

FAC Leader Action Sheet - Part 2

Keeping Your Community Engaged

The Fire Adapted Community Wheel & Fire Adapted Community (FAC) Goals

- The end goal extends beyond simply becoming Firewise or educating neighbors about defensible space — it's about creating a fully **fire adapted community** that is resilient, connected, and collaborative.
 - Any entity or group that FAC works with should coordinate through **Tahoe RCD** to ensure alignment and consistency across programs.
 - Actively partner with **Fire Districts, US Forest Service (USFS), and California Tahoe Conservancy (CTC)** to strengthen community efforts, ensure best practices, and expand resources.
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Strategies for Ongoing Engagement with Your Community:

Working on Urban Lots & Stewardship Agreements:

- Encourage residents adjacent to **USFS lots** to sign **stewardship agreements** to promote fuel reduction and community responsibility.
- Organize volunteer workdays focused on these lots — they connect neighbors, create visible results, and inspire participation.
- Neighborhood maps now include **USFS and CTC lots** for better planning and communication.
- Collaborate with **CTC** to establish a **Basin-wide Stewardship Agreement for 2026**. CTC will likely meet with homeowners and review work upon completion; material removal from the site is already approved.

Focusing on Defensible Space Inspection Trends

- **Tahoe Basin groups** will receive maps showing **defensible space inspection** history in their neighborhood.
- Use these visuals to identify priority areas, guide outreach, and help fire personnel and leaders focus resources.
- Share trends with your committee to recognize progress and direct future workdays or inspections.

Working with Student Volunteers

- Partner with local schools for **after-school programs, Tahoe Science field trips, and volunteer hour projects.**
- Involving students promotes youth engagement and builds a long-term culture of fire awareness and community service.
- Highlight participation through photos and local media to inspire continued involvement.

Involving Local Agencies and Partners

- Engage **Fire District representatives, Tahoe RCD, and other agencies** at events and meetings.
- Invite **Defensible Space Inspectors** to lead short neighborhood tours and share practical insights.
- Organize **evacuation planning exercises or mock evacuations** using the **UC Davis evacuation map** as a teaching tool.
- Encourage **Tahoe RCD participation** in committee meetings and neighborhood events to strengthen partnerships and share resources.

Expanding Outreach Campaigns

- Increase neighborhood contact lists annually through **door-to-door outreach, workdays, and large partner events.**
- Work with the **Assessor's Office** to update mailing addresses each year (focus on vacant lots).
- Boost visibility with **banners, signs, flyers, and realtor brochure boxes.**
- Hang flyers on doors or cars before workdays but remove them promptly afterward.
- Set up **Meet & Greet tables** in different neighborhood locations each year to attract new participants.
- Incorporate **residents outside the committee** in your **Action Plan** and **Risk Assessment** to build inclusivity and ownership.
- Create **targeted maps** to focus efforts on less active areas or those needing additional support.
- New **lawn signs** coming spring 2026 — consider reusing or creating your own annual versions (Dollar Store materials work well!).

