



Fire Department

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City of Scottsdale - Firewise Communities/USA Wildland/Urban Interface Safety Program

The Scottsdale Fire Department is prepared to assist our local communities with the development of the partnerships and activities needed to achieve national recognition as a Firewise Community/USA. The locally developed plans and the actions taken by each community are designed to identify conditions, that when addressed, will help lead to an increased level of wildfire safety throughout the interface and preserve areas of the City. Participation in the Firewise Community/USA program is voluntary and will provide these local communities with information and continuing support from the Scottsdale Fire Department along with State/Federal wildfire agency representatives.

Firewise Community/USA Standards

To qualify as a recognized Firewise Community/USA, five primary standards must be met:

1. *Form a Community Firewise Board or Committee*
2. *Complete a community hazard assessment and create a Firewise plan*
3. *Hold a Firewise Day event*
4. *Invest a minimum of \$2.00/capita annually in local wildfire mitigation projects (volunteer hours, equipment use, time committed by agency/community staff, grant funding can all be included)*
5. *Submit a completed Firewise Community Plan and application*

How are the Firewise Community/USA Standards Met?

- Local communities or homeowner associations need to understand the various components and requirements of the program and also have a desire to participate.
- The Scottsdale Fire Department will meet with the local community and/or Board to initiate a discussion on the processes and activities needed to obtain this recognition.
- Community/Board leaders create a local Firewise board or committee. It is possible to use an existing HOA committee to perform this function.
- A State/Federal Firewise representative holds an initial meeting with community representatives to present the program and answer any follow-up questions.
- A Scottsdale Fire Department or National Firewise representative schedules a site visit and performs a community assessment.
- The local Firewise Board works with representatives from the Scottsdale Fire Department to conduct a community assessment and establish a risk abatement plan. Guidelines established with the COS Wildland & NAOS Defensible Space brochure, the Home Fire Inspection Checklist along with the COS Invasive Plant removal program will be used as baseline documents.
- The local Firewise Board works to schedule and hold a Community Firewise Day event.
- The Firewise Communities/USA application is downloaded and submitted to the proper authority with the supporting documentation.
- Once national recognition as a Firewise Community/USA is achieved, this status can be maintained upon completion of a Community Firewise day and the annual renewal documents.

Please contact the Scottsdale Fire Department @ 480-312-1855 or go to Scottsdalefd.com for more information or assistance.