

FIREWISE TRUMPET



Sun City Texas
Firewise Group

Sun City Texas Community Association

Volume 3

May 2016

Number 4

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Firewise Group Notes

The Firewise Group met April 27 with 9 members. The HIZ Evaluation numbers were reviewed (see HIZ Numbers).

The May 6 Wildfire Preparedness Day will be in the Legacy Hills Pavilion area. Two areas around the Pavilion have been designated for clearing. Business support has been recruited, and they are responding.

HIZ Training and Continuing Education was April 28 with 1 new Evaluator and 11 Evaluators.

A revised 'Being Firewise Around Your Home' has been developed and is on the web site. A pdf file of the publication will be sent to all HIZ Evaluators.

The next meeting will be May 25, 1 pm, AC MR 3-4.

Home Ignition Zone (HIZ) Numbers

The HIZ completion status:

Month ending	4/1	5/1
Received	773	787
Completed	763	776
New requests	0	11
Open	8	11
On hold	0	0

The Firewise web site is available by
[clicking here](#)

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Partners**



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May Calendar

May 19, 8:30 am, SCB, New Residents Orientation

May 19, 10 am, MR 1, Education Work Group Meeting

May 25, 1 pm, MR 3-4, Firewise Group

June Calendar

June 16, Education Work Group, 10 am, MR 1

June 22, Firewise Group, 1 pm, MR 3-4

Major Event Dates for 2016

October 4, 2016 - Firewise Town Hall

October 27, 2016 - HIZ Training and Continuing Education

Please mark your calendars!

HIZ Volunteers needed at display for New Residents Orientation

May 19!

Contact Paul or Dan

Firewise Volunteer Clearing Crew

The Firewise Volunteer Clearing Crew works most Tuesday Mornings weather permitting. An email is sent to volunteers each week. Interested in volunteering? [Click here!](#)



Sun City volunteers head for Berry Creek Trail to remove small junipers (cedars). For more information and photos, see page 2-3

Additional Information Sources

Firewise Town Hall October 6 video

You can view the Town Hall video by [clicking here](#).

Backyards and Beyond Conference Access

The conference had many useful presentations. [Click here](#) for the link to all of the conference presentations. Below are some selected presentations.

Sun City Presentation

F14 –Tailoring the Firewise® Concepts to Your Community (PDF, 3 MB)

Presenters: Paul Ohlenbusch and Daniel B. Dodson, Sun City, Texas

TH06 – After the Wildfire: Wildland/Urban Interface Lessons Learned (PDF, 3 MB)

Presenters: Amy L. Sylvester and Jeremy Taylor, Colorado Springs Fire Department, Colorado

Special Presentations

The USAA Firewise® Community Recognition Discount: Behavior, Incentives and Community Resilience (PDF, 3 MB)

Jeff Cavanaugh, USAA

Application of Firewise® Data in the Private Sector (PDF, 7 MB)

Chris Roussel, Chief Executive Officer, Myriad Development, Inc.

Firewise 2015 Virtual Workshop Plus 2014

During this year, there have been several Virtual Workshops. Titles include *What can Firewise Do for You?* and *Firewise's Wildfire Urban Legends*. The 2015 and 2014 Firewise Virtual Workshops are still available on the Firewise web site. You can access them or get transcripts [here](#).

The Firewise web site is available by
[clicking here](#)

Firewise Group Leadership

Chair - Tom Kisinger

Vice-Chair - Ron Thompson

Secretary - Fred Hill

Education Coordinator - Dan Dodson

Training Coordinator - Paul Ohlenbusch

Wildfire Preparedness Day

May 6 was a successful Wildfire Preparedness Day for Sun City! The Third Annual Day had a total of 64 people come out to help make it happen! They included 42 resident volunteers including 10 from the Firewise Group. Also helping was the Georgetown Fire Department Wildland Crew who used the day for training time. We had special guests from USAA Insurance and Texas A&M Forest Service (TFS) helping out. The day was supported by 11 members of the Sun City Staff including Jim Romine, Executive Director.

The day started with a light breakfast sponsored by Bartlett Tree Experts and TCB Quality Landscaping at the Legacy Pavilion. Brightview Landscaping (formally Valley Crest) also contributed to the day. Introductions and instructions were made about 9 am. The volunteers were divided into 2 groups to find and remove small junipers (cedars). Together they cleared about 10 acres along Berry Creek Trail. The Fire Department Team removed a large oak tree recently downed by winds along with several dead trees and junipers too large for the volunteers to remove.

After the clearing was finished, everyone returned to the Pavilion for a lunch of brats and hot dogs, potato chips, cookies, and drinks. Bartlett Tree Experts distributed free tree seedlings to any one wanting them. This is the third year Bartlett has brought tree seedlings.

The Sun City Texas Firewise Group thanks everyone who participated. The clearing of the juniper not only helped reduce the wildfire and flooding hazard along Berry Creek Trail, but also reduced the need for staff to do the job.



Special guests were Jeffrey Bureman (USAA), Kari Hines (TFS), Nick Harrison (TFS), and Rob Galbraith (USAA). Thank you for your help!

The 2017 Wildfire Preparedness Day is tentatively scheduled for Friday, May 5, 2017. Mark your calendar and plan to help next year!



The groups worked on 2 different areas along Berry Creek Trail clearing about 10 acres.



Volunteers look through grass for the small junipers that just started growing!



Safety is always a consideration and volunteers and staff monitored the activity.



The Georgetown Fire Department Wildland Team practiced by removing a downed oak tree plus other dead trees and juniper trees.



Staff and volunteers confer to see if they found all the junipers. It's doubtful since the small junipers like to hide in the grass!

Thank you to our sponsors:

Bartlett Tree Experts
Brightview Landscaping
TCB Quality Landscaping



After working everyone enjoyed a lunch of brats and hot dogs, potato chips, cookies, and drinks. They also relaxed and visited.