



West Sonoma Mountain Firewise Community Newsletter

FIREWISE USA®

Residents reducing wildfire risks

Volume 1 Number 1

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What is a Firewise Community?

A firewise community gives neighbors a way to collaborate with each other and with local and state fire departments to enhance the community's wildfire resiliency. Firewise communities work to increase fire resistance of homes and surroundings and to address emergency preparedness and safety.

Firewise is supported by the NATIONAL FIRE PROTECTION ASSOCIATION (NFPA), Fire Safe Sonoma, Rancho Adobe Fire District and the California Division of Forestry.

The West Sonoma Mountain Firewise Community covers an area on the west side of Sonoma Mountain including the properties east of Old Adobe (Adobe) Road, including those accessed via Manor Lane, Lila Lane, East Washington Street, Edwin Kelsey Way, Sonoma Mountain Road, Lynch Road, Hardin Lane and Jacobsen Lane. You are an owner or occupant of property in this area and we encourage you to join this firewise community.

What are the benefits of a Firewise Community?

- **Help** residents understand and implement the best practices to reduce the risk of wild fire damage, ensure emergency readiness in case a fire should develop and learn about evacuation preparedness.

Will joining a Firewise Community cost me anything?

- **No**, there is no cost to join or participate.

Will the Firewise community take a lot of my time?

- **No**, the Firewise Community won't take much time for most members, however Firewise Communities encourage each member to invest some time and energy to prepare their own property for fire safety, stay abreast of community news and to attend Firewise community gatherings.

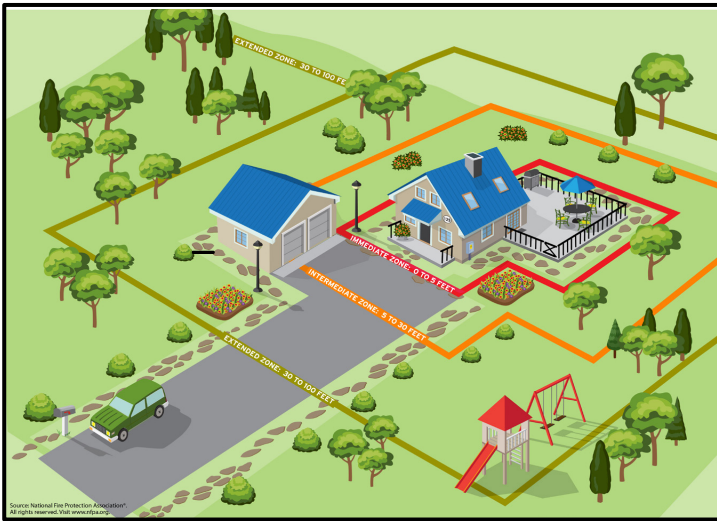
Who is in charge of the Firewise community?

We had a community meeting in December and a board was selected from those attending. The board has been meeting and is working to initiate programs to benefit the community, contact residents within the area to become involved in the Firewise Community and become more knowledgeable about threat of wildfires in the area.

Jim Hepplemann, President; Joan O'Brien, Secretary, Millo Fenzi, Treasurer; Michael Caruana, Gary Huisingsh, Nicholas Pfendler board members.

website in progress

sonomamountainfirewise@gmail.com



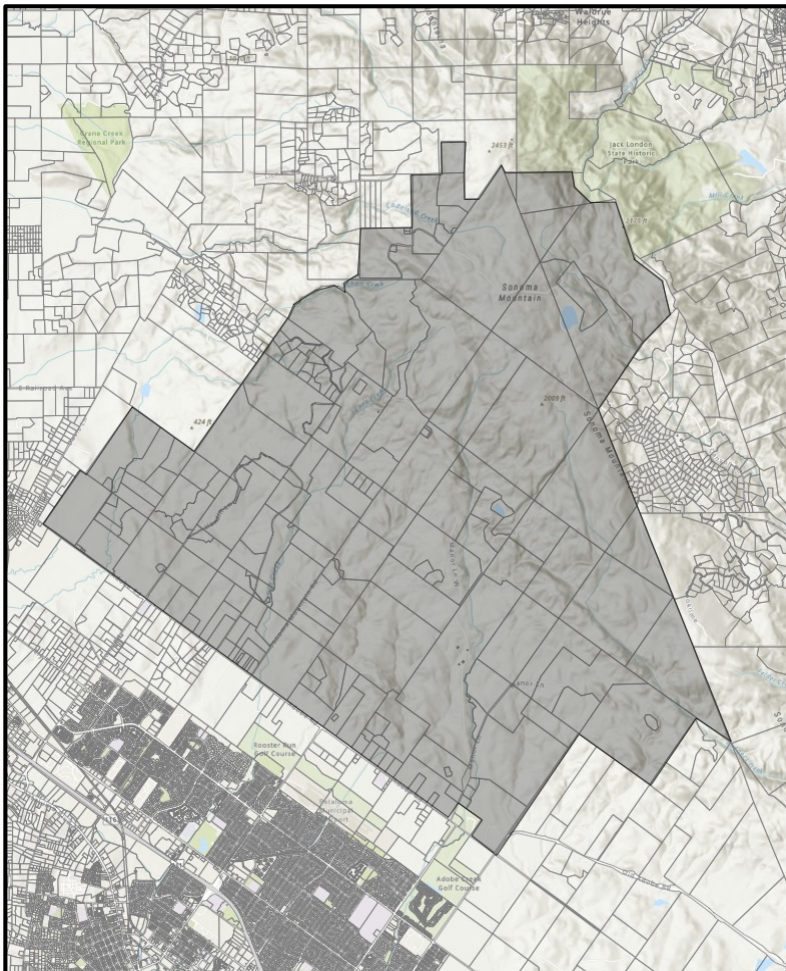
Red Boundary = Immediate Zone
 Orange Boundary = Intermediate Zone
 Green Boundary = Extended Zone

Home Safety

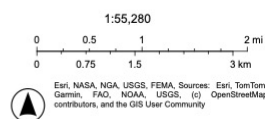
Firewise USA and other fire safety experts have learned how to prepare homes to withstand embers and prevent flames or surface fire from igniting the home and its immediate surroundings. By working in an area known as the home ignition zone (HIZ), that is the home and everything around it within 100 feet fire safety can be achieved.

You can learn steps to take to make your home and community safer from fire. The community risk assessment can help residents learn about the vulnerability of homes and the areas surrounding the home and its vulnerability to ignition from embers.

West Sonoma Mountain - RAD



9/5/2025
 Sonoma County Parcels Mailing
 World_Hillshade



Fire Safe Sonoma

Help Us Get Acquainted

Help us identify your parcel on the map so we can contact everyone who lives in the area and is at risk every fire season. **We need the name, correct address, phone number and email from everyone, including renters and additional dwelling units on your property so we can provide information, updates and alerts for everyone's safety.** Send information to:

sonomamountainfirewise@gmail.com

We will not sell or use your information in any way except to contact you to keep up with our local community activities, provide additional educational materials and safety updates.

We will be hosting one community meeting and one social meeting each year with programs about firewise issues. Details about a summer BBQ in August are being finalized. Plan to attend and meet the committee and your neighbors and learn more about becoming firewise.

Our first big project will be signs at key intersections along Old Adobe Road alerting the community to current fire hazard conditions. Watch for their installation!