

OLYMPIC VALLEY FIRE DEPARTMENT

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Allen Riley – Fire Chief

Dear Insurance Agent:

I am providing this letter on behalf of the Olympic Valley Fire Department. One of our homeowners has been informed that your agency would no longer insure his/her residential property. I am sure that this was not your individual decision but that of your organization. I understand this decision was made with very little information regarding the community of Squaw Valley and its efforts to mitigate the effects of wildfire. Please take a moment to understand our fire department and the things we do to protect the Olympic Valley community.

The Olympic Valley community is protected by two fire stations. The station at 305 Squaw Valley Road is staffed with permanent employees 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year. The station at 1810 is staffed during busy peak days including weekends and holidays. Olympic Valley is recognized as an NFPA Firewise Community.

Olympic Valley is a glaciated mountain valley flanked on the north and south by lateral moraines and on the west by a large granite cirque. The western part of the valley and most of the southern slopes are cleared ski runs on Squaw Valley Ski Resort property and offer good fuel breaks and access roads. The Valley floor is predominately meadow, including an 18-hole golf course, with a creek that runs the length of the meadow and empties into the Truckee River drainage at the east end of the Valley. The domestic water system rivals that of most large cities, there are 199 fire hydrants throughout the District. The hydrants are supplied by several gravity fed water tanks with a combined capacity of over 2.5 million gallons of water.

The Olympic Valley Fire Department has an Insurance Service Organization (ISO) Public Protection Classification rating of 2/2Y. Fire department ISO ratings are on a scale of 1 through 10. ISO rating of 1 being the best and 10 being no protection.

The Olympic Valley Fire Department performs defensible space inspections for every property in the District annually. Residential properties are inspected for compliance with the State of California Public Resources Code (PRC) 4291 for defensible space. Community members are provided resources and guidance to make their homes defensible in case of a wildfire including free dumpsters on "green waste days".

Thank you for taking the time to learn more about the Olympic Valley Fire Department's efforts to make its community as safe as possible from a catastrophic wild land fire. I also recommend that you review the document titled ***Your Olympic Valley Fire Department***. It provides insurance companies with more detailed information of our department's commitment to keeping its community safe from a wildfire. If you have any questions regarding fire department programs, please feel free to contact me directly at 530-583-6111 extension 221.

Respectfully yours,



Allen Riley, Chief
Olympic Valley Fire Department