

# FIREWISE TRUMPET



**Sun City Texas**  
**Firewise Group**

Sun City Texas Community Association

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## In This Issue:

### Firewise Town Hall October 4!

September-October Calendar

Firewise Group Notes

Home Ignition Zone (HIZ) Numbers

Firewise Volunteer Clearing Crew

Ask An Expert Firewise Virtual Workshop Series

The New Firewise Display is Here!

## USAA Insurance and Firewise USA Cooperate

### Firewise Town Hall October 4, 9:30 am

The Sun City Texas Firewise program is in it's eight year. When it began, there were about 700 Firewise communities in the USA. Today there is over 1300. There was concern about the dangers of wildfire and its possible effect on Sun City Texas. Firewise has evolved both in Sun City Texas and the nation. It is now going international. SCT is evolving into a showcase for how Firewise concepts can be applied to a wildland/urban environment like our's.

A major development has been the cooperation between Firewise USA and USAA insurance to define and justify a reduction in homeowner's insurance premium. In fact, USAA visited Sun City Texas as they were researching the outcomes attributed to wildfire losses when Firewise concepts were applied to communities.

Firewise USA representatives and Rob Galbraith, Director of Property Underwriting at USAA will be attending our Town Hall.

Firewise USA has been invited to provide an update of the current Firewise program.

Rob will be discussing USAA's research showing that Firewise measurably reduces the risk of loss due to a wildfire event and what USAA is doing to promote their Firewise discount. He will also discuss the importance of Ready, Set, Go – having a plan for you and your family to evacuate in case of a wildfire,

## September Calendar

September 15, Education Work Group, 10 am, MR 1

September 15, Understanding Insurance in the Wildland Urban Interface, 1 pm, MR 1

September 28, Firewise Group, 1 pm, MR 3-4

## October Calendar

October 4, Firewise Town Hall, 9:30 am, SCB

October 11, 12 pm, (no room available)

*Community Risk Reduction Success Stories*  
Virtual Workshop

October 15, Education Work Group, 10 am, MR 1

October 21, Understanding Insurance in the Wildland Urban Interface, 1 pm, MR 1

October 26, Firewise Group, 1 pm, MR 3-4

preparing a "go" bag with critical items you'll want to take with you, and knowing where to go when local authorities put an evacuation order in place.

Additional speakers will be Nick Harrison, Texas A&M Forest Service and Chief John Sullivan, Georgetown Fire Department. The Georgetown Fire Department will have equipment on hand if available.

The SCT Firewise Group will wrap up this informative session with a brief recap of the SCT updates and activities.

Come early and stay after to enjoy conversations with our visitors, coffee and donuts.

## Our Partners



Click logo for information

## Firewise Group Leadership

Chair - Tom Kisinger

Vice-Chair - Ron Thompson

Secretary - Fred Hill

Education Coordinator - Dan Dodson

Training Coordinator - Paul Ohlenbusch

## Firewise Group Notes

The Firewise Group met August 24 with 12 members, 1 guest, and the P&G Liason. The HIZ Evaluation numbers were reviewed (see HIZ Numbers).

The new displays, 'Being Firewise Around Your Home' and 'What is Firewise?' have been finished. They were used for the August New Residents Orientation. A new publication was added to the display, 'What is Firewise?'

The Firewise Town Hall, October 4, will include speakers from USAA, Firewise USA, Texas A&M Forest Service, Georgetown Fire Department, and Sun City Firewise. (See Page 1 for details.)

Work continues on a revised HIZ Report form that will be in Word and Adobe Reader form filler.

The next meeting will be August 24, 1 pm, AC 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!**

## Firewise Volunteer Clearing Crew

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

### Home Ignition Zone (HIZ) Numbers

The HIZ completion status:

Month ending	8/1	9/1
Received	794	796
Completed	794	794
New requests	1	2
Open	0	1
On hold	0	1

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

### Firewise Town Hall October 6, 2015 video

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

## Being Firewise Around Your Home

A revised version of *Being Firewise Around Your Home* is available. It has updated information on trimming shrubs, mulches, and more.



[Click icon for copy](#)

## What is Firewise?

A new publication, *What is Firewise?*, is available. It discusses what Sun City Firewise Group is doing to reduce the potential for homes to ignite from embers falling from wildfires and house fires.



## Ask An Expert Firewise Virtual Workshop Series

September 15, Understanding Insurance in the Wildland Urban Interface, 1 pm, MR 1

*Carole Walker, Executive Director, Rocky Mountain Insurance Information Association*

Homeowner's insurance policies for residences located in wildfire prone areas are often misunderstood by the policy holder. Discover what insurance companies know about your property, how they make policy related decisions and most importantly how to ensure your policy is all you think it is when a wildfire strikes. Participating in this hour-long session is a must for homeowners and all other wildfire stakeholders.

October 11, 12 pm, (no room available)  
*Community Risk Reduction Success Stories*

November 9, 2 pm, Jarrel-Wallburg, CCAC  
*Wildland Urban Legends*

## Previous Ask An Expert Virtual Workshop Series

*Get to Know the Home Ignition Zone* August 16

Gary Marshal, NFPA Wildfire Field Rep

A discussion of the revised three distinct areas surrounding structures within a home ignition zone and identify how mitigation and maintenance in each section plays a distinct role in improving survivability during a wildfire. ([click for video](#))

*Power of Embers* July 27

Steve Quarles, PH.D., IBHS Research Center

Learn about the impacts embers are capable of and the little things around the home that are vulnerable. ([click for video](#))

There will be 4 more virtual workshops. Rooms have been scheduled for most.

Additional information will be provided each month.

## The New Firewise Display is Here!



The new display was used at the New Resident's Orientation on August 18! It will be at the Town Hall as well!