

What is Firewise?

It's ALL About the **EMBERS!**

The goal of the Firewise Group is to maintain Sun City Texas as a Recognized FIREWISE Community to protect people, property and natural resources from wildfires **BEFORE THEY START!**

Sun City is in a **Wildland Urban Interface (WUI)** zone. The WUI is a zone where human developments and improvements meet and intermix with wildland fuels. The intermingling of homes and wildland fuels is a volatile mix and under the right conditions can have catastrophic results.

Firewise works with **RESIDENTS** to maintain their property based on Firewise principles and concepts.

Within Sun City, we work with:
 Property & Grounds Committee
 Wildlife Management Committee
 CA Staff
 and the

**Active Participation of Sun City
 Residents**

The Firewise Group:

- Educates residents about dangers from wildfires.
- Informs residents of steps they may take to reduce potential for loss.
- Works with the CA Staff to reduce the potential spread of wildfire in common areas.
- Stays abreast of latest information about wildfires, their effects on structures, and ways to reduce risks.

Our Work Areas

The Sun City Texas Firewise Group has four work areas. The Coordinators of each group provide updates at the monthly Firewise Group meetings.

Our Programs

Home Ignition Zone Training

Home Ignition Zone (HIZ) Training is provided for those who volunteer to conduct HIZ Evaluations requested by residents. It involves 3 hours of classroom training plus partnering with experienced HIZ Evaluators for 5 evaluations to complete the training. The training is conducted in October each year. Continuing education training is encouraged every 2 years.

Home Ignition Zone Evaluations

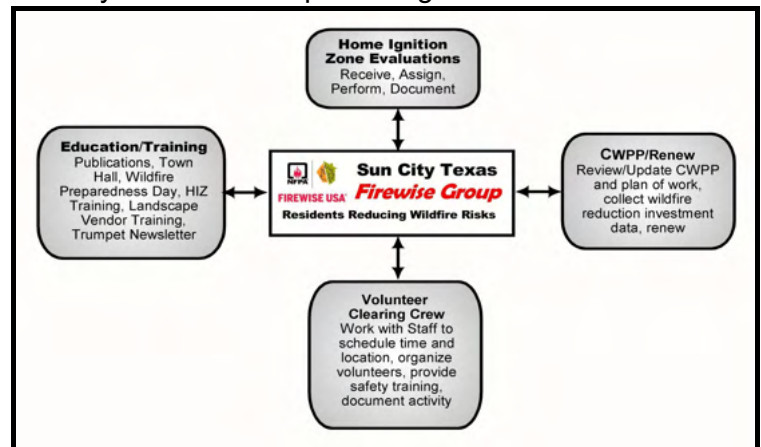
Trained HIZ Evaluators conduct evaluations requested by homeowners. The results are confidential and only the homeowner and Evaluators know the results.

Firewise Volunteer Clearing Crew

The Firewise Volunteer Clearing Crew is a valuable part of maintaining the common areas. Weather permitting, they work about 2 hours each week clearing the mowed fuel breaks behind houses with CA Staff. This reduces the cost of maintenance for the community.

Landscape Vendor Training

In late January each year we offer Firewise training to landscape vendors to improve their service to residents. We encourage you to use those who have completed the training in the last 3 years. A vendor list is on the Firewise web site and at the monitor Desks.



The Firewise Volunteer Clearing Crew removing small Ashe junipers (cedars).

Community Wildfire Protection Plan/Renewing as a Recognized Firewise Community

A Community Wildfire Preparedness Plan (CWPP) is a written document, mutually agreed upon by local, state and federal representatives, and stakeholders that identifies how the community will reduce its risks from wildland fire. It is used to develop the annual plan of work as part of the annual renewal information.

Firewise USA requires us to submit our volunteer time and other costs to document what has been done to maintain Sun City Texas as a recognized Firewise site.

- * done annually
- * have CWPP updated if needed
- * conduct a Firewise Day event
- * provide plans for next year
- * document a *Wildfire Risk Reduction Investment* equal to the value of one volunteer hour per dwelling
 - our *Wildfire Risk Reduction Investment* includes:
 - value of volunteer hours
 - value of Homeowner maintenance time or cost
 - value of SCTCA work
 - description of our activities:
 - Firewise Town Hall
 - Wildfire Preparedness Day
 - Firewise Volunteer Clearing Crew
 - other significant events or accomplishments

Volunteers are always welcome!

Interested? Please fill out a form on the Sun City Texas Firewise Site.

Need More Information?

The Firewise Group Website has publications, HIZ Evaluation request form, volunteer form, and more. Please feel free to visit and learn more about us!

Our External Partners



How to reach the Sun City Texas Firewise web site:

go to www.sctexas.org. **Do Not Log In.** Click on "About Us" top center, scroll down on the left and click on Firewise, and then select an item.