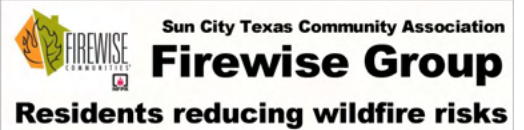


FIREWISE TRUMPET

Volume 10

June 2023

Number 5



In This Issue:

Page 1

June-July Calendar
Firewise Group Notes
Home Ignition Zone (HIZ) Numbers
From the Chair
Firewise Web Site Links

Page 2-3

Clearing Crew News
2023 Firewise Events
Our Current Volunteers

Firewise Group Notes

- * The May 24 Firewise Group Meeting was changed to a work session with members and liaisons.. The following were the topics:
 - * The May 5 Firewise Appreciation Day was reviewed.
 - * Training for Neighborhood Firewise Partners was discussed
 - * The new display board was reviewed.
 - * Firewise Clearing Crew report on Page 2.
- Meeting Notes for this and previous meetings can be found on the [web site](#).
- The next Firewise Group meeting is scheduled for June 28, 2023 at 1 pm in the Mesquite Room in The Oaks.



Firewise Group Leadership

Chair - Dan Dodson
Vice-Chair - Mark Marino
Recorder - Judy Whitmore
Webmaster - Melissa Lane
HIZ Coordinator - Doug Lane
Firewise Clearing Crew Coordinator - Petra Garren
Education Coordinator - Dan Dodson
Training Coordinator - Paul Ohlenbusch

Our Partners



Click logo for information!

June

June 15, Education/Training Work Group, 1:00 pm; Mesquite Room
June 28, Firewise Group, 1:00 pm, Mesquite Room

July

July 20, Education/Training Work Group, 1:00 pm; Mesquite Room
July 26, Firewise Group, 1:00 pm, Mesquite Room

Home Ignition Zone (HIZ) Numbers

The HIZ completion status:

<u>Month ending</u>	<u>4/26</u>	<u>5/24</u>
Received	1,095	1,095
Completed	1,094	1,094
New requests	1	0
Open	1	1

From The Chair

A Look back, Where have we come

Sun City Texas (SCT) participation began in January 2009 following the guidelines documented in the Firewise USA program. The first Home Ignition Zone (HIZ) training in 2011 was given to several SCT residents by an instructor from the Texas A&M Forest Service. Most of those trained had previous experience relating to wildfires. The level of experience permitted SCT Firewise to develop a localized HIZ process that reflected the specific needs of our community. This process has been followed since approval was granted. In addition to the wildfire component, SCT developed ancillary processes to manage flooding and wildlife habitat diversity. (continued page 2)

Sun City Texas Firewise Web Links

[Web Site](#)
[Meeting Notes](#)
[Current Publications](#)
[Annual Renewal Documents](#)
[Town Hall videos](#)
[Landscape Vendor Service Provider list](#)

From The Chair (continued)

Major wildfires occurred in the Bastrop area and Steiner Ranch on September 7, 2011. SCT residents were highly concerned about the dangers and the HIZ process took off. By September 2012, Firewise conducted over 500 evaluations on resident homes. Since then the threat has been low and evaluation numbers have been slow but steady. In 2023 we are nearing 1,100 evaluations. While that number seems low, most homes would be compliant.

Another component of our program has been resident participation in the Firewise Clearing Crew, an early component that began in 2011. Their contribution has been invaluable as a supplement to the activities of the paid staff. Today this group is the largest of the Firewise groups. This group assists the staff throughout the year as the weather permits.

Other activities include participation in the Community Wildfire Preparedness Day in May. Since 2014, Firewise groups across the nation contribute one day each year toward activities relating to Firewise. SCT Firewise has participated each year. This year the focus is on volunteer recognition of the volunteers plus the sponsors and agencies we have worked with over the years.

As the SCT Firewise program continues to change with the times, we will make changes to keep the program current and in place.

Dan Dodson
Firewise Group Chair

Our Current Volunteers

The current number of active volunteers is 68. Over the years there have been over 280 residents who have been a part of the Firewise Group.

How long have they been active? Let's break down how long by 1-4 years, 5-9 years, 10-14 years, and 15 years. Yes, the Firewise Group is currently in their 15 year! So here are the numbers.

Years	1-4	5-9	10-14	15	Total
number	35	20	12	1	68

2023 Firewise Events

August 17, 8:30 am, New Resident Orientation, SCB
October 10, 9:30 am, Firewise Town Hall, SCB
October 27, 9:00 am, Home Ignition Zone Evaluator Training, Andice Room
November 16, , 8:30 am, New Resident Orientation, SCB

Firewise Volunteer Clearing Crew News

Well, summer is approaching fast, and the crew is still hard at work, although feeling that humidity. Our work continues until the end of June and then we'll be on "Siesta" until September.

The crew has managed to mitigate the Level 3 green space areas behind some homes in N55, N57, and N64. In N55 we even had a unique opportunity to work around two baby fawns who did their best to not be seen. (Photo below is one of the two.)

The Crew would like remind residents that the CA has a policy not to dispose of limbs and yard plants in common areas. If a tree service trims trees- they are responsible for removal. If a resident cuts any limbs, they need to place it out for the monthly yard trimmings pick up. Please don't add more fuel sources for fires. Help keep our community safe.

Remember that we're always looking for volunteers to come and help us on Tuesday mornings. Sign up on the CA's Firewise Group website and we'll get you on the weekly mailing list.

The Crew and I thank you for all for your support.

Petra Garren
Firewise Clearing Crew Coordinator

