

## Education and Outreach

### Year One

- Inform neighborhood and incoming residents and visitors of the Firewise program and provide materials.
- Develop a Firewise Facebook page/group page or website and dedicated email address. Request that all neighbors sign up for Tahoe RCD newsletter.
- Develop volunteer hours tracking allowing both digital and standard reporting of hours.
- Obtain fire related printed materials from Tahoe RCD and distribute wildfire preparedness materials, including topics such as defensible space, home hardening, and evacuation planning to educate the community.
- Develop Firewise community member email and mailing lists and implement mail-outs with educational materials about the threats of community wildfires and ways to reduce the risk.
- Promote Firewise community awareness and participation through social media, fliers/handouts, and posters in partnership with Tahoe RCD.
- Host a Firewise community wildfire preparedness event with educational presentations that communicate defensible space, home hardening, and/or evacuation planning materials. Provide additional educational webinars from Living with Fire (University of Reno) and Tahoe RCD.

### Year Two

- Share Action Plan for Year Two.
- Host community wildfire preparedness event.
- Host Firewise community meetings.
- Conduct home hazard assessments.
- Celebrate individual homeowner successes through posting on the Firewise social media to maintain heightened awareness and to encourage others to act.
- Update Firewise community members on Action Plan progress and achievements.
- Attend Community Wildfire Preparedness Workshop/ Firewise Workshop provided by Tahoe RCD and local fire districts.
- Attend local fire department meetings and agency meetings to remain informed on wildfire plans and disseminate information.
- Attend trainings by University of Reno LWF, Tahoe RCD and Fire Districts to learn to provide wildfire preparedness presentations.

### **Year Three**

- Update Firewise community members on Action Plan progress and achievements.
- Conduct home hazard assessments.
- Develop annual Firewise community newsletter.
- Develop Firewise community online survey questionnaire to capture data on local interests and concerns to then gather and prepare focused additional educational materials.
- Initiate 'Street Ambassador' educational program to increase capacity and conduct training sessions with partner groups including Tahoe RCD and local fire districts.
- Provide families with copies of the Children's Activity Book which includes: home hardening, defensible space and evacuation focus areas.

## Home Hardening

### Year One

- Distribute home hardening literature provided by the Tahoe RCD and the University of Reno.
- Provide updates on Defensible Space ordinances.
- Provide information regarding fire insurance rebates for home hardening efforts to property owners.

### Year Two

- Work on fuel treatment management efforts to reduce vegetative material in association with local fire districts and land management agencies.
- Organize a community event i.e. barbecue, July 4<sup>th</sup>, Halloween to initiate additional contact and education time and consider inviting local agencies fire and non-fire related.

### Year Three

- Work with neighborhoods and/or community organizations to promote/host a community workday to reduce fuel and maintain defensible space compliance.
- Work on 'model' show and tell homes and lots to encourage other neighborhoods to join Firewise.

Specifically tied to Risk Assessment examples- encourage neighbors to:

- Attach attic ventilation screens on homes where missing
- For homes with wood fences within 5 feet remove section and replace with non-flammable materials
- Replace wood shake roofs
- Place street numbers on houses and replace damaged street signs
- Replace foundation vents with 1/8 meshing
- Remove all lattice under decks

## **Defensible Space and Fuel Reduction**

### **Year One**

- Partner with UC Cooperative Extension and STPUD to host demonstrations of defensible space landscaping practices.
- Work with neighborhoods and/or community organizations to promote/host a community workday to reduce fuel and maintain compliance.
- Encourage neighbors to sign up for chipping services.

### **Year Two**

- Host a Firewise community home ignition zone assessment day and home hardening workshop.
- Provide information regarding urban lot stewardship program to property owners.
- Partner with South Tahoe Refuse ! to host demonstrations of landscape refuse removal.

### **Year Three**

- Create work parties and work with local groups like CCC and High School Clubs to work to clear and maintain non private lots and/or assist elderly residents.

## **Evacuation Planning and Wildfire Preparedness**

### **Year One**

- Educate public about go-bags and other household level wildfire preparedness measures including Evacuation lists provided by Tahoe RCD.
- Sign-up for alerts event- have everyone sign up and understand the process.
- Identify and map those in need.
- Work with local fire districts on 'Adopt a Hydrant' programs in winter months.

### **Year Two**

- Partner with local fire districts to organize and host a practice evacuation drill in one neighborhood.
- Distribute community evacuation maps.
- Update residents – new homeowners utilizing Zillow and drop off educational Go Bags.

### **Year Three**

- Work with local fire districts to inform mapping of fire suppression resources and considerations with local neighborhood knowledge (e.g., water resources and access for structure triage).
- Partner with local fire districts to organize and host a practice evacuation drill in one neighborhood.
- Work with property owners/managers of vacation rentals to post area maps of evacuation routes for tourists.

## Support

Our assistance and resources are available for groups that have signed up with Tahoe RCD to become a Fire Adapted Community.

These are the agency groups that will assist you:

Tahoe RCD,  
Local Fire District

This is the support that you will receive from Tahoe RCD, your local fire district, Living with Fire and UC Davis Master Gardeners will provide:

1. Workshops,
3. Banners and lanyards,
4. Educational webinars,
5. Multiple meeting opportunities with other Firewise neighborhoods
6. Educational materials including Go Bags for new residents and new FAC sites

Every third year (once every 3 years), Tahoe RCD can attend a community workday to assist with outreach and education to your community. It may be possible to attend more often if resources are available.