



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

Thank you for doing your part in protecting your community against wildfire. When possible, please seek guidance from your local fire official or your Firewise USA Regional Coordinator when completing this document, this inclusion can provide you and your community with peace of mind that experienced recommendations are focusing your community's time and efforts. Goals for this plan **must** include the "Recommendations" located on page 9 for the Firewise USA Risk Assessment document.

Also, as part of the annual renewal process communities must host one outreach event per year and work with neighbors on addressing items within the action plan as required by Firewise USA.

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](#))

California Department of Insurance, Safer from Wildfire Information ([Here](#))

Fortress Way

Community Wildfire Action Plan 2024-2026



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

Fortress Way Firewise community is located in the Sierra Foothills of Northern California. It includes Fortress Way and Fortress Court, which are both dead-end roads totaling more than 3,000 feet in length. Properties on these roads contain, for the most part, modern homes. Some homes are surrounded by undeveloped forested areas and large parcels that can be a threat in the event of a wildfire event. Large forested areas adjacent to homes and on undeveloped parcels need reduction of hazardous fuels to reduce the threat to homes in our entire neighborhood. There are several lots near the intersection of Fortress Way and Lodestar Way and at least one other location on Fortress Way where fuel loads could result in fire crowning making evacuation from Fortress Way and Fortress Court almost impossible. Fortress Way Firewise hopes to address these critical concerns and make our neighborhood safer for all.

Year 1 – 2024

Education and Outreach Goals

1. Develop Contact List of property owners for communication and coordination of community action
2. Develop website to facilitate community interaction and information
3. Develop and distribute newsletters for promotion and disbursement of information regarding fire prevention and preparedness
4. Host community educational event to promote the Firewise program in compliance with Public Resource Code 4291, Defensible Space requirements. (include CodeRed notification information)
5. Increase percent of homes with reflective address signs
6. Educate and involve neighborhood in evacuation preparedness

Home Hardening Goals

1. Improve number of households with ember resistant soffit vents, and no vegetation within 5 feet of home
2. Removal of flammable materials located on decks attached to the home
3. Removal of flammable materials, such as firewood, stored under decks attached to home

Defensible Space / Fuel Reduction Goals

1. Plan and implement at least 1 neighborhood chipping event
2. Encourage homeowners to thin and prune trees, shrubs, remove ladder fuels and cut grasses back from homes up to 100'
3. Work with property owners to remove hazardous fuels in the WUI within Fortress Community Firewise



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Evacuation Planning (Ex. Preparedness and Routing) and Wildfire Preparedness

1. Develop evacuation routes and plan with property owners in conjunction with Amador County Fire Chief and Amador Fire Safe Council
2. Apply for grant assistance for Firewise planning, organization, education, outreach, signs and planning vegetation removal along evacuation routes
- 3.

Year 2 - 2025

Education and Outreach Goals

1. Maintain contact list, update to include immediately surrounding properties if needed
2. Maintain website
3. Newsletter by email/mail 2-4 times annually to promote fire hardening activities and report progress of ongoing projects
4. Hold committee meeting to evaluate and document results of year 1, revise Action Plan as needed and renew Firewise certification
5. Host annual community event to promote compliance with PRC 4291, Defensible Space and review accomplishments in Year 1
6. Community clean up day - identify neighbors in need of assistance and provide help

Home Hardening Goals

1. Reassess community risks, improve number of homes with no vegetation within 5 feet of homes
2. Improve number of homes with soffits and ember-resistant vents
3. Provide home hardening tips to members

Fuel Reduction Goals

1. Continue to encourage and work with homeowner to reduce vegetation within the extended zone
2. Continue to work with property owners to remove hazardous fuels in WUI within Fortress FW Community
3. Host neighborhood chipping event/coordinate green waste bins in the neighborhood

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Evacuation Planning (Ex. Preparedness and Routing) and Wildfire Preparedness

1. Provide detailed maps including signage for evacuation route through end of Fortress Court and through Volcano Hills private roads to outlet at Pioneer/Volcano Rd.
2. Host neighborhood educational event including animal evacuation
3. Investigate feasibility of evacuation “buddy system”, reminding residents to utilize evacuation support services annually

Year 3 - 2026

Education and Outreach Goals

1. Maintain contact list- update to include immediately surrounding properties if needed
2. Maintain website
3. Newsletter distribution 2-4 times annually to promote fire hardening activities and report progress of ongoing projects
4. Hold committee meeting to evaluate and document results of year 2, revise Action Plan as needed and renew Firewise certification
5. Host annual community event to promote compliance with PRC 4291, review accomplishments in year 2
6. Community clean up day; continue to increase percentage of homes with reflective address signs

Home Hardening Goals

1. Increase number of homes with no vegetation within 5 feet
2. Reassess community risks; improve number of homes with soffits and ember-resistant vents
3. Provide home-hardening tips to members

Fuel Reduction Goals

1. Continue to encourage and work with homeowners to remove vegetation within the extended zone

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2. Continue to work with property owners to remove hazardous fuels in WUI's within Fortress FW Community
3. Host 1-3 neighborhood chipping events, based on results of year 2

Evacuation Planning (Ex. Preparedness and Routing) and Wildfire Preparedness

1. Obtain the approval of Volcano Hills Road Association and individual property owners for Fortress Firewise to conduct mock evacuation drill
2. With the assistance of the Amador County Fire Chief, the Amador Fire Protection District and Cal Fire, conduct a mock evacuation drill for members of Fortress Firewise who are interested in participating
- 3.