



# THE FIRE PLUG

Spring Edition | 2026  
[www.kensingtonfire.org](http://www.kensingtonfire.org)

A Kensington Community Services District Newsletter Addressing Emergency Preparedness

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## Embers Will Expose Your Home's Wildfire Vulnerability

Most homes lost in wildfires don't ignite from flames—they ignite from wind-driven embers. Embers can travel more than a mile ahead of a fire, slipping through vents or landing on dry vegetation, decks, and other flammable materials near homes. These spot fires can ignite structures and spread fire rapidly through a neighborhood long before the main fire arrives.

Protecting your home means blocking ember entry and reducing what embers can ignite around it. Simple steps—such as hardening vents, removing hazardous vegetation, and working with neighbors—can significantly improve your home's resilience and help protect the entire community when wildfire threatens.



### HAZARDOUS VEGETATION REMOVAL REIMBURSEMENT GRANT PROGRAM

FILING PERIOD: 3/1/2026 - 5/31/2026

[WWW.KENSINGTONFIRE.ORG/GRANT](http://WWW.KENSINGTONFIRE.ORG/GRANT)

FY 2026- 2027



## Kensington Takes a Major Step Forward to Protect Homes from Wildfire with New Community Resilience Program

Kensington Community Services District has launched the Kensington Ember Exclusion Program (KEEP) to strengthen home protection against wind-driven embers. KEEP expands wildfire resilience by pairing education with practical resources, delivered in partnership with Firesafe Kensington and Wildfire Defense Mesh for residents across the Kensington community.

### Program Highlights

- \$15,000 in initial KCSD funding to launch a pilot focused on ember awareness and home hardening
- Education, guidance, and resources for resident-led projects that reduce ember entry and fire risk
- Material resources for qualifying residents, including ember-resistant metal mesh
- Partnership-driven delivery that prioritizes efficiency, transparency, and community-wide benefit

KEEP builds on Kensington’s broader wildfire resilience efforts by helping residents understand ember risk and take practical steps to protect homes and neighborhoods.



**Apply to receive metal ember-resistant mesh for soffit, attic, and foundation vents to help block wind-driven embers from entering homes.**



- While supplies last
- Material-only assistance
- Install by homeowner, or contractor

**APPLICATION FILING PERIOD:  
4/1/2026 - 5/31/2026**

[www.kensingtonfire.org/keep](http://www.kensingtonfire.org/keep)





## Embers In Action: Video Demonstrates Fire Danger

A powerful video from the Insurance Institute for Business & Home Safety (IBHS) reveals how embers infiltrate homes, showing how wind-driven embers exploit even the smallest vulnerabilities. The footage demonstrates that embers can pass through standard 1/4" mesh, increasing risk of igniting materials inside vents and enclosed spaces.

Installing a finer 1/8" and 1/16" mesh significantly reduces this risk by preventing ember entry. The video makes the threat both visible and urgent—turning awareness into action. IBHS's research continues to inform building standards and defensible space practices, helping communities understand how small upgrades can make a critical difference in preventing home ignition during wildfires.

The Kensington Community Services District has launched the Kensington Ember Exclusion Program (KEEP) to heighten awareness of ember risk, and to strengthen community resilience.

Scan the QR code to watch the video,  
or visit: [www.kensingtonfire.org/keep](http://www.kensingtonfire.org/keep)





**Kensington Community  
Services District**  
217 ARLINGTON AVE  
KENSINGTON CA 94707



**COMMUNITY SAFETY EVENT**

# **KENSINGTON SHRED EVENT**

**SATURDAY, APRIL 11TH  
10:00am-12:00pm**

**1 Lawson Road, Kensington  
Unitarian Universalist Church**

**NORTH PARKING LOT**

## **Kensington Community Shredding Event**

**Saturday, April 11th, 2026 10:00 am- 12:00 pm  
Unitarian Church - 1 Lawson Road Kensington**

This free event is for Kensington residents to dispose of sensitive documents and reduce flammable material in their homes.

It is not necessary to remove staples/clips, etc., from your papers.

Shredding is done on-site, and all shredded documents are recycled by returning them to a paper mill.

There will not be a pharmaceutical collection at this event.

For more info: [www.kensingtonfire.org/shred](http://www.kensingtonfire.org/shred)