



# COUNTY OF SANTA CRUZ

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CARLOS J. PALACIOS, COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

## NEWS RELEASE



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### INSURANCE COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE TO VISIT COUNTY

The city of Scotts Valley and County of Santa Cruz are pleased to present a visit by a representative of California Insurance Commissioner Ricardo Lara to discuss the changing insurance market for residents living in the wildland-urban interface.

In response to numerous fires and other natural disasters, major insurers have cancelled thousands of policies throughout California and curtailed or eliminated new policies, forcing thousands onto the state's last-resort FAIR plan and potentially impacting the housing market. On May 14, a representative from the California Department of Insurance will make a presentation and provide information at a Scotts Valley community preparedness workshop and appear before the Board of Supervisors.

The changing insurance market has made it more important than ever for homeowners to find help in obtaining and maintaining policies, understanding their rights, and learning more about any mitigations necessary to keep policies, including creating defensible space. The Insurance Commissioner's office will share information helpful to homeowners including regulatory changes that could improve California's insurance market and tips for homeowners navigating both existing policies and the changing insurance market.

Residents are encouraged to attend the City of Scotts Valley free educational workshop. This event will also include presentations from CalFire, Firewise and Scotts Valley Fire Department. Scotts Valley Vice Mayor Derek Timm will moderate a panel discussion with United Policyholders, Cassidy Insurance Brokers and the Realtors Association.

Community Preparedness Workshop  
6-8 p.m., Tuesday, May 14  
Performing Arts and Cultural Center  
251 Kings Village Rd.  
Scotts Valley  
[bit.ly/svrecreation](https://bit.ly/svrecreation)

Board of Supervisors Meeting  
1 p.m., Tuesday, May 14  
County Governmental Building  
701 Ocean St., 5th floor  
Santa Cruz  
[www.santacruzcountyca.gov](http://www.santacruzcountyca.gov)