, be prepared to follow the “Ready, Set, Go” mode.

The Wildfire Prep and Safety program was created and is managed by the **California Inland Empire Council, BSA (CIEC)** in partnership with **Cal Fire** and **California Climate Investments**.

We have developed a training program for all California residents and businesses as well as a Merit Badge for participating Scouts. This program includes a basic introduction to wildfire science, fire safety recommendations and many resources for fire prevention.

This online program was also created to deliver community awareness and to teach fire safety basics. All online users who have opted into this program will learn fire safety techniques from various materials and professionals and will receive a “certificate of completion” upon course completion.

As part of our partnership, **Wildfire Prep** provides educational materials and additional resources for all participants. Some of the exciting additional resources through the “Ready, Set, Go!” program include insurance discounts and future employment opportunities.

The threat of wildfires in Southern California is real, however, the level of preparation and education for homeowners is not adequate or widespread enough at this point. As you may know, the motto of the Boy Scouts of America is, “Be prepared”. In order to help prepare our communities facing the real threat of a wildfire, we’ve partnered with local and regional organizations to put on multiple Wildfire Prep Community Fairs each year within Riverside and San Bernardino Counties.

Background

The **California Inland Empire Council (CIEC)** serves the diverse and unique needs of all youth within Inland Empire of California. The service area comprises San Bernardino and Riverside Counties. People interested in joining scouting can go to **BeaScout.org**. The CIEC is headquartered in Redlands California where it has their office and a Scout store.

The California Inland Empire Council was founded in 1973. In 2006, the council acquired the San Bernardino County portions of Old Baldy Council. The California Inland Empire Council (CIEC) territory now includes all of Riverside and San Bernardino Counties.

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