



READY, SET, GO!

NEWSFLASH

Sometimes Fire Happens. ...If You Start One, Can You Put It Out?

Laguna Niguel, CA, May 23, 2016—It was a close call for a Laguna Niguel neighborhood Monday, around noon, when a weed whacker, used by landscapers trimming a slope, caught fire, then got dropped and started a vegetation fire that threatened nearby homes.

Accidents happen, but this is another example of how a wildfire could have been easily prevented by simply having key *Emergency Equipment readily available* (fire extinguisher, shovel and cell phone) and following *Equipment Safety Guidelines*.



A 911 cell phone call is credited with quickly containing this fire, but key emergency equipment, such as a fire extinguisher or shovel, could have prevented the vegetation fire from starting and spreading.

Equipment Use Guidelines



MOW BEFORE 10 A.M., BUT NEVER WHEN IT'S WINDY OR EXCESSIVELY DRY.



LAWN MOWERS ARE DESIGNED TO MOW LAWNS, NOT WEEDS OR DRY GRASS.



METAL BLADES STRIKING ROCKS CAN CREATE SPARKS AND START FIRES.



IN WILDLAND AREAS, SPARK ARRESTERS ARE REQUIRED ON ALL PORTABLE GASOLINE-POWERED EQUIPMENT. THIS INCLUDES TRACTORS, HARVESTERS, CHAINSAWS, WEEDEATERS AND MOWERS.

Be Prepared!



KEEP A SHOVEL AND A FIRE EXTINGUISHER READY TO USE.



KEEP A CELL PHONE NEARBY AND CALL 911 IMMEDIATELY IN CASE OF FIRE.



For more information on Equipment Safety and Preparedness, or other wildfire safety topics, please visit www.ocfa.org/RSG or call (714) 573-6774.