



# WHAT'S NEW WITH NFPA?

Wildfire Division and Firewise USA® updates

September 20, 2018 | Megan Fitzgerald-McGowan | Program Coordinator

## Mission

**Provide resources to residents and key influencers to help ensure that everyone living at risk from wildfire has the information, knowledge, and tools to reduce their risk.**



# COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT



# **FIREWISE USA<sup>®</sup>**

**RESIDENTS REDUCING WILDFIRE RISKS**

- Individual responsibility
- Encourages neighbors to work together
- Voluntary participation
- A means to decrease risk for residents and first responders



# Colorado Leads the Way!

Firewise USA® participation:

- 173 active sites
- 2 original (2002) sites: Perry Park Metropolitan District, Genesee Foundation
- Steady growth since 2012





**FIREWISE USA™**

Residents reducing wildfire risks

# 2018 Changes aimed at propagating mitigation

# Applicant criteria

## Investment:

- Residents to dwelling units
- Equivalent of 1 hour of volunteer work per dwelling unit per dwelling unit
  - Valued at the national volunteer rate, using the 2017 rate of \$24.14

# Applicant criteria continued

## Participant size:

- Minimum # of 8 dwelling units
- Maximum # of dwelling units
  - New: 2500
  - Current: 7500



# Applicant criteria continued

- Wildfire risk assessment – update every 5 years
- Action plans – update every 3 years

# Firewise USA® Program Management Portal

The screenshot shows the Firewise USA Program Management Portal for Woodsville, 2018. The page features a header with the NFPA and Firewise USA logos, and navigation links for 'Back to My Profile' and 'Edit Community Details'. The main content area displays the community name 'Woodsville', the year '2018 - Archived', and the location 'Providence, RI - Providence County'. It also shows weather information for January 25, 2018, with a clear sky and a temperature of 30.2°F. Below the weather, there are navigation tabs for 'Details', 'Applications', 'Contacts', 'Notes', and 'Members'. The page is divided into two main sections: '2017 Application' and 'Total Investment for 2018'. The '2017 Application' section indicates that the application has expired and was last updated on 01/08/2018, with buttons for 'EDIT COMMUNITY' and 'CREATE BACK-DATED APPLICATION'. The 'Total Investment for 2018' section shows that the total investment is \$0, which is less than the required amount of \$0. It also shows that the per dwelling unit investment is \$0, which is less than the required amount of \$0.

Back to My Profile | Edit Community Details

**FIREWISE USA**

## Woodsville

2018 - Archived

Providence, RI - Providence County

Conditions | January 25, 2018

Clear 30.2 °F

Details Applications Contacts Notes Members

**2017 Application**  
Expired  
Last update: 01/08/2018

EDIT COMMUNITY

CREATE BACK-DATED APPLICATION

**Total Investment for 2018**

Total:	Required:
\$0	of \$0
Per Dwelling Unit:	Required:
\$0	of \$0

- Track renewal reporting throughout the year
- Guides user through the process
- Access to previous applications



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**FIREWISE USA™**  
Residents reducing wildfire risks

# Resources:

# Preparing Homes for Wildfire

Learn:

- The primary threats to home from a wildfire
- The Home Ignition Zone
- Steps to take to reduce ignition potential

Access to English and Spanish materials

## HOW TO PREPARE YOUR HOME FOR WILDFIRES

WILDFIRE RISK REDUCTION STEPS THAT CAN MAKE YOUR HOME SAFER DURING A WILDFIRE

### VEGETATION MANAGEMENT

#### 1. HOME IGNITION ZONES

Limiting the amount of flammable vegetation, choosing fire-resistant building materials and construction techniques, along with periodic exterior maintenance in the three home ignition zones – increases the chance your home will survive a wildfire when exposed to embers and/or a surface fire. The zones include the **Immediate Zone**: 0 to 5 feet around the house; **Intermediate Zone**: 5 to 30 feet; and the **Extended Zone**: 30 to 100 feet.

#### 2. LANDSCAPING AND MAINTENANCE

To reduce ember ignitions and fire spread, trim branches that overhang the home, porch and deck and prune branches of large trees up to (depending on their height) 6 to 10 feet from the ground. Remove plants containing resin, oils and waxes and ensure mulches in the **Immediate Zone** (0 to 5 feet around the house) are non-combustible options like crushed stone and gravel. Maintain vegetation annually.

### FIRE RESISTIVE CONSTRUCTION

#### 3. ROOFING AND VENTS

Class A fire-rated roofing products offer the best protection. Examples include: Composite shingles, metal, concrete and clay tiles. Inspect shingles or roof tiles and replace or repair those that are loose or missing to prevent ember penetration. Gable or soffit vents provide ventilation to prevent condensation and mold. Roof and attic vents should be screened to prevent ember entry.

#### 4. DECKS AND PORCHES

Never store flammable materials underneath decks or porches. Remove dead vegetation and debris from under decks/benches and between deck board joints.

#### 5. SIDING AND WINDOWS

Embers can collect in small nooks and crannies and ignite combustible materials; radiant heat from flames can crack windows. Use fire-resistant siding such as brick, fiber-cement, plaster or stucco and dual-pane tempered glass windows.

#### 6. EMERGENCY RESPONDER ACCESS

Ensure your home and neighborhood has legible and clearly marked street names and numbers. Driveways should be at least 12 feet wide with a vertical clearance of 15 feet, for emergency vehicle access.

### OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

- Store firewood away from the home
- Mow the lawn regularly
- Prune low-hanging tree branches
- Landscape with fire-resistant plants
- Create small fuel breaks with hardscaping features

TALK TO YOUR LOCAL FORESTRY AGENCY OR FIRE DEPARTMENT TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE SPECIFIC WILDFIRE RISK WHERE YOU LIVE.

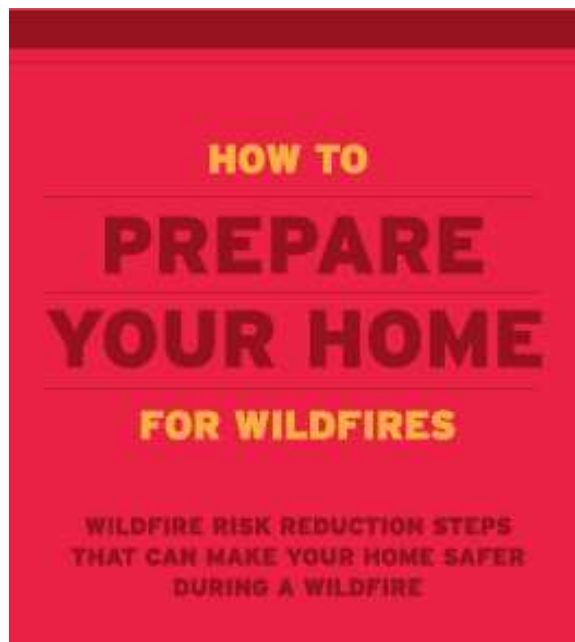
FIREWISE USA  
www.firewiseusa.com

VISIT FIREWISE.ORG FOR MORE DETAILS

Order a Reducing Wildfire Risks in the Home Ignition Zone checklist/poster at [Firewise.org](https://www.firewise.org)



# Preparing Homes for Wildfire



## REDUCING WILDFIRE RISKS IN THE HOME IGNITION ZONE

**INSIDE, PROJECTS AND TASKS  
THAT INCREASE A HOME'S  
POTENTIAL SURVIVABILITY  
IN A WILDFIRE**

Limiting the amount of flammable vegetation, choosing ignition resistant building materials and construction techniques; along with regular exterior maintenance in the home ignition zones, increases the chances your home will survive a wildfire.

[www.Firewise.org](http://www.Firewise.org)



**FIREWISE USA™**  
RESIDENTS REDUCING WILDFIRE RISKS

# Wildfire Research Fact Sheets

Collaborative effort with the Insurance Institute for Business & Home Safety (IBHS)

## Topics:

- Attics and crawl space vents
- Coatings
- Decks
- Exterior sprinkler systems
- Fencing
- Fire spread on ember ignited decks
- Roofing materials
- Skylight
- Under-eave construction



**Wildfire Research**

## Fencing

### Material, Installation and Maintenance Choices

**NONCOMBUSTIBLE FENCING PRODUCTS REDUCE POTENTIAL HOME IGNITIONS**  
Many wildfire educational programs, along with the Insurance Institute for Business & Home Safety (IBHS) recommend noncombustible fencing products when placed within five feet of a building. As a necessary component, fencing located within the zero to five-foot noncombustible zone should be constructed of noncombustible materials.

A noncombustible zone minimizes the likelihood of wind-blown embers igniting fire fuels (such as bark mulch) located close to the building. Ember-ignited mulch can result in a radiant heat and/or flaming exposure to the building's exterior. Using noncombustible fencing where it attaches to the building reduces the opportunity of a burning fence igniting the exterior of the structure. Fencing products are often available in eight-foot pieces and use of that full section of noncombustible material is recommended. Observations made during the 2012 Waldo Canyon fire in Colorado Springs, CO provided evidence that burning fencing generates embers that can result in additional ignitions down-wind.

**RESEARCH**

- 1 Use a...
- 2 The a... be le... the b... veget... litter... Avoid... near s...
- 3 A fan... flow... make... ember... pane... at... ign... for... the... fence... wind...



**COMING SOON!**

# Mitigation video

Your Home and  
Wildfire.  
Choices that  
can make a  
difference.

Fire Prevention  
Week, 10/8







# WEBINAR

Register Now for NFPA's Free Webinar

**Date and Time**

Wed., Oct. 10, 2018

3:00 to 4:00 pm ET

## Wildfires and Insurance: Learn How to be Financially Prepared

During Fire Prevention Week, join insurance experts for a discussion on how to be financially prepared for wildfires. Take this opportunity to directly ask the experts your questions about wildfire and home insurance.



« **Moderator:**

**Cathy Prudhomme**, *NFPA Wildfire Division, Firewise USA®  
Program Manager*

**Panelists:**

**Carole Walker**, *Rocky Mountain Insurance Information  
Association*

**Kenton Brine**, *Northwest Insurance Council*

**Janet Ruiz**, *Insurance Information Institute*



Register now at [nfpa.org/webinars](https://www.nfpa.org/webinars)



# eLearning

New course:  
Understanding  
the Wildfire  
Threat to Homes

Fire Prevention  
Week, 10/12



## BURNING HOMES

- > Fire does not engulf everything in its path
- > Fire only advances to locations that meet requirements of combustion
- > Altering the type, size, quantity, and spacing of vegetation and other fuels will reduce likelihood of combustion



**CALL TO ACTION!**

# Wildfire Community Preparedness Day!

- Bring family, friends, and neighbors together
- Kick off wildfire season preparation



**SAVE THE DATE**  
**WILDFIRE COMMUNITY PREPAREDNESS DAY**

One hundred fifty, \$500 project funding awards  
available for projects implemented on May 4

[www.WildfirePrepDay.org](http://www.WildfirePrepDay.org)  
[#WildfirePrepDay](https://twitter.com/WildfirePrepDay)

Sponsored by  
**State Farm**

National Fire Protection Association and State Farm are pleased to support the 2019 Wildfire Community Preparedness Day campaign. Participants will receive an additional \$500 in community preparedness activities and supplies. Receipts for any work or any other fire safety or fire prevention work will be accepted as well as any other fire safety or fire prevention work. All funds will be used to support any 2019 project, activity or program.



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# PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

# Assessing Structure Ignition Potential from Wildfire



Pat Durland instructing at a course in Bangor, ME

- Two-day classroom training
- Focus on fire science, communicating risk to residents
- Based on research from USDA Forest Service, IBHS, NIST



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[Learn More](#)



WE ALL PLAY A PART IN  
PROTECTING AGAINST WILDFIRES.  
**YOUR KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS  
CAN LEAD THE FIGHT.**

### **Introducing the new NFPA® Wildfire Mitigation Specialist Certification.**

Large-scale wildfires are becoming more and more common, and we must all work together to mitigate the risk and damage from them. It's imperative that we have an authoritative body of wildfire mitigation specialists armed with the latest knowledge in risk reduction and structure assessment to help keep wildfires from destroying homes, businesses, and communities.

# Certified Wildfire Mitigation Specialist

- Based on NFPA 1051
- Developed with advisory group
- Involves exam and practicum
- Aimed at fire service, forestry agencies, insurance professionals, others



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Residents reducing wildfire risks

# Questions



# THANK YOU

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720-475-1931



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LET'S PROTECT IT TOGETHER.™