

FIREWISE TRUMPET

Volume 9

June 2022

Number 5



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Firewise Group Notes

The May 25 Firewise Group Meeting included 8 members, 3 liaisons, and 5 residents.

The following were discussed:

- * The display board status was discussed.
- * The May 6 Wildfire Community Preparedness Day was reviewed.
- * Topics for the October 5 Town Hall were discussed.
- * Dividing Sun City into 5 communities was discussed.
- * Volunteer 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 May 25, 2022 at 1 pm in the Mesquite Room in The Oaks.

Sun City Texas Firewise Web Links

[Web Site](#)
[Meeting Notes](#)
[Current Publications/Renewal Documents](#)
[Town Hall videos](#)

June

June 16, Education/Training Work Group, 1:00 pm; Mesquite Room

June 22, Firewise Group, 1:00 pm, Mesquite Room

July

July 21, Education/Training Work Group, 1:00 pm; Mesquite Room

July 27, Firewise Group, 1:00 pm, Mesquite Room

Home Ignition Zone (HIZ) Numbers

The HIZ completion status:

<u>Month ending</u>	4/23	5/25
Received	1,061	1,067
Completed	1,059	1,064
New requests	0	3
Open	2	3

From The Chair

When I was a kid, we lived in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan, six blocks from Lake Superior. My dad said the we had two seasons, Winter and Fourth of July. Well, in Central Texas, we have two seasons, Summer and New Year's Day.

Needless to say, it is hot and going to get hotter this summer. Please stay hydrated and be careful out in the heat. Be aware of Heat Stroke.

Heat stroke symptoms are: body temperature of 104°; confusion, agitation, irritability, or disorientation; slurred speech or staggering; seizures or coma; sweating, then dry skin; headache; dizziness or lightheadedness; nausea or vomiting; flushed or reddened skin; rapid breathing and heart beat; and muscle weakness or cramps.

If you suspect that someone has a heat stroke, immediately call 911 or take the person to a hospital. Any delay seeking medical help can be fatal.
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Our Partners



Click logo for information!

Firewise Group Leadership

Chair - David Hubbell
Vice-Chair - Petra Garren
Recorder - Judy Whitmore
HIZ Coordinator - Doug Lane
Education Coordinator - Dan Dodson
Training Coordinator - Paul Ohlenbusch
Volunteer Clearing Crew Coordinator - Petra Garren

From The Chair (continued from Page 1)

While waiting for the paramedics to arrive, initiate first aid. Move the person to an air-conditioned environment -- or at least a cool, shady area -- and remove any unnecessary clothing.

Try these cooling strategies:

- *Fan air over the patient while wetting their skin with water from a sponge or garden hose.
- *Apply ice packs to the patient's armpits, groin, neck, and back. Because these areas are rich with blood vessels close to the skin, cooling them may reduce body temperature. Immerse the patient in a shower or tub of cool water.

David Hubbell

Firewise Group Chair

Drought and Wildfires

Our current drought conditions create an environment favoring wildfires. Sun City and over 80% of Texas is in some stage of drought (U.S. Drought Monitor). The current drought started in January, receded briefly after the extreme cold and snow in February. It quickly came back in drought by mid-March. Currently, Sun City is in severe drought according to the [Drought Monitor](#). Long range forecasts indicate it will continue.

The main conditions that favor wildfires are dry vegetation and winds over 20 mph. These conditions can easily occur here.

A spark can start a wildfire! Be careful with smoking materials, matches, where you park your car, and more.

2022 Major Firewise Events

New Resident Orientation

August 18, 8:30, SCB

November 17, 8:30, SCB

Firewise Town Hall

October 5, 9:30 am, SCB

Home Ignition Zone Evaluator Training

October 28, 9:00 am, Adice Room

Firewise Volunteer Clearing Crew News

The Firewise Clearing Crew is now on **"Siesta Time"**. A well-deserved break for this hard-working crew- especially now that the heat is kicking in! Don't worry though we'll be back in September to continue our work.

N84, Cypress Springs green space areas received some of our "attention" in May. This area was thick with Junipers. With the removal of some Juniper and the liming up of some of the larger Juniper trees- the before and after pictures says what a difference that was made there. What a great improvement and mitigation of fire fuel, this helps to reduce the spreading of a potential ground fire.

Remember that you can help prevent fires and reduce fire fuel by maintaining your yard by removing dead plant material and leaves. Keep plants away from the gas and electric meters. Be sure to move your BBQ grill away from your house when using it.

Enjoy your summer and stay safe!

Petra Garren

Volunteer Firewise Clearing Crew Coordinator



Before and After

