




TOWN OF FAIRFAX

STAFF REPORT

September 5, 2018

TO: Mayor and Town Council

FROM: Garrett Toy, Town Manager 

SUBJECT: Receive report on the Town's vegetation management efforts (e.g., Chipper Days)

RECOMMENDATION

Receive report on the Town's vegetation management efforts (e.g., Chipper Days).

DISCUSSION

Given the heightened awareness of fire safety, the Town scheduled more "Chipper Day" events (six) than the previous year (four). Of the six Chipper Days, two were specifically targeted for neighborhoods that are designated or working to become a Firewise community. These two Chipper Day events included door-to-door pick-up of brush/cuttings in the Cascade and Manor Hill neighborhoods. Attached is a table which shows that in 2018, the Town collected over 53 tons (106,000 lbs.) of brush/cuttings from residents, which is more than the combined total of the last three years. The table also shows the number of participants and cost of the Chipper Day events.

The Town is also working with Ross Valley Fire Department (RVFD) to actively manage the vegetation on Town-owned properties. Specifically, the Town recently removed a significant amount of brush and undergrowth on its 1-acre property behind Bennett House. We will also be working with RVFD to identify the initial level of vegetation removal required on Center Blvd. from Pastori to the Town limits. This work is necessary because Center Blvd. is a main evacuation route out of town. The initial work will involve trimming up trees, removing some smaller trees, and/or removing brush and undergrowth along Center Blvd. Prior to starting the work, staff will inform the affected neighborhoods via Nextdoor and signage. We will also wrap ribbons around/post notices on any smaller trees to be removed. The initial work will probably be similar to what San Anselmo has done to date along their portion of Center Blvd.

RVFD did meet with the Tree Committee to discuss the overall vegetation management plan for Center Blvd. A future phase will involve the removal of the pine trees along Center Blvd. However, as this future work will be very costly, RVFD is trying secure grants for the removal.

FISCAL IMPACT

The vegetation clearance costs will be charged to the Fire Prevention budget (fund 01-421).

ATTACHMENT

Table for Chipper days

AGENDA ITEM # 12

CHIPPER DAY HIGHLIGHTS 2018

<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Tonnage</u>	<u>Cost</u>	<u>Participants</u>	<u>Pickup</u>
June 30	Sir Francis Drake & Olema	3.31 tons	\$2,833	25	11
July 14&15	Doc Edgar Park	21.75 tons	\$19,750	96	76
July 21	Deer Park	6.11 tons	\$1,722	32	0
July 28	Pavilion	8.34 tons	\$6,006	38	4
August 11	Sir Francis Drake & Olema	2.93 tons	\$3,500	20	1
August 18*	Pavilion for Manor Hill	10.74 tons	\$11,130	82	69
TOTALS		53.18 TONS	\$44,940	293	161

*This data does not include tonnage or costs for the extra pick-ups on 8/21 or 8/29.

Chipper Waste Tonnage by Year

