

# STONE HOUSE

A Firewise Recognized  
Community

# Welcome to Our Firewise USA Recognized Community

- Firewise USA Program
- Our Firewise Community
- Firewise Annual Requirements
- Community Participation
- Protecting Your Home
- Community Safety
- Discussion & Questions

# What is the Firewise USA Program?

- National program that helps communities reduce wildfire risk
- Managed by the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA)
- Encourages neighbors to work together
- Focuses on education, prevention, and community action

# Why Firewise Matters

- Wildfires are increasing in many regions
- Small homeowner actions reduce risk
- Prepared communities are more resilient
- Protects homes, families, and landscapes
- Insurance companies are cancelling or not writing policies in High Wildfire Risk areas

# Benefits of Firewise

- Reduces wildfire risk for the community
- Encourages neighborhood collaboration
- Improves fire awareness and preparedness
- Demonstrate mitigation efforts to insurers

How did we  
become a  
Firewise  
**Recognized**  
Community

- Formed a Firewise committee
- Completed wildfire risk assessment
- Created a wildfire risk reduction action plan
- Invested time or money into mitigation

NFPA

Required:

**Community  
Investment**

- **NFPA** requires an Annual wildfire risk-reduction investment equal to \$35.00 per homeowner, per year:
  - Homeowner hours spent on Firewise related cleanup
  - Any financial investment required to clean properties
    - Trailer rental, tool purchases, paid help
  - Mileage write-off
  - Include a portion of Landscaping contracts

NFPA

Required:

## Community Commitment

**NFPA** requires a Community Commitment to the Firewise program to retain the Recognized status.

### **1. Maintain a Firewise Committee**

- Community group that organizes Firewise activities
- Coordinates mitigation projects and education

### **2. Hold at Least One Firewise Event**

- i.e.: community cleanup day, mitigation day, workshop, or presentation

### **3. Complete Risk-Reduction Activities**

- Vegetation cleanup and fuel reduction
- Defensible space improvements
- Home hardening projects
- Community mitigation projects

### **4. Document Our Community Investment**

- Track volunteer hours and money spent on mitigation
  - Hours spent removing wildfire fuels
  - Disposal or chipping services
  - Tool purchases, equipment rental

### **5. Submit Annual Renewal**

- Report our activities to **NFPA**

# Community Firewise Activities

- Community cleanup days
- Removing dead vegetation
- Reducing ladder fuels
- Defensible space work
- Educational workshops

# What Residents Can Do

- Stay informed about wildfire preparedness
- Attend Firewise events
- Maintain defensible space around homes
- Remove dry brush and debris
- Use fire-resistant plants and materials
- Track work hours and expenses

# Create Defensible Space

- **Zone 0:** 0-5 ft non-combustible area
- **Zone 1:** 5-30 ft reduced vegetation
- **Zone 2:** 30-100 ft fuel reduction
- Maintain spacing between trees
- Clean roofs and gutters

# Defensible Space Zones

## Zone 0 0-5 ft

### "Immediate Zone"

- Clear area around house
- No flammable materials

## Zone 1 5-30 ft

### "Intermediate Zone"

- Reduce dry vegetation
- Plant succulents and desert-tolerant trees

## Zone 2 30-100 ft

### "Extended Zone"

- Remove dead and dry vegetation
- Thin & prune desert trees

## Zone 2 30-100 ft

### "Reduced Fuel Zone"

## Zone 0 0-5 ft

### "Ember Resistant Zone"

- Clear area around house
- No flammable materials



# Create Defensible Space

## Zone 0 - IMMEDIATE

### **Zone 0 – Immediate Zone \***

(0–5 feet from structure)

**Goal:** Prevent ember ignition directly next to the home

#### **Recommended actions:**

- Remove all combustible materials next to the house
- Do not store firewood within 5 feet
- Replace mulch with gravel or stone
- Keep roofs, gutters, and decks free of debris
- Remove dead plants and dry vegetation
- Use non-combustible landscaping materials
- Maintain clean surfaces around propane tanks

\* This is the most critical zone for preventing home ignition.

# Create Defensible Space

## Zone 1 - INTERMEDIATE

### **Zone 1 – Intermediate Zone** (5–30 feet from structure)

**Goal:** Reduce fire intensity & slow fire spread

#### **Recommended actions:**

- Trim vegetation and remove dead plants
- Space shrubs and plants apart
- Prune tree branches 6–10 feet from the ground
- Maintain well-irrigated landscaping where possible
- Remove ladder fuels (vegetation that allows fire to climb)
- Keep grass short and maintained

# Create Defensible Space

## Zone 2 - EXTENDED

### **Zone 2 – Extended Zone**

(30–100 feet from structure)

**Goal:** Reduce overall fuel load and wildfire intensity

#### **Recommended actions:**

- Thin dense vegetation
- Remove dead trees and brush
- Increase spacing between trees and shrubs
- Dispose of fallen branches and debris
- Break up continuous vegetation fuels

# Before Mitigation



# After Mitigation



# Home Hardening

- Fire-resistant roofing
- Ember-resistant vents
- Screened openings
- Clean gutters and roofs
- Non-combustible deck materials

# Evacuation Planning

- Know evacuation routes
- Sign up for emergency alerts
- Prepare go-bags
- Plan for pets
- Leave early when advised

# Community Plans

## Present

Stand up a Firewise website.

Identify Homeowners willing to help homeowners with property clean-up activity

Request Grant money from the State to work our washes

## Annually

Conduct Community Firewise Education

Hold a Community Cleanup day

Submit NFPA Firewise required reporting materials

## 1 to 2 Years:

Approach State Insurance Commissioner:

- Request help getting Insurance companies to give discounts to Firewise **Recognized** Communities

- Request action getting Home Sales sites, (i.e. *Zillow, Redfin*), to list the proper wildfire risk ratings in the home details

## 3 Years

Re-apply for Firewise Recognition

- Update & Submit Communities Firewise Plan

# Questions

- What Wildfire risks concern you most?
- How can we improve our Firewise efforts?
- Volunteer opportunities
- Thank you for helping keep our community safe