

WICKERSHAM ROAD NEWS

WICKERSHAM RANCH ROAD ASSOCIATION

Please consider the environment
before printing this document.

NOVEMBER 20, 2014

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GATE COMBO CHANGE

The Gate Combination will change on:

Sunday, November 30, 2014

The new combo will be:

Front Gate:

Big Iron Gate:

Anyone who has the reset key for the Master Lock may change the combo on that date. Thanks to those who do change it (as sometimes it's a mystery.)

Please remember that the gates should be locked at all times. The Big Iron Gate is locked at the direct request of the Silva Ranch.

KEYS FOR THE BIG IRON GATE

Keys are available for the Big Iron gate from the Road Association. The cost is \$5.00 each. Please contact me (Martin) if you'd like one.

IT'S RAINING

It's raining and the roads are wet. It looks like we may have a somewhat normal year so we need to remember that our road is not a state highway.

As always, please refrain from using the road during or immediately after a storm. Driving on the road when it's saturated does as much damage as regular erosion (and it increases that.)

Driving the road several days after a storm, depending on the moisture content, can actually help the road by compacting material.

If you see minor problems with erosion such as mid-road gullies forming, please do what you can to divert water away from the road with a shovel. If a bigger problem appears to be forming, please let the Road Committee know.

And please advise all guest about winter driving and remind them to use 4-wheel drive at all times. Two wheel drive, even in summer, facilitates wash boarding (and other damage) by concentrating the full force of the drive train in two (and some times only one) wheels. Even if your wheels don't spin, they are pushing back small quantities of material that will form ridges at some point. 4-wheel drive cuts that force in half.

DUES DUE SOON

2015 Road Dues will be are due and payable to the Wickersham Ranch Road Association on January 1. Checks should be sent to:

Wickersham Ranch Road Association

c/o Dreiling Terrones Architecture

1103 Juanita Avenue

Burlingame, California 94010

Invoices will be sent in December along with an account summary for 2013-2014

UNWELCOME VISITORS

There have been several incidents recently involving people apparently hunting where they were not invited.

Please remember that you and your guests can only hunt on your property and on properties where you have explicit permission. If you invite guests to hunt please make sure they know your boundaries.

Also please have your weapons stowed when you leave your property. It looks

very suspicious when a vehicle is being driven around with weapons out as though they are ready for a quick move.

The owners at the front ranch actively prosecute trespassers who are hunting on their lands and have asked that we remind all members of the Association about hunting rules and hunting etiquette.

Dean and Kelly have also asked that you contact them directly if you see someone hunting where they should not be. The contact information below is the best way to reach them.

Dean and Kelly Falkenberg
(707) 431-1517
dktfalken@aol.com

Finally, please review the Road Use Reminders at the end of the newsletter regarding our use of the road. The Wild Cattle Creek section of road is for access to and from our properties only. It is not a recreational resource in any way.

Thanks

ROAD WORK

As you all know we put a lot of effort into getting caught up on culvert replacement this year. That doesn't mean we are caught up, but we made progress. We replaced 8 culverts. There are about 30 more that need replacing over the next few years.

Work was smooth and road closures were not a problem (as far as we heard.) The vendor did excellent work in configuring the banks so that we should not have to deal with these culverts for another forty years.

We also did some incidental grading on Two Mile Hill but, as always, conserved resources for the larger projects.

We are planning on attacking additional culverts next year as well as rocking key corners where dust gets thick in the summer.

We still have resources available for any emergencies that may occur if we do get persistent heavy rains.

There are several sections of road that still need substantial grade adjustment and some of the first sections we did 10 years ago are coming due for more attention.

After the first of the year we will start detailing next year's work schedule.

ROAD USE REMINDERS

The following is the regular reminder about use of the Road. Please share this with all guests and vendors.

Please advise all road users that the road crosses private property and is maintained for access and egress only. All safety is the responsibility of the road user and no liability is assumed by any property owner or any member of the Road Association or the Road Committee.

All road use is explicitly at your own risk. Opening of the front gate and entry by any property owner, their guests, or any other individual constitutes acceptance of these terms.

Please remind all guests that the road crosses private property and that there is no hunting allowed from the road on the properties of others unless specific permission has been given by the property owner.

The Usual Stuff:

- Always lock the gate; regardless of whether it was unlocked when you got there.
- Make sure the combo is NOT left on the lock or the lock will not lock. Spin the numbers before locking and test the lock to make sure it is locked.
- If you wish to leave the gate open for a car that may be following, please wait at the gate while it is open.
- Please pick up litter and debris that does not belong on the road. If you are at the Front Gate and see litter, please assist in picking it up for removal. This makes the Front Gate more attractive for all users.
- Please remove rocks or trees that have fallen onto the road. (If you remove a large tree or perform other substantial work in keeping the road open, please advise the Committee so we can say thanks.)
- Please get permission from the owners of the front ranch to park cars inside the front gate. Contact:

Dean and Kelly Falkenberg
(707) 431-1517
dktfalken@aol.com

- Please park between the front gate and the second green-post and chain fence. This way the Owner can tell that you are a guest and not a trespasser.
- Please drive slowly and carefully.

Guests:

- Please advise guests that they are traveling over private property and that they should respect the privilege to do so. It is not appropriate to stop for sightseeing or personal relief on other's property.
- Please advise your guests regarding Road Etiquette including basic driving methods for rural roads and basic courtesies.

RESOURCES

SOTYOME RESOURCE CONSERVATION DISTRICT

<http://sotoyomercd.org>

(707) 569-1448

CAL FIRE

<http://www.fire.ca.gov>

SONOMA COUNTY SHERIFF

<http://www.sonomasheriff.org/>

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

<http://www.dfg.ca.gov/>

<http://www.dfg.ca.gov/regulations/>

- Please ask guests to say “Hello” and readily identify themselves and who they are visiting when meeting someone on the road. (It’s always nice when I encounter a stranger on the road and they tell me who they are without me having to ask.)
- Please advise all of your guests regarding the importance of locking the gate. It is your responsibility to ensure that your guests understand how to operate the gate.
- Please advise guests not to litter the area around the gates. (I pick up trash there almost every time I enter. This is not road trash but it came from people using the gate.)
- Please advise guests to assist with Road maintenance by removing rocks or trees that are in the path of travel should they encounter them.
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INFORMATION

Also note:

The chain at the Big Iron Gate does not have to be tight for the gate to do its job. It’s OK to leave a little slack in the chain and it will make it that much easier for the next person to open the lock.

WICKERSHAM RANCH ROAD ASSOCIATION

c/o

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Burlingame, California 94010

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wranch@dtbarch.com

Road Committee:

Martin Dreiling

md@dtbarch.com

David Katz

davidkat@sonic.net

Rob Weinstock

Robert.Weinstock@ejgallo.com

Ranch Website

“<http://www.wickershamranch.com>”

Thanks to Tami Bobb and Dave Otero for their efforts in sharing space on their personal ranch site for our benefit.