

NATIONAL FOUNDATION FOR ENVIRONMENTAL SAFETY, INC.

A Non-Profit Corporation

2210 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 184, Santa Monica, CA 90403 (213) 456-2652

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NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MUDSLIDES & FIRES DRAMATIZE NEEDS

The drastic needs for effective planning and an integrated approach to public safety have been reemphasized by the recent mudslides and flooding disasters that followed the many fires of last fall.

Politics have delayed far too often the changes required to bring the old agricultural California up to the urbanized state we have today. Some profound crusading for an integrated approach to public safety is seriously needed because the necessary knowledge is available to live more in harmony with nature instead of constantly being at war with it. With this in mind the National Foundation For Environmental Safety (NFES) is holding its final spring series of professional public safety seminars in Los Angeles County. As a nonprofit, tax exempt foundation, NFES is dedicated to providing such services to everyone. The seminars give public agencies and private industry the opportunity to train personnel with minimal cost and greatest effectiveness. They also expose the public to the state-of-the-art in effective property management and preventive maintenance affecting: landscaping and landscape architecture, watershed and slope management inclusive of control of mudslides, hillside slippage and flooding, vegetation and fire management, and urban forestry and related sciences.

The attached brochure focusses on the in-depth subject matter of the all day seminars titled **Wildland Fire Management in Urbanized Areas (March 13)** and **Ecological Landscaping For Fire and Erosion Control (March 14)**. Disasters in southern California such as fires and floods are analyzed and criteria for identifying and evaluating high risk disaster areas are developed. The predictive potential of such disasters is shown and management solutions, where feasible, are offered.

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The two seminars held on consecutive days March 13 and 14 at the Veteran's Memorial Building at 4117 Overland Avenue give participants the choice of attending one or both seminars. To allow for effective speaker-participant interaction seminars are limited to 50 people with 25% of the space reserved for bona fide students and residents of disaster prone areas who receive a 50% discount from the daily seminar fees of \$ 75.00. Each seminar includes catered lunch and a seminar package of public safety and property management books and related literature. The March 13 seminar includes a 2 hour luncheon field trip to the Baldwin Hills Fire of July 1985 (City of Los Angeles) for a first hand evaluation of how and why such a fire disaster, which destroyed 49 homes and took several lives, happened. The field trip also provides an opportunity to evaluate slope stability and erosion control problems as well as the responses of native and landscape vegetation to fire.

Dr. Klaus Radtke, who has expressed the concept of an integrated management approach to living in disaster prone environments in publications such as " A Homeowner's Guide to Fire And Watershed Management..." will lead the seminars. His publications are distributed by public agencies to residents and staff professional alike throughout the southland.

Please contact NFES at (213)456-2652 for seminar reservations or further information.

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