# **FIREWISE TRUMPET**

March 2025 Number 2



Residents reducing wildfire risks

From The Chair

Volume 12

Sun City started as FireWise USA recognized community in 2009. Sun City Firewise is a subcommittee of the Emergency Management Committee (EMC).

Sun City residents volunteer to work for our Firewise Group. You may have a Home Ignition Zone trained evaluator come to your home by appointment. You may see a crew by Firewise on Tuesdays working off the side of a Sun City road by request of the Community Association (CA).

Volunteers come to the Firewise Group meetings held almost every month on the fourth Wednesday at 1PM in the Mesquite Room at the Oaks, 301 Del Webb blvd. Officers are myself Mark Marino, Chair; Pete Molidor, Vice Chair and open, Recorder.

Work group coordinators are:

Petra Garren- Firewise Clearing Crew.

Paul Ohlenbusch - HIZ evaluations report,

Annual Renewal report, Education & Training Melissa Lane - Firewise website manager

The Liaisons to the group are:

Charles Moore, CA L3-L4 Manager

Doug Lane, EMC

Melissa Lane, Property & Grounds

Henry Schuessler, Wildlife Management

Open, NRO

Please note the Firewise Trumpet newsletter has a link in the NRO Bulletin.

That's a lot of volunteers I have to thank for Firewise every year since the 2009.

Mark Marino, Firewise Group Chair

### **Firewise Partners Corner**

Community Wildfire Preparedness and AppreciationDay is May 9. Information will sent to Partners on April 21, 28 and May 5. Included each time will be an article. A flyer will be provided to send to your neighborhood.

Sign up for will be online. The information will be in the April 28 and May 5 information.

Questions? Send an email!



**Our Partners** 







Click logo for information!

#### April

April 17 - Education-Training Work Group, 1:00pm, Mesquite Room/The Oaks

April 23 - Firewise Group Meeting, 1:00pm, Mesquite Room/The Oaks

#### Mav

May 9 - Wildfire Preparedness and Appreciation Day, 8:30am, Cowan Creek Amenity Ceter

May 15 - Meet Your Community Welcome Day, 8:30am, SCB

May 15 - Education-Training Work Group, 1:00pm, Mesquite Room/The Oaks

May 28 - Firewise Group Meeting, 1:00pm, Mesquite

### **Firewise Volunteer Clearing Crew News**

The Crew's been busy this past month clearing down dead wood and limbing Ashe Juniper in N31 and N16. On one of the workdays we had almost as many dead wood piles as the fresh limbs- that was a first for us. Many of the neighbors in those areas understood the need to remove the fire fuel and expressed their appreciation for our efforts- Thank you!

Remember to check around your homes and start removing the dead vegetation and be sure to prepare it properly for the 1<sup>st</sup> of the month's 1st recycle and yard waste pick up. Don't leave it in the green space behind your homes.

As the picture shows we even had a special approval from some of the "natives".

Stay "Firewise" Safe

Petra Garren

Firewise Volunteer Clearing Crew Coordinator



The native inspectors!

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The Trumpet is published monthly except January. If you have information to share, please send it to ole7734@suddenlink.net by the 28<sup>th</sup> of each month.

### **Firewise Group Meeting Notes**

The February 26 Firewise Group Meeting was attended by 16 members and 3 liaisons.

The items covered were:

- \* Community Wildfire Preparedness Day is May 9 in the Cowan Creek Amenity Center was reviewed.
- \* N68 requested a Firewise Presentation
- \* Cheryl Taylor resigned ad Recorder
  Meeting Notes for this and previous meetings can
  be found on the web site.

The next Firewise Group meeting will be March 26, 2025 at 1 pm in the Mesquite Room.

### May 9 - Firewise Community Wildfire Preparedness and Awards Day

May 9 will be a day of work and celebration! Weather permitting, an area near the Cowan Creek Amenity Center will have juniper (cedar), downed wood and trash removed.

The day will start with sign in at 8:30 followed by an instruction and safety session. A group photo will be taken and the work will start. After lunch, recognition of guests and sponsors and awards will be held. The awards will be for 5 and 10 year Firewise volunteer service awards.

More next month!

### **April Holidays**

- 1 April Fool's Day
- 6 National Student-Athlete Day
- 7 National Beer Day
- 15 Tax Day
- 17 National High Five Day
- 21 Patriots' Day
- 22 National Jelly Bean Day
- 23 Lover's Day
- 25 World Penguin Day
- 26 Pretzel Day



April showers bring May flowers! Precipitation for March is 34% of average. The Drought Monitor shows severe to extreme drought through March 25.

### **Upcoming Events**

May 9, 2025, Community Wildfire Preparedness & Appreciation Day, Florence-Georgetown Rooms, Cowan Creek Aminity Center May 15, Meet Your Community Welcome Day, SCB August 21, Meet Your Community Welcome Day, SCB

October 7, Firewise Town Hall, 9:30 am, SCB October 24, Home Ignition Zone Evaluator Training, 9:00 am, Andice Room

### **Sun City Texas Firewise Web Links**

## Home Ignition Zone Evaluations

Evaluations		
As of:	2/26	3/26
Received	1,165	1,165
Completed	1,157	1,165
New requests	12	1
Open	8	0

### From the Past - April 2014

The vegetation from the February 20, 2014 wildfire is is greening. The larger cedar tree has lost most of the needles on the lower part that was desiccated by the fire. Verbenas and other wildflowers are beginning to bloom. The old grass plants remain in condition to burn if dry, windy conditions occur.



Juniper after the fire!

### Fall-Winter Maintenance Items - From April 2014

With the leaves and acorns falling, it's time to think about what maintenance needs to be done to help protect your house should a wildfire, house, or yard fire caused by embers falling. Plants, particularly grasses (including lawns), are now dormant and dry with the potential for embers or other heat sources to ignite the dry vegetation.

Look around your house and see what can ignite and possibly burn. Suggested maintenance includes cleaning gutters and roofs of debris, especially leaves. Any landscape plants that can collect debris underneath or or areas that collect debris should be cleared.

This is still good information today!



#### Firewise Group Leadership

Chair - Mark Marino
Vice-Chair - Pete Mollidor
Recorder - **open**Webmaster - Melissa Lane
HIZ Coordinator - Paul Ohlenbus

HIZ Coordinator - Paul Ohlenbusch Firewise Clearing Crew Coordinator - Petra Garren Education Coordinator - Dan Dodson

Training Coordinator - Paul Ohlenbusch