

# Creating a *FireWise* Flagstaff

## Where Once There Was Only Grass and Trees ...

...Now homes are built in the forest as our community expands. Overly dense forests, drought, and insects have resulted in catastrophic wildfire being the #1 fire threat to Flagstaff. Each year, several hundred wildfires occur in our area. Any one of these has the potential to devastate our community and result in the loss of homes, property and even lives.

## What is *FireWise*?

*FireWise* is a national program to encourage people to build and maintain homes and properties that will survive destructive wildfire. It provides recognition to those individuals who have met the criteria and have taken the recommended actions.

*FireWise Neighborhoods* are those that have taken appropriate measures to become resistant to damage from wildfire. Neighborhoods and areas that adopt *FireWise* standards will receive special recognition for their efforts.

*FireWise* saves lives; protects homes, businesses, and properties; and preserves surrounding natural resources.

Becoming *FireWise* begins with you. It's **YOUR** responsibility to create a defensible property. During some fires it may not be possible for firefighters to protect every home. Once *FireWise*, your home or property is better able to survive a wildfire without direct intervention of fire suppression forces.

## A *FireWise* Home and Property ...

### Individual Actions:

- Reduce density of surrounding vegetation.
- Thin and prune trees and shrubs, then dispose of debris properly.
- Prune branches to 10' above the ground.
- Mow grass and weeds.
- Remove dead limbs, leaves, debris and other litter.
- Stack firewood away from structures.
- Keep roof and gutters free of debris.
- Remove branches that overhang structures.
- Install non-flammable roofing and siding material.
- Annually assess and treat your property to maintain its *FireWise* characteristics.
- Prepare family evacuation plans in case of an emergency.

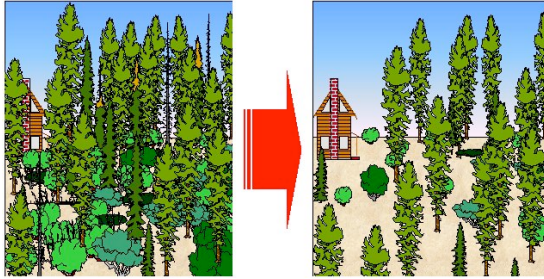
## A *FireWise* Neighborhood ...

### Neighborhood Actions:

- Meet and work with your neighbors.
- Establish a group (Homeowner Association, etc) that will spearhead efforts within the neighborhood.
- Contact the Flagstaff Fire Department (FFD) to identify needed mitigation actions.
- Develop a work plan to implement solutions.
- Ensure the majority of homes and properties are *FireWise*.
- Sponsor an annual *FireWise* Clean-Up day to reduce risk.
- Provide current wildfire risk and mitigation information to residents.
- Spend a minimum of \$2 per capita on *FireWise* efforts in your neighborhood.
- Work with FFD to receive national recognition.
- If working with a contractor or a consultant, contact FFD to receive a letter of endorsement for national recognition.

## Is your Property...?

## Fire Prone...



....Or *FireWise!*

### You Efforts Will Make A Difference!

- Reduced risk of wildfire damage.
- Improved safety.
- Enhanced protection of our forests.

### On Your Property, In Your Neighborhood, Throughout Our Community

Individuals will receive:

- A certificate signed by the Mayor and Fire Chief.
- Recognition on the FFD Website.

Neighborhoods will receive:

- *FireWise* sign(s) for entry point(s) to neighborhood.
- A certificate signed by the Arizona State Forester and local officials.
- Recognition on the FFD Website.

Contact *FireWise* or the Flagstaff Fire Department for potential funding opportunities.

For More Information:



211 W. Aspen  
Flagstaff, AZ 86001  
(928) 213-2500

or

[www.flagstaff.az.gov/wildlandfire](http://www.flagstaff.az.gov/wildlandfire)



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

[www.firewise.org/usa/](http://www.firewise.org/usa/)

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

[www.cals.arizona.edu/firewise](http://www.cals.arizona.edu/firewise)

## *FireWise*

How to make your home and  
neighborhood *FireWise*.



**FIREWISE**  
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