Logo/Slogan

Date

Welcome Neighbor!

We are so excited you have joined our community. You have many options to “plug in” to our community and we look forward to connecting with you.

As a new neighbor, please be advised of the following:

1. You have landed in a great neighborhood! You are surrounded by caring people who appreciate their privacy and quickly extend help to each other in a time of need.

2. We use the USA Firewise Community program as an avenue to share concerns and keep our remote and rural neighborhood safe. Our group is named the xxxx neighborhood Watch.

3. We use our xxx Neighborhood Watch group’s WhatsApp chat system to share messages among neighbors. We share wildfire start alerts, snowstorm alerts, emergency alerts, bear and mountain lion sightings, and general good neighbor update information with each other. If you’d like to join our group please send our Firewise Community Group education information, grant opportunities, and wildfire insurance discounts. This will be replaced in next XXX Firewise Community which follows the smaller “Neighbor Helping Neighbor” model.

4. While our area is remote and rural, laws are enforced to ensure the safety and comfort of all neighbors. Please see the attached most frequently referenced county codes to answer questions you may have.

5. If you are new to the area, we have attached a list of helpful resources to acclimate you to the Banner Mountain area.

If you have any questions, please ask! Your neighbors are here to welcome you, answer questions, and make you feel part of our community. We are excited you have chosen to call Banner Mountain your home.

With warmest regards,

Name, Lead
XXXX Neighborhood Watch Group

Attachments: Tips for [insert your FWC name] Folks
Frequently Referenced County Codes/State Laws

Welcome to Our Neighborhood! Tips for [*insert the name of your FWC here]*

Local News & Happening Resources:
YubaNet https://yubanet.com/
The Union Newspaper https://www.theunion.com/
KNCO radio 830 AM https://knco.com/
KVMR radio 89.5 PM https://www.kvmr.org/
Nextdoor Social app https://nextdoor.com/
Facebook – NevCo Firewise Network
https://www.facebook.com/groups/nevadacountyfirewisenetwork
Facebook – NevCo Fire Insurance Information
https://www.facebook.com/groups/578812025949781
Facebook- NevCo Happening Now
https://www.facebook.com/groups/nevadacountyhappeningnow
Facebook – Nevada City Peeps https://www.facebook.com/groups/nevadacitypeeps

Important Phone Apps to Prepare for Emergency:
Watch Duty https://www.watchduty.org/
Nevada County Alerts https://nevadacountyca.gov/3780/Emergency-Alerts
Genasys https://genasys.com/
Flightradar24 https://www.flightradar24.com/

Helpful websites
Friends of Banner Mountain https://www.bannermountain.org/ (sunsetting 12/31/2026)
Banner Mountain Firewise Community https://www.bannermountain.org/firewise
(sunsetting 11/30/2026)
Wildfire-Ready Coalition of Nevada County https://wildfirereadync.org/
Nevada County Consolidated Fire District https://www.nccfire.com/
CALFIRE "NEU" (Nevada, Yuba, Placer Counties)
https://www.facebook.com/CALFIRENEU/ (Facebook)
CALFIRE "Firewise" https://www.readyforwildfire.org/prepare-for-wildfire/firewise-communities/
National Fire Protection Association https://www.nfpa.org/education-and-research/wildfire/firewise-usa

Interesting Things to Know
1. Plastic shovels move snow easier than metal shovels
2. Metal shovels work better if you coat them with nonstick PAM
3. A four-wheel drive car makes moving around the mountain easier
4. The county does not plow or maintain private roads
5. Mountain lions, bears, bobcats, and coyotes roam the neighborhood so don't leave food in your car
6. Moth balls help keep rats and squirrels out of your garage and stored vehicles

7. Stock up on propane before winter snow season
8. Defensible space works https://nevadacountyca.gov/3004/Defensible-Space
9. Home hardening works https://nevadacountyca.gov/2747/Create-a-Fire-Resistant-Home
10. Wildfire risk is high; please act responsibly https://osfm.fire.ca.gov/what-we-do/community-wildfire-preparedness-and-mitigation/fire-hazard-severity-zones

Support Resources:

Nevada County Office of Emergency Services https://nevadacountyca.gov/3812/About-OES
Nevada County Library system (so MANY services!)
https://nevadacountyca.gov/4149/Library
Nevada County Fiber (SUPER speed and reliability) https://www.nevcofiber.com/
Trash Transfer Station Options https://nevadacountyca.gov/3412/Transfer-Stations

Fun Places to Go

Crystal Hermitage https://crystalhermitage.org/
Empire Mine https://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=499
Hiking Trails https://gonevadacounty.com/hiking/
Historic Grass Valley https://www.grassvalleychamber.com/
Historic Nevada City https://www.nevadacitychamber.com/
Scotts Flat Lake https://www.nidwater.com/scotts-flat-lake-cascade-shores
Rollins Lake https://www.parks.ca.gov/BoatingFacilities/f/1529

Please add your favorite places!!

I'm Here to Help!

[Insert contact information for your FWC committee members.]

Frequently Referenced County Codes/State Laws for Nevada County

1. **FIREARMS. Nevada County Code 11.01.190.**
   It is unlawful to:
   a. Discharge a firearm on any parcel zoned by the County of Nevada as R1, R2, R3, or on any parcel zoned RA and that is comprised of fewer than five (5) acres.
   b. Discharge any firearm within one hundred fifty (150) yards (four hundred fifty (450') feet) of any dwelling house, residence, or other building or any barn or any outbuilding used in connection therewith.
   c. Except when hunting, to discharge any firearm in such a manner that the bullet (projectile) does not remain on the lot or parcel from which it was fired.
   d. To discharge any firearm from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 a.m.

To discharge any firearm continuously, for two (2) or more hours without at least a two (2) hour break.

   e. To discharge any firearm that results in any noise which unreasonably disturbs the peace and quiet of any neighborhood, or which causes discomfort or annoyance to any reasonable person of normal sensitivity residing within the limits of the County.

2. **Solid Waste. (Trash.) Nevada County Code 15.13.010.**
   a. A Community Stop means a common location that community members collectively designate as an alternative collection location for garbage, recyclable materials and organic waste.
   b. Nevada County contracts with Waste Management to collect separated garbage, recyclables, and food waste.
   c. Waste Management does NOT collect garbage/recyclables/food waste from private roads.
   d. Residents on private roads may either:
      i. Deliver their Waste Management bins to the nearest county road community stop
      ii. Deliver their garbage/recyclables to the McCourtney Road Transfer Station

   Solid Waste (Trash.) Air Resources Board.
   a. Burning trash is ***strictly prohibited*** in Nevada County.
   b. To protect community health, the Air Resources Board (ARB) approved an Airborne Toxic Control Measure (ATCM) to reduce air emissions of dioxins and other toxic substances from outdoor residential waste burning statewide.
   c. Per this ATCM, beginning January 1, 2004, no household trash or garbage may be burned outdoors at residences.

3. **CALFIRE Burn Permits to Reduce Vegetation**
   a. Burning vegetation (never allowed in city limits) is part of a good defensible space strategy on Banner Mountain.
   b. A CALFIRE burn permit is required and available online at https://burnpermit.fire.ca.gov/
   c. You may burn dry, dead material only; such as leaves, pine needles, and tree trimmings. Treated wood, household trash, and tires are illegal to burn.

Neighborhood concerns arising from the above are addressed with a “good neighbor” notice. Continued violations are addressed through County Code Enforcement or the appropriate state agency. Together, we can maintain the peaceful, safe, and beautiful mountain we chose as home