

# IS YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD **FIREWISE?**

**Take Action. Be Prepared.**  
become a **Firewise USA recognized community**



**FIREWISE USA®**  
Residents reducing wildfire risks

## Requirements

- At least 8 residents, but not more than 2500
- Create a local committee
- Invest at least 1 hour or \$29 per household per year
- Complete assessment paperwork

## FireWise USA

No individual landowner, or even any governmental agency, can do the all work that needs to be done to mitigate the risk of wildfire. NFPA's Firewise USA® program helps you harden your home against wildfire and encourages neighbors to work together to take action now to prevent losses.

## Benefits

- Community wildfire risk can be reduced by neighbors working together
- Participation is voluntary
- Increases good will with first responders, providing safer access
- Increases community communication, collaboration and emergency preparedness
- Potential consideration by home insurance companies (such as USAA and State Farm)
- Potential access to grant money

**1 Form a steering committee with a few proactive neighbors.**

**2 Collect neighborhood data to complete a Community Risk Assessment with input from a local Fire Professional.**

**3 Prepare a Multi-Year Plan, using observations from the Community Risk Assessment and neighborhood priorities.**

**4 Complete one community education event related to wildfire risk reduction.**

**5 Meet the minimum community investment criteria (1 hour or \$29 per household for the year).**

**6 Create a Firewise USA portal account, complete and submit your application.**



## Get Help Becoming FireWise!

Fire Safe Council of Santa Cruz County is an all volunteer organization that supports communities interested in the Firewise USA process in these ways:

- Provides a "Why Go Firewise" community presentation to help start the process
- Email support and coaching, as time permits
- Online resources for education
- Potential to network with leaders from other FireWise communities

To request assistance, please inquire at [info@firesafesantacruzcounty.org](mailto:info@firesafesantacruzcounty.org)