

KIFEG 2015 NEWSLETTER



ABOUT KIFEG

The Keats Island Fire Equipment Group (KIFEG) is a loosely organized group of interested individuals that support the purchase and maintenance of fire fighting equipment for public use on Keats Island.

KIFEG volunteers also volunteer their time to train Keats Island residents on how to use the fire fighting equipment.

Your KIFEG volunteers **ARE NOT** your volunteer fire department. It is your responsibility to know what to do in case of a fire and how to use the equipment. For this purpose KIFEG volunteers organize several training sessions each year, and are available outside of these times to orient you to the equipment.

YOU are responsible for fighting your own fires on Keats Island.

If you don't know how to use the equipment, it's useless. Please take the time to attend a training session; it may save your home and the island.



A BIG THANK YOU

KIFEG would not be able to provide equipment and training if it were not for the efforts of donors, volunteers and training attendees.

KIFEG would like to thank the following:

- **Early contributors:** Rick Gayton, Rob Pitman, Brent McIlveen, Stu Watson and Joe Wright (both Gambier Island)
- **Early donors:** Bob Quartermain and Scott Barbour.
- **2014 Training Volunteers:** Jamie Ovens, Janet Bonaguro, Jenny Ryce, Scott Ryce, Tony Flynn
- **2014 Event Volunteers:** Jamie Ovens, Janet Bonaguro, Tony Flynn, Rob Pitman, Tanya and Jamie Saunders, Peggy and Katie Tooley, Dianne and Terry Ovens, Brad and Ellie McDonald, Lisanne Bowness, Rebecca Holt, Dan Rogers and Patti Weiss
- **2014 Training Attendees**

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FIRE ON KEATS ISLAND

In 2014 there were no reported out-of-hand fires on Keats Island.

This contrasts with Gambier Island where two major fires burned down homes in the last two years. Keats and Gambier share a similar lack of firefighting infrastructure and scarce water resources during the summer months.

If a fire were to reach the forested areas bordering Eastbourne or Keats Landing there is no physical barrier to the fire burning out of control.

We hope it doesn't take a fire to increase interest in fire prevention and training.

FIRE EQUIPMENT TRAINING DATES

Fire equipment training will be held twice this year on the following dates:

Saturday May 16th

Saturday July 4th

**Both training sessions will be held at 10am.
Meet at the KIFEG Fire Shed above the
Eastbourne Dock.**

Get hands-on experience setting up and using the Equipment. Learn what to do in case of a fire and practice learning how to access and use the equipment.

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KIFEG FIRE EQUIPMENT

If you have attended a training session you will have had hands on experience with our equipment.

For those of you that have not familiarized yourselves with the equipment, it contains:

- 6 water pumps
- Hundreds of feet of fire hose
- An assortment of water nozzles for various uses
- Sprinkler systems
- Foam backpacks
- Several shovels, axes
- Hard hats, fire fighting suits, gloves, safety glasses
- First aid equipment, including oxygen and two defibrillators
- And much more...

The code to enter the Fire Shed and the Fire Trailer is 9111.

Please see the **KIFEG Quick Reference Guide** for details on how to assemble the basic equipment.

WHAT TO DO IN CASE OF A FIRE

1. Sound one of the fire alarms (outside Gord Pay's house and Rick Hickman's house on trees)
2. Call for help: your neighbors and friends. There is a list of KIFEG volunteers and their phone numbers posted on the wall in the Fire Shed.
3. Call 911 or Wildfire BC at *5555 to report the location of the fire and ask for assistance
4. Dress appropriately: long pants/sleeves, boots, hat, gloves
5. Bring food, water and hand tools: shovels, axe, rake
6. Go to the Fire Shed, record the location of the fire on the map and leave instructions for others
7. Hook up trailer to truck or load equipment into boats and go to fire location
8. Leave kids at home!



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2015 KIFEG BEER GARDEN

REQUEST FOR AUCTION ITEMS

SATURDAY AUGUST 1ST 2015

SILENT AND LIVE AUCTION

This year's fundraiser will be held at the same location as last year, Meek Rd, Eastbourne (near Tony Flynn's and Rick Hickman's).

Last year's live auction was a great success! Thank you again to all those who donated items for the auction.

Food and beverage tickets are \$5:

- Kitchen: Beef Burgers, hot dogs
- Beer Garden: Beer, wine and coolers

This year we will be hosting a silent and a live auction.

Please contact Janet at janet.bonaguro@gmail.com if you are able to donate an auction item.

We are unfortunately unable to accommodate any special food requests.

Our high sellers last year included a honey gift basket from Gold Strike Honeybee Company, Canucks Tickets donated by both Scott Barbour and Pat Baker, tree falling from Kurt Amundson Tree Service, cutting boards from John Low, and many more...

The KIFEG Fundraiser is an adult-oriented event however kids are welcome.

**Stay tuned for
this year's
theme...**



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WILDFIRE BC TRAINING

In spring of 2014 several individuals took training to be certified by Wildfire BC.

In 2015 KIFEG is considering hosting another 2-day training course for anyone who is not yet certified, as well as a 1/2-day annual recertification course.

If you are interested in either course please email janet.bonaguro@gmail.com. Courses will only be organized if there is sufficient interest.

KEATS LANDING FIRE EQUIPMENT

KIFEG has secured \$5,000 from the Sunshine Coast Regional District (SCRD) on behalf of the leaseholders association at Keats Landing.

The funds will be used to purchase firefighting equipment that will be housed at Keats Landing and will be compatible with existing KIFEG equipment.

As always, all Keats Island residents are invited to participate in KIFEG training and events.

