



FIREWISE USA®
RESIDENTS REDUCING WILDFIRE RISKS

How to utilize the California Required 3-Year Action Plan

Template designed for PC and may have minor formatting issues on Mac

Please note that defensible space is required at all times for all buildings or structures within California's State Responsibility Area under Public Resource Code 4291 and for Local Governments with designated Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zones under Government Code 51182. Consult your local fire authority for local defensible space requirements if your community is outside of the land classifications above.

1. Double click in the page 2 header area and enter the name of your Firewise Community and enter the 3-year span this action plan will apply to.
2. Community description. Enter a brief description of your community. An example has been provided for you, but please replace with your own community description.
3. In the Year banner, enter the year that will apply to the Year 1 efforts. Repeat this step for years 2 and 3, entering the consecutive years.
4. Utilizing the numbered points, enter the tasks that have been identified by your community. You can add additional numbered tasks you have identified for your community; however, the Program Topics must be utilized.
5. To add additional goals under each category, simply use the last, pre-identified numbered point, to add as necessary.
6. The document will auto format and expand as information is entered.
7. Once the document is completed it can be submitted through the Firewise Portal.

Helpful links for creating a three-year action plan.

NPFA Firewise USA, Time and Expanse Investment Examples ([Here](#))

CAL FIRE Defensible Space ([Here](#))

Ready for Wildfire ([Here](#))

Community Wildfire Action Plan 2024-2026



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Please enter a brief description of your community and delete the example below

Our local community with approximately 40 households is located in the community of Felton in the Santa Cruz mountains. This proposed Firewise USA™ Site Community Wildfire Action Plan was developed through input received during the Summer 2023 Firewise Assessment and walkthrough with Felton Fire Department. The goal of the Plan is to develop a strategy to incrementally outreach, educate, and implement efforts to make our neighborhood more fire resilient.

Year 1 – 2025

Education and Outreach Goals

1. Host annual Firewise meetings to align with annual road association meeting.
2. Send emails to notify the community of local community meetings which are relevant to fire safety.
3. Develop neighborhood email list specific to Firewise
4. Provide links to web based educational opportunities.
5. Provide a list of emergency apps to join – WatchDuty, CodeRed, PulsePoint, etc.
6. Work with local Emergency preparation organizations (SLVEN, CERT, ARES, etc.).

Home Hardening Goals

1. Increase rates of 5-foot clearance compliance.
2. Encourage residents to obtain an HIZ assessment from the local fire department or other HIZ specialists.
3. Encourage residents to use non-combustible materials for any exterior home improvements.

Fuel Reduction Goals

1. Help coordinate the annual wood chipping event
2. Work on road edges to reduce brush/stumps and overhead canopy.
3. Reach out to Mt. Cross to discuss fuel reduction options along edge of neighborhood.

Evacuation Planning and Wildfire Preparedness

1. Encourage members to install Green/white address signs for houses.

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2. Install blue reflectors at appropriate locations to help firefighters find hydrants.
3. Distribute relevant materials and evacuation door tags at annual meeting.

Year 2 - 2026

Education and Outreach Goals

1. Organize annual Firewise meeting to align with annual road association meeting.
2. Send emails to notify the community of local community meetings which are relevant to fire safety.
3. Reach out to adjacent neighbors to encourage formation of a firewise community.
4. Provide a location and means for sharing firewise community information.
5. Identify community members that may require assistance with home hardening and defensible space due to financial or physical limitations.

Home Hardening Goals

1. Provide information on approved home hardening materials.
2. Encourage community members to inspect decks to clear them of debris, remove lattice skirting, remove debris between boards, remove flammable materials from underneath and repair missing/rotted boards as needed.
3. Discuss home hardening goals with new neighbors as they move into the neighborhood.

Fuel Reduction Goals

1. Help coordinate the annual Chipping event
2. Continue brush and canopy removal along roads.
3. Work with Mt. Cross to take steps to reduce fuel load along neighborhood border.

Evacuation Planning and Wildfire Preparedness

1. Explore community MURS radios.
2. Work on identifying possible evacuation routes with residents, land owners, State Parks, and CalFire as needed.
3. Share tips and information at annual meeting.

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Year 3 - 2027

Education and Outreach Goals

1. Organize annual Firewise meeting to align with annual road association meeting.
2. Send emails to notify the community of local community meetings which are relevant to fire safety.
3. Provide updates to Community on firewise progress.
4. Provide web based educational opportunities.
5. Organize a door-to-door outreach campaign to improve participation levels.

Home Hardening Goals

1. Work with community members to clear vegetation within 10 feet of propane tanks.
2. Encourage community members to perform a roof inspection and remove flammable debris, clean gutters and replace damaged or missing tiles.

Fuel Reduction Goals

1. Help coordinate the annual Chipping event
2. Reach out to absent landowners to encourage fuel reduction. Contact Felton Fire Chief for assistance as needed.
3. Form a group of members to reach out to financially/physically challenged community members and offer assistance.
4. Continue working with Mt. Cross to clear fuel along border with neighborhood.

Evacuation Planning and Wildfire Preparedness

1. Create GIS map containing water sources, fire engine turnarounds, etc. and share with Felton Fire.
2. Continue work on evacuation routes – gaining landowner approvals, improving roads, signage.
3. Share tips and information at annual meeting.