

## Northgate High School Parent Faculty Club

Two members of the Parent Faculty Club recognized hazardous fuel conditions where school property backed onto adjacent homes. A site meeting with the Fire Prevention Technician from Contra Costa County Fire District and Diablo Fire Safe Council coordinator helped refine their project plans. Funding provided by a National Fire Plan grant from the USDA Forest Service through the California Fire Safe Council paid for the clearing that was too hazardous for volunteers.

Their concerns were justified. The removal of woody material and dead limbs revealed more underlying dry brush than anticipated. The contractor cleared not only dead shrubs and downed wood vegetation, but also found lots of cigarette butts and lighters.

During Walnut Creek's Community Service Day the project used 40 volunteers from the community in addition to 360 volunteers from the school to replant the area and spread mulch so it is easier to maintain for the safety of students and nearby residents.

### Before



### After



### Project statistics

Address: 425 Castle Rock Road, Walnut Creek, CA 94598  
Acres treated: 0.7 acres  
Project Funding: \$5,000  
Project Match: \$800 + 150 hours (anticipated for fall replanting)  
Contractor: Waraner Bros. Tree Service, Clayton CA  
Fire Department: Contra Costa County Fire District  
Homes directly treated: 12 + nearby open space  
Community members protected 139

