

Taking control of YOUR WILDFIRE RISK



What Is the Fire Problem?

Every year, devastating wildfires burn across the United States. At the same time, a growing number of people are living where wildfires are a real risk. While these fires will continue to happen, there are things you can do to protect your home and neighborhood as well as your family's safety. NFPA® has found that in many cases of home destruction during wildfires, the homes were more flammable than the surrounding brush and trees. By taking action now, before a fire starts, you can increase your chances of having an ignition resistant home and community.

What Can Be Done About It?

Research shows that embers (burning pieces of airborne wood and/or vegetation that can be carried more than a mile through the wind) and small surface fires are the primary source of home ignitions during wildfires.

To make your home safer, you need to prepare it to withstand embers and keep flames or surface fire from touching the home or any attachments. You can do this by limiting the amount of flammable vegetation, choosing ignition-resistant building materials and construction techniques, and conducting periodic outdoor maintenance within the three home ignition zones (HIZ). **Learn more about the HIZ at [Firewise.org](https://www.firewise.org)**

WORKING WITH NEIGHBORS

Home ignition zones often overlap onto adjacent properties. This makes the conditions of neighboring homes and vegetation a part of the wildfire threat. It's extremely important that neighbors work collaboratively with each other—and talk with each other—to reduce their shared risk.

FIREWISE USA® PROGRAM

Firewise USA® is a voluntary program that provides a framework to help neighbors get organized, find direction, and take action to increase the ignition resistance of their homes and community.

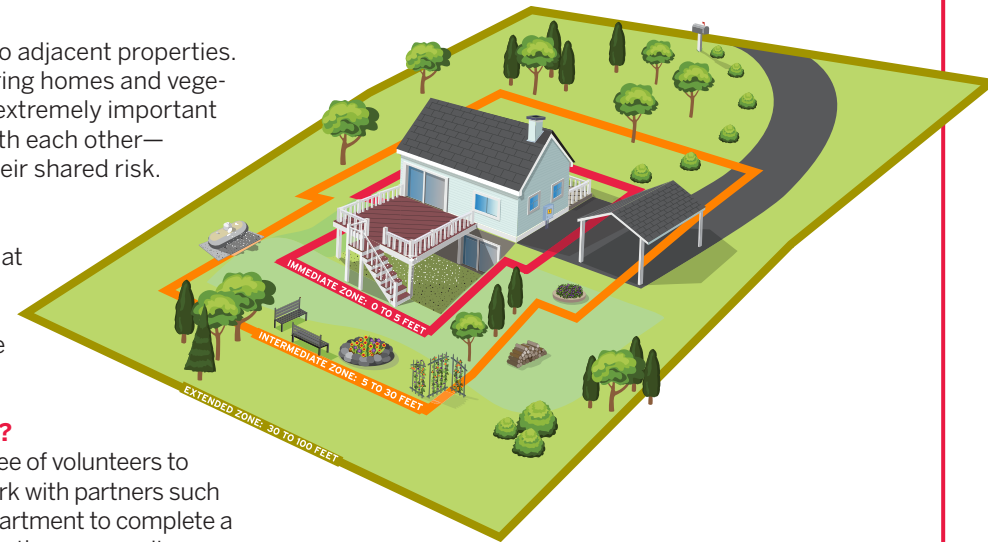
HOW DOES THE PROGRAM WORK?

Organize it: Create a board or committee of volunteers to represent your community. They will work with partners such as local forestry agencies or the fire department to complete a wildfire risk assessment and present it to the community.

Plan it: The wildfire risk assessment should highlight recommendations for action. From this risk assessment, the board will identify and prioritize action items for reducing ignition risk to homes. This action plan may span several years.

Do it: Host an outreach event and work with neighbors on addressing items in the action plan.

Tell us about it: New and renewal applications can be completed at portal.firewise.org. Tell us about the actions and efforts in your community to engage residents and complete mitigation work at the home level.



VISIT FIREWISE.ORG TO:

- » Find tools to organize your community
- » Download and share research fact sheets on wildfire and home construction
- » Hear from other residents about importance of work at the home and community level
- » Learn the basics of wildfire and what actions to take around your homes

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FIREWISE USA®
RESIDENTS REDUCING WILDFIRE RISKS