



FIREWISE USA[®]
RESIDENTS REDUCING WILDFIRE RISKS

Ways to Communicate Firewise to neighbors

- **We live in a neighborhood that is at high risk of wildfire.**
 - Union County is a fire adapted ecosystem - and our community is a #1 priority for “Communities at Risk” located within Wildland/Urban Interface (WUI) areas.
 - The community was identified in the updated version of Union County’s Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP).
 - CWPP looked @ analysis of fuels loads, etc. to see where the risk was the highest.
- **There are things we could do to lower that risk**
 - We could organize on our own to do some fuel reduction
 - There are checklists to see if our homes would resist fire
 - We could get them directly from the Firewise/National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) Websites - but
- **There are people in Union County that can help us come up with a community action plan would you be interested in having a community meeting to talk about all of this?**
 - Fire chief
 - Oregon Department of Forester
 - Emergency Manager
 - Willowa Resources
 - OSU Extension
- **Firewise has a whole process for this.**
 - Do we want to get together as a community?
 - Is the annual gathering/BBQ or a special meeting something we want to do?
- **Other points:**
 - The Firewise Community Program helps landowners think about what you can be doing (1) in your home & your evacuation/emergency management plan (2) outside your home (your structures) (3) around your home (your home ignition zone or your home’s immediate surroundings up to 200 feet) (4) across your property to think about making your entire property more resilient to wildfire & fire adapted and (5) how you can be doing this as a community (because wildfire does not stop at our property boundaries).
 - The Lostine Landowners become the first community of landowners in NE Oregon to become a Firewise Community; also another Firewise Community in NE Oregon - the Pine Creek Community near John Day, became a Firewise Community and implemented its recommendations prior to the 2015 Canyon Creek Complex Fire in which 40+ homes were burned down. Pine Creek came out of this event without any lost homes and experienced much less fire severity in their community. This was attributed to the pre-work that they had all done as a community.