

Your home can survive a wildfire!



FIREWISE USA®
RESIDENTS REDUCING WILDFIRE RISKS



Firewise Regional Coordinators

Matt Damon

Deputy Chief – CAL FIRE

NFPA Firewise USA – **State Liaison**

Shane Vargas or Gene Potkey

Battalion Chief – CAL FIRE

NFPA Firewise USA – **Northern/Southern California Area Liaison's**

Fire Captain – CAL FIRE

NFPA Firewise USA – **Division Liaison Officer/Regional Coordinator**



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Firewise USA Can Help

- A self-directed, community orientated program to reduce the fire risk
 - Starts with a community evaluation
 - Find both strengths and weaknesses
 - Free assistance from fire professionals
 - Then YOU decide what you'd like to do about it
 - Lay out a multi-year hazard mitigation plan
 - Get the community involved



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How can your community benefit?

- Gain insights into community risks
 - *Findings from Wildfire Risk Assessment*
- Improve awareness of fire safety issues and good practices
 - *Public education is emphasized*
- Work towards reduced fire risks
 - *Projects to create a more fire resistant, fire tolerant neighborhood*
 - *Reduced hazards to you and your property*
- Demonstrate commitment to insurance carriers and others
 - *Improves standing for grant applications*
 - *May reduce fire insurance premiums- USAA is a Firewise USA partner*



WHERE TO GO

- Firewise portal - [Firewise USA Website](#)
 - Public Education
 - Wildfire (expand tab)
 - Firewise USA
 - Get Started
- [Calfire.ca.gov](#) – Ready for Wildfire
 - Prevention
 - Hover over “Prepare”
 - Select Firewise Communities

(This site has Firewise information that is more specific to California)



Organize

- Form a board/committee comprised of residents and other wildfire stakeholders
- Obtain a Wildfire Risk Assessment
- Develop a 3-year action plan based on the site's risk reduction priorities
 - Host a minimum of one wildfire risk reduction educational outreach event, or related activity annually
- Meet the minimum wildfire risk reduction investment
- Create a Firewise USA Portal account and submit an application to your state Firewise USA Liaison



What Does It Cost?

- The Firewise organization charges no fees
- Assistance with the community evaluation
 - CAL FIRE, Local Fire Protection Agency, USFS
- Documentation is done by volunteers
- 1 hour per dwelling annual investment is easily achieved
 - “Dwelling” is a single family home, cabin, mobile home or apt.
 - 1 volunteer hour is equal to \$29.95 of investment cost.
 - Hiring a contractor to do clearance work counts too.



Maintaining Firewise Recognition

- Required annual Firewise activities
 - Hold a “Firewise Day” educational outreach event
 - Wildfire Risk Reduction investments.
 - Minimum investment of 1 hour per dwelling
 - A community of 100 homes need to do 100 hours of investment within the community as a whole.
 - Submit renewal on-line through the firewise portal
www.firewise.org
- Update your action plan every 3 years.
- Update your Risk Assessment every 5 years.



NFPA Firewise USA

Additional Resources:

<https://www.nfpa.org/Public-Education/By-topic/Wildfire/Firewise-USA>

<https://www.readyforwildfire.org/>

[Wildfire Prevention Grants | CAL FIRE](#)

To begin the application Process:

https://portal.firewise.org/user/login?destination=/california/21111/salmon-mine-east-sages%3Fgroup_type%3Dcommunity

Regional Coordinator for this area:

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