

LOCAL NEWS

If you see smoke in north Redlands this weekend, here's the likely cause

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PUBLISHED: November 3, 2017 at 2:12 pm | UPDATED: November 4, 2017 at 1:50 am



The Redlands Fire Department will conduct live fire training from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 4, through Tuesday, Nov. 7, at a vacant apartment complex near the intersection of Orange Street and Lugonia Avenue.

The San Bernardino County Housing Authority has donated the apartments to the Fire Department for training prior to the scheduled demolition of the buildings.



The Redlands Fire Department will conduct live fire training at a vacant apartment complex near Orange Street and Lugonia Avenue Saturday, Nov. 4 through Tuesday, Nov. 7. (Courtesy)

The authority's donation offers firefighters a rare opportunity for safe and effective live fire training, Redlands officials said in a news release. The training will allow firefighters to attack and suppress fires in a controlled and educational environment.

CalFire will also participate, and will provide personnel and equipment to assist in the training, which has been approved by the South Coast Air Quality Management District, the release said.

All hazardous materials, including asbestos, lead paint, carpet/padding and appliances, will be removed prior to any fire training.

Firefighters will use wood, hay and other common combustibles for the training fires. The department will do its best to have as little impact on the environment and community as possible, according to the release.



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Work is being done at the vacant apartment complex near Orange Street/Lugonia Avenue. Redlands fire will train there Sat-Tues.

12:31 PM - Nov 3, 2017

Here's what residents should expect:

- Delaware Avenue and East Sharon Road have been closed at the entrance to the vacant properties.
- Access to Lugonia Elementary School will remain open. The flow of traffic on Orange Street and Lugonia Avenue will not be impacted.
- There will be smoke, but it is not expected to impact the school or residents. The department's intent is to burn only when the wind conditions will result in the least amount of impact to surrounding residents, schools and businesses, according to the city.
- Residents with questions before, during or after the training can contact one of the fire personnel at the training site or call the Redlands Fire Department at 909-798-7600.

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