## **DEFENSIBLE SPACE:** Landscape work critical to battling fire in Sisters Country

Continued from page 18

radiant heat of large flames without igniting.

- Plants should be carefully spaced, lowgrowing and free of resins, oils, and waxes that burn easily.
- Mow the lawn regularly. Prune trees up six to 10 feet from the ground.
- Space conifer trees 30 feet between crowns. Trim back trees that overhang the house.
- Remove dead vegetation from under the deck and within 10 feet of the house.
- Consider fire-resistant material for patio furniture, swing sets, etc.
- Firewood stacks and propane tanks should not be located in this zone. If there is not enough space to move your woodpile 30 feet away, simply cover it with a canvas tarp.
  - Water plants, trees, and mulch regularly.
- Consider xeriscaping if you are affected by water-use restrictions.

Zone 3 is 30 to 100 feet from the home. Plants in this zone should be low-growing, well irrigated, and less flammable.

- Leave 30 feet between clusters of two to three trees, or 20 feet between individual trees.
- Encourage a mixture of deciduous and coniferous trees.
- Create fuel breaks, like driveways, gravel walkways, and lawns.
- Prune trees up six to 10 feet from the ground.

For more information contact the Sisters-Camp Sherman Fire District at 541-549-0771.

## **ARBOR DAY:** Annual tradition supports Tree City USA designation

Continued from page 1

Every year, a different group of students is asked to participate in the planting ceremony.

Each year the City is presented with a flag denoting the designation Tree City USA and it is flown on one of the City's flagpoles. This is the City's 12th year earning the title.

The Arbor Day Foundation, in partnership with the U.S. Forest Service and the National Association of State Foresters, recognizes over 5,500 communities nationwide. The Tree City USA award recognizes the City's commitment to effective urban forest management by meeting the program's four requirements: a tree board or department (Sisters' Urban Forestry Board), a tree-care ordinance, an annual community forestry budget of at least \$2 per capita, and an Arbor Day observance and proclamation.

The Arbor Day Foundation is a million-member nonprofit conservation and education organization with the mission to inspire people to plant, nurture, and celebrate trees. More information can be found at www.arborday.org.

The public works department staff is proud of their tree nursery

where they grow a variety of trees, both evergreen and deciduous, to meet the need for trees throughout the city as old trees die and need to be replaced, as well as new areas developing and needing street trees for the public rights-of-way. Staff indicated they have a project coming up in which they will be planting over a hundred ponderosa pines as there are so many currently distressed and dying.

This year's leadership class has been responsible for planning, organizing, and conducting a wide variety of extracurricular activities at the middle school including Veteran's Day observances, dances, assemblies, the carnival, talent show, and Seven Habits of Healthy Teens. They also produce the Outlaw News once a week and a link is provided to YouTube so parents and others can also view it.

Aylor knew all the girls who forecast to take the leadership class. She was their sixth-grade language

PHOTO BY SUE STAFFORE

Middle schoolers put their backs into their planting efforts.

arts teacher, so it was like a yearlong interview process. Students are evaluated on their character, teamwork, contributions, and how well they finish a project. Aylor said that creativity is more important in the class than top grades. This year, her time is split between the middle school and the high school. Her enthusiasm and energy is contagious among the girls. Before leaving the park, she reminded them to acknowledge and thank the adults who had assisted in their planting efforts.



C&C Nursery & Landscape Maintenance has been keeping Sisters green for over a decade.

They handle all aspects of landscape maintenance — mowing, thatching, edging, aerating, fertilizing, needle cleanup and more, for residential and commercial clients.

C&C Nursery, located at the corner of Pine Street and Hood Avenue, is noted for providing cold-hardy, deer-resistant shrubs and perennials. You'll find quality, colorful annuals, deck planters and gorgeous hanging baskets — Sisters' symbol of spring and summer.

Come to C&C Nursery to find butterfly-, bee- and hummingbird-attracting plants; succulents, ornamental grasses and topiary shrubs. You'll find everything you need to make your landscape exceptional — ground cover, fruit trees and bushes, hardy flowering and shade trees and conifers — and there are veggie starts for your garden.

Chad and Cathy Stadeli know Sisters Country well, and can provide you expert advice on how best to make your plant selections work for you in our tricky climate.





For free septic tips visit:

www.RestoreYourSeptic.com



