

Tahoe Network of Fire Adapted Communities: Firewise USA® Workshop



FIREWISE USA®
RESIDENTS REDUCING WILDFIRE RISKS





INTRODUCTION FIREWISE

What/Who

Why

How- presentation will cover step by step and then break out focus on each section- return to review and Q&A

(should provide links to everything ahead of time so people should RSVP if attending)

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FIRST STEPS

Application:

Go to the NFPA and create a login and review resources- do this before anything else

You will need a Committee of 3 people min, reach out to neighbors, meet and plan

Connect and Meet with your local Fire District and Tahoe RCD to review

Fire District will meet you and your Committee and begin Risk Assessment

Tahoe RCD will provide materials/outreach assistance to reach out to neighbors and get you started on your first workday

Review the Risk Assessment (5 years) and relate directly to the Action Plan (3 years) (examples)- Fire District and Tahoe RCD will assist

Complete a Yearly Renewal including 1. Monetary Needs Met, 2. Voluntary Inkind Needs Met and must include 1. Workday and 2. Educational Workshop

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SECTION 1: RISK ASSESSMENT

Embedded in the application through the portal

Tahoe RCD can assist but should be assisted by your local Fire District

MUST X every question- check this twice and three times over:

General Site Information; general overview

Observations Home Ignition Zones; Roof (replace wood), Soffit Vents(modern homes- we have foundation vents want 1/8 inch- can write up in the summary), Siding(all new construction is non-combustible), Skirting (remove lattice under decks)- show examples

Attachments; replace fencing with metal if wood, windows, roof/gutter, gutter types (typically no gutters in our area)

Immediate Zone 0-5ft; most important for reducing ember ignition- **5-30ft** and **30-100ft**

Adjacent Lands; USFS, CTC- agreement in place



SECTION 1: RISK ASSESSMENT CONTINUED

Recommendations:

Summary examples:

80 % of the houses have lattice covered decks this is a danger for ember fires- work to remove and keep clean or block in (Directly link as an Action to be completed in the Action Plan)

50% of the houses have bark in the 0-5 feet zone suggest rake back/replace with gravel provide education

75% foundation vents are ¼ inch provide options, costing and places to buy 1/8 inch vents



SECTION 2: ACTION PLAN

Begin with the following year- if applying 2024 begin with 2025

Number of houses must match with Risk Assessment and original info

Form is embedded in the application (show examples)

Year 1, Year 2, Year 3 all must include- you cannot miss a section and must have at least one action per section:

Education and Outreach

Home Hardening

Defensible Space and Fuel Reduction (not working towards compliance- continue to maintain compliance removing debris)

Evacuation Planning and Wildfire Preparation (show list of examples)

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SECTION 3: YEARLY RENEWAL

Min 1 Education Event- can be events that TFFT provide like the Wildfire Preparedness event

Min 1 Workday- Wildfire Preparedness day project

Renewal MUST be submitted by November ? 2025- if you lapse your application will stay active for one year but you will not receive certification

Can use approximate yardage (no of houses x 1 yard) is typical for yearly removal

Must include voluntary hours that people have spent not just monetary

Vegetation Removal- yardage removed by neighbors

Risk Reduction- monetary costs for tree removal, replacing roofs

Education Outreach

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FIREWISE LEADER STORY

ADD

Break! (15 minutes)



Photo: Mike Vollmer

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RISK ASSESSMENT- EVERY 5 YEARS

List Main Points- located at table- print up copies

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ACTION PLAN- EVERY 3 YEARS

List Main Points- located at table- print up copies

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YEARLY RENEWAL- EVERY YEAR BY NOVEMBER ?

List Main Points- located at table- print up copies

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CRITICAL NEEDS

Need: Make a check list for people

Exact number of houses and concise map boundary

Provide map as a separate file

Provide Fire District and Tahoe RCD as Regional Coordinators to allow us to assist

Pinpoint exact location on map as this is difficult to change

List all Committee members

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FIREWISE LEADERS TIPS- PANEL

ADD- request at next meetings

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REVIEW

What Learned

Additional Questions

Next Steps

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Get Involved:

Contact: fire@tahoercd.org | (530) 543-1501 ext. 114

Visit: tahoelivingwithfire.com



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