

2014 Firewise Recertification Document

December 19, 2014

Prepared by

Sun City Texas Firewise Group



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Firewise is a project of the National Fire Protection Association

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MY FIREWISE COMMUNITIES

PROGRAM CRITERIA

PROGRAM BENEFITS

FIREWISE COMMUNITIES MAP

1,000 SAFER PLACES: THE FIREWISE CHALLENGE

A FIREWISE TOAST

FIREWISE COMMUNITIES LIST

TALKING TO YOUR NEIGHBORS ABOUT FIREWISE

FOR EXISTING FIREWISE COMMUNITIES

STATE LIASION LIST

GRANTS AND FUNDING

USAA PROVIDES POLICYHOLDER DISCOUNTS IN CALIFORNIA

INFOGRAPHIC

Sun City Texas Community Association

Georgetown, TX Williamson County County

Community Information

Main Contact: Jim Romine [Email afire to inform them of a change](#)
Forestry Contact:
Community Fire Chief:
2014 Resident Count: 12430
2014 Investment: \$4,844,000.00

Annual Renewal

Your community has been renewed for 2014.

Events

Date	Attendee Count	Name	Location	Files	
8/13/2009	75	Firewise Day	Georgetown, TX	Files	Edit Delete
6/9/2010	100	Firewise Day	Social Center Ballroom, Sun City Texas	Files	Edit Delete
10/20/2011	427	Firewise Day	Sun City Ballroom	Files	Edit Delete
10/20/2011	427	Firewise Day	Sun City Ballroom	Files	Edit Delete
10/9/2012	95	Firewise Day	Sun City Ballroom	Files	Edit Delete
10/9/2013	80	Firewise Town Hall	Sun City Texas Ballroom	Files	Edit Delete
5/3/2014	72	Wildfire Preparedness Day	Sun City Texas Ballroom	Files	Edit Delete

Date of Event:

Name of Event:

Location of Event:

Description of Event:

Number of Attendees:

Your event has been created successfully.

More Firewise around the Web: [facebook](#)



USAA

Description of Sun City

Sun City Texas, a Pulte/Del Webb development, is located within the Georgetown, Texas city limits, 5.5 miles from Interstate 35 on Williams Drive. Sun City Texas is an urban community with wild land vegetation (juniper, hardwood, and native grasses) in the parks, open spaces and adjacent properties. Originally, Sun City Texas was to have 7,500 homes on 4,100 acres of which approximately 800 acres are common area. The Developer announced the expansion of Sun City to approximately 10,000 houses on about 5,300 acres beginning in 2015.

As of December 1, 2014, there are 6,096 homes with a Sun City population of 12,430 residents. Sun City is presently the largest Home Owners Association as a Certified Firewise Community in Texas.

The Sun City Texas Community Association (CA) is responsible for the management of all non-residential property. CA documents define a set of four maintenance levels. Included in these levels are federally defined protection areas for karst formations (including underground caves) for endangered species. The CA also owns and maintains three golf courses.

There are two creeks, Berry and Cowan, which had hardwood and cedar trees in the flood plain. The presence of Ashe juniper (cedar) trees, an invasive native, posed a fire hazard from the trees themselves and acted as an accumulation point for debris during periods of creek floods. Since the 2010 flooding event approximately 8.5 miles of flood plain have been cleared.

Ashe juniper and other invasive species are fire hazards in many of the common areas. Fuel breaks have been established in two heavy concentrations that posed a significant wildfire threat. Additional areas are being managed to remove Ashe juniper and other invasive species.

Sun City has 726 Landscaped Maintained Homes (LMH) managed by the CA. The lawns, beds, and trees are maintained under a vendor contract with the CA. The CA Staff and the Landscaped Maintained Homes Committee apply the Firewise Home Ignition Zone principles to LMH properties.

All other residential properties depend on individual property owners for the implementation of the Home Ignition Zone principles. Homeowner education is the key to providing information to community residents concerning the dangers from wildfires and to encourage the management of defensible spaces around their homes. Home Ignition Zone Assessments (HIZA) are available through approximately 50 trained evaluators when requested.

The Sun City Texas Firewise Group is a subcommittee of the Sun City Texas Emergency Management Committee.

The Firewise Group assigns specific tasks to the following program groups:

- ! Education Work Group
- ! Home Ignition Zone Assessment Work Group
- ! Community Wildfire Protection and Re-certification Process Program Work Group
- ! Firewise Clearing Team

The Firewise Group hosts an annual community wide Firewise Town Hall and a display is used at the quarterly New Residents Orientation Town Hall. Presentations are also made at community events such as special town halls, community events, and clubs meetings. Since Sun City is divided into neighborhoods, participation in neighborhood meetings provides the Firewise Group face-to-face contact with the residents. The monthly CA magazine *Sun Rays*, the weekly CA Communicator e-mails, and special e-mails are used to communicate additional information about Firewise and about high fire danger situations that occur in our continuing periods of severe drought.

The Firewise Group maintains a trained core team of 50-60 Home Ignition Zone evaluators to conduct Home Ignition Zone Assessments. These individuals not only conduct assessments as requested by residents but also become neighborhood sources for Firewise information.

The Firewise Group works with the CA, the Property and Grounds Committee, the Wildlife Management Committee, Modifications Committee, and the Golf Committee to reduce the potential for wildfires in the CA owned common areas. The volunteer Firewise Clearing Crew meets weekly (weather and Staff availability permitting). Working with the CA Landscaping staff, the Firewise Clearing Crew removes small Ashe junipers and vines in common areas that could become ladder fuels in a wildfire.

Partner Groups

Texas A&M Forest Service

This has been an excellent year working with the Texas A&M Forest Service (TFS). In August we attended the RC&D Firewise Workshop co-hosted by TFS, Texas Association of RC&D, USDA NRCS, and the State Fireman's & Fire Marshals' Association of Texas. We presented at one of the breakout sessions and in the wrap-up panel discussion.

Georgetown Fire Department

The Firewise Group partnered with the Georgetown Fire Department (GFD) in the annual Firewise Community Town Hall in April. GFD demonstrated how the Firewise effort helps them if a wildfire were to occur within Sun City. Members of the Department also interacted with residents by exhibiting structure and wildlands gear, other support equipment, and the Engine and Brush Truck housed in Sun City Texas.

Sun City Community Association Advisory Committees

Property and Grounds Committee (P&G)

The Firewise Group continues to work with P&G. Firewise provided a review of progress and proposed activities and provided advice on the management of common areas. P&G provides a liaison to the Firewise Group meetings.

Wildlife Management Committee (WMC)

The Firewise Group continues to work with WMC to improve wildlife habitat while meeting the goal of reducing the wildfire potential. Removing the Ashe juniper (cedar) has changed the habits of the deer and turkey populations. Deer are now using the creeks and golf courses as travel ways to neighborhoods and the landscape materials. The turkey population has increased, possibly, as a result of opening many trees as roosting habitat. Also, the turkeys use the yards of many residences as food sources. WMC provides a liaison to the Firewise Group meetings.

Modifications Committee (MC)

The Firewise Group worked with the MC to develop a recommended plant list for use in their function to approve landscape plans for new residents and revised plans for existing landscapes. The list will be updated as needed and made available to residents.

Sun City Staff

The Firewise Group works with the CA Landscaping Staff by advising on routine maintenance situations where a potential wildfire hazard exists. Participation in the walking tours of new neighborhoods prior to the developer turning the common areas over to the CA is important. This process insures the developer has mitigated any wildfire hazards and removed any debris resulting from construction.

The Firewise Group works with the Water Management Staff by advising on the clearing and maintenance of all native common areas. A meeting with interested residents, staff, and Firewise is often held in the work area to provide the rationale for the work. By involving the residents in the process, modifications to the clearing can be planned to maintain privacy desires and similar requests before the work begins.

2014 Accomplishments

Table 1 contains the volunteer time and Community Association contributions for the calendar year.

A management document is being developed with Property & Grounds and CA Staff for managing the open areas of Sun City to maintain the reduced potential for wildfire and flood risks. The primary goal is to maintain a balance between the hazards and the effects on vegetation while maintaining or enhancing wildlife habitat.

Projects were identified by Firewise leadership who has many years of experience in land management and the fire service. During the first half of the year, the Firewise Volunteer Clearing Crew, supported by the CA staff, assembled weekly to remove small Ashe Junipers and ladder fuel in the common areas. The Firewise Volunteer Clearing Crew and CA Staff and equipment have reduced the fire threat on approximately 200 acres to date.

Sun City Texas Firewise and Firewise publications continue to be distributed in the Welcome Packets given to each new resident. The publications are also available at all Firewise presentations and events. Firewise information is also presented in the Sun City Resource Guide (directory) which is distributed to all residents.

Three articles about Firewise were published in the monthly *Sun Rays* resident magazine. Additional information items about Firewise and fire dangers were produced for the weekly CA Communicator e-mails. The Firewise USA publication "How to Have a Firewise Home" continues to be distributed to all residents.

Wildfire Preparedness Day

Wildfire Preparedness Day was held on May 3 with 65 volunteers and 7 Staff members. Two common areas that had Ashe juniper removed 2-3 years earlier were targeted. The volunteers were divided into 2 groups. Using hand tools only, they cleared about 4 acres. The CA prepared brats and hot dogs, chips, and drinks for lunch. A State Farm Grant of \$500 State Farm Insurance and Firewise USA helped cover the expenses. Additional funding was by donations from Bartlett Tree Experts, TCB Landscaping, and Valley Crest Landscaping. Bartlett Tree Experts also provided 100 tree seedlings for residents as part of their new nation wide program. All the support is appreciated.

NFPA's "Backyard & Beyond" Conference

Sun City Firewise has submitted a proposed presentation entitled *Tailoring the Firewise Concepts to Your Community* for the 2015 Backyards & Beyond Conference in October 22-24, 2015, in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina.

Table 1. The 2014 hours and costs contributed by volunteers, homeowners, and CA.

<u>item</u>	<u>number</u>	<u>units</u>	<u>value</u>	<u>total</u>
Volunteers				
Firewise volunteers	2,094.5	hours	\$47,230.98	
Home Ignition Zone Assessments	56.0	hours	1,264.00	
Volunteer Clearing Crew	208.0	hours	4,690.40	
Subtotal-Volunteer Contribution	2,359	hours		\$53,185.38
Landscape Maintained Homes (726 houses) ¹				\$463,919.00
Community Association				
Creek Clearing Crew ¹			\$80,640.00	
Staff Work ¹			17,682.00	
Golf			400.00	
Contractor Work ¹			37,000.00	
Subtotal-Community Association Contribution				\$135,722.00
Resident contribution (prorated) houses				
Paid to vendor			\$1,357,540.00	
Own care			2,833,633.00	
Subtotal-Resident Contribution				\$4,191,173.00
Total contribution				\$4,843,999.38

¹ Values represent amount spent for Firewise remediation only.

Firewise Town Hall

The Annual Firewise Town Hall was held April 20 with Texas A&M Forest Service and Georgetown Fire Department. Attendance was low with about 80 people plus the TV live audience over Channel 79. See Georgetown Fire Department for more information.

Media Coverage

The CA Communications Department publishes a monthly magazine *Sun Rays* distributed to all residents. Information about the SCT Firewise program was included in 6 of the 12 editions this year. The Communications Department also designed and produced a 4x6 inch information card given to residents to encourage participation in the Home Ignition Zone Assessment program.

New Residents Orientation Town Hall

The SCT Community Association conducts a quarterly New Residents Orientation to acquaint the newcomers to the many activities offered in Sun City Texas. The Firewise Group participates in activities held at the orientation providing information about wildfires and the hazards that a resident might experience. Residents are given information about using appropriate landscape plants and continued landscape maintenance to reduce hazards. They are also given the opportunity to request a free Home Ignition Zone Assessment on their home.

Training Program

Home Ignition Zone Assessment The Firewise Group held two training sessions. The May 17 session included 2 new evaluators and 6 evaluators for a continuing education. The October 29 session included 4 new evaluators, 10 evaluators for a continuing education, and 2 individuals from the Bexar County, Texas Master Gardeners.

Landscape Companies Training The Firewise Group held the annual landscape training session on January 17. The session included 12 companies with 18 individuals. Companies are now required to have continuing education every three years.

Texas Firewise Workshop

Sun City Firewise was invited to present a session at the Texas Firewise Workshop in Schertz co-hosted by TFS, Texas Association of RC&D, USDA NRCS, and the State Fireman's & Fire Marshals' Association of Texas. We presented at one of the breakout sessions and in the wrap-up panel discussion. . The presentation was entitled *How Sun City Does Firewise: A Community Perspective*.

2015 Plans

- Develop recertification materials for 2015.
- Distribute Firewise information to residents.
- Conduct the Firewise Town Hall on October 6, 2015.
- Continue training for the Home Ignition Zone Assessment Program with sessions on April 15 and October 29.
- Conduct a landscape company training event on January 30.
- Provide Firewise information at neighborhood, clubs, and community wide gatherings.
- Continue working with the CA Property and Grounds, Wildlife Management, Golf, and Modifications Committees integrating Firewise practices into the community
- Hold a Wildfire Community Preparedness Day, May 2.
- Work to promote National Fire Protection Week with Georgetown Fire Department.

Appendix A

May 3, 2014 Wildfire Preparedness Day

Grant Notification Letter

May 3 Report



March 24, 2014

Jim Romine
Sun City Texas Community Association
145 Comanche Trail
Georgetown, TX 78633

Dear Jim,

On behalf of the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) and State Farm, we are pleased to announce that the **Sun City Texas Community Association's** Community Preparedness Day project is the **recipient of a \$500 project award!** Funding for the May 3 projects was generously provided by State Farm.

Response to the inaugural national Wildfire Community Preparedness Day has been phenomenal and we're excited about sharing project award recipient's success stories in our Fire Break blog, website and news releases. Please take photos of your project and participants and share them with us the following week. Highlighting examples of mitigation actions provides motivation and inspiration and is a great way to mentor other communities.

If you haven't had an opportunity to add your project to the "**Put Your Project on the Map**" function, please consider taking a few minutes to help build a visual representation of the grassroots risk reduction activities taking place throughout the nation on May 3. Entering the information is easy – visit www.WildfirePrepDay.org and scroll to the bottom of the page.

As noted in the email last week, we will work as quickly as possible to process your funding award once the Consent and Release Form is received. **In addition, please note:** if the check is being made payable to a company, organization or agency we'll also need the tax id # (a W9 form is attached); if the payee is an individual, a social security number is needed. This funding award does not meet tax reporting requirements since it's less than \$600, but NFPA's accounts payable system does require either a tax id# or social security number prior to processing payment. Forms/information can be sent via email to: cprudhomme@nfpa.org or by phone to 303-736-8461. If you prefer to fax it – send it to 617-984-7056 to the attention of Linda Coyle.

Sincerely,

Cathy
Cathy Prudhomme
Associate Project Mgr - Wildland Fire Operations Division, NFPA
(O) 303-736-8461
6855 South Havana Street, Suite 180 Centennial, CO 80112



Sun City Texas Wildfire Preparedness Day May 3, 2014



Wildfire Preparedness day had 72 residents and staff enjoy removing juniper (cedar) from two areas in Sun City Texas. They started with donuts and coffee and a safety orientation. Two groups were formed and walked to do justice to the junipers. They returned to a lunch of hot dogs, brats, chips, cookies and donuts with drinks. Everyone involved also received a Sun City Firewise Group cap. Door prizes were also given to four individuals.

Costs of the event were offset by a \$500 grant from Firewise USA and State Farm Insurance. Additional funding was by donations from Bartlett Tree Experts, TCB Landscaping, and Valley Crest Landscaping. Bartlett Tree Experts also provided 100 tree seedlings for residents as part of their new nation wide program.



The Red Group that cleared behind the Village Center area.



The Blue Group that cleared the Preserve Area on Hills of Texas.



Firewise Greeters worked the registration table.



Volunteers listen to the safety presentation before going out to cut junipers.



Jim Whittaker, Firewise Group Chair, moves on to another juniper.

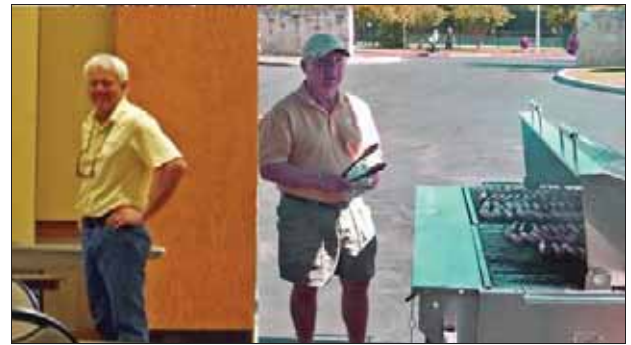


The cap supplied by the Sun City Texas Community Association.



Volunteers work under trees to remove junipers.

THANK YOU STATE FARM!



Our Food and Beverage Committee - Jim Romine, Executive Director, on the left and David Hahn, Director of Facilities. **Thank you!!!!**



And another juniper bites the dust!!!!!!



Volunteers limp up a juniper to reduce the fire hazard.



Catrin Dubois, Landscape Supervisor, and another staff member monitor the volunteers.

Photos by Wes Odell

Appendix B
2014 Firewise Trumpet

firewise trumpet



Volume 1

February 2014

Number 1

In Memory

Roger Tripp, one of the first HIZA Evaluators passed away January 20. Roger conducted 53 HIZA reviews out of 54 houses in Neighborhood 27.

Firewise Group Update

The Firewise Group met January 22. Items discussed included the April 30 Firewise Town Hall and May 3 Wildfire Preparedness Day. Details of both will be available at the February meeting. See details below. The full list is attached.

Annual recertification documents were filed in December. Results will be known by March. See the CWPP/Recertification report section.

Next meeting—February 26.

HIZA Work Group

The HIZA Work Group met January 8 with 12 Evaluators present. The HIZA completion status was:

Received to date 650
Completed..... 633
Open 14
On hold 3

The HIZA Archive has archived 404 to date.

Several upcoming dates of interest were discussed (see Calendar). The next HIZA Training will be May 17. Aggie Galdwin has used an email to encourage residents in her neighborhood to become involved in Firewise and have a HIZA done. If you are interested contact Aggie.

CWPP/Recertification Work Group

Completed and submitted the 2013 recertification material to Firewise USA and Texas A&M Forest Service. The total volunteer time was 5,096 hours. The Firewise Volunteer Clearing Crew contributed 3,190 hours to the total. Sun City reported a total credit of \$5,152,072 to cover the \$2 credit per resident required!

Firewise Volunteer Clearing Work Group

The Firewise Volunteer Clearing Crew will resume weekly work days in February. An email will be sent to announce the date, time, and place.

Education Work Group

The Education Work Group will meet February 20 at 10 am in Meeting Room 1 of the Activities Center. Planning and preparation for the April 30 Town Hall and May 3 National Community Wildfire Preparedness Day event will be discussed and materials planned.

Training Events

January 17 Landscape Design and Maintenance
9 companies with 13 people

17 companies have been trained since 2011.

Full list to be posted at Monitors Desks and online. The full list is attached.

The **Sun City Wildfire Preparedness Day** on May 3 will be part of Firewise USA Wildfire Community Preparedness Day 2014. Firewise has initiated this first ever day to bring attention to the need to prepare for wild fire. More information to come.

Calendar

February 12, 9 am, CCAC - HIZA Work Group

February 20, 10am, AC R1 - Education Work Group

February 26, 1 pm, AC R3-4 - Firewise Group

March 18, 'Managing Urban Natural Areas in Today's Environment', at Nature Club, 2:30 pm, SC Ball Room

March 31, Wildlife Management Town Hall, 9:30 am, SC Ball Room

April 2, EMC Town Hall, 9:30 am, SC Ball Room

April 30, Firewise Town Hall, 9:30 am, SC Ball Room

May 3, Sun City Wildfire Preparedness Day

May 17, HIZA Training, 9 am - 3:30 pm

**2014 Firewise Landscape Design and Maintenance
Trained Companies**



company	design	install	landscape maintenance	tree maintenance	expires
Aabear Tree Care				X	2016
Austin Land Service				X	2015
Bartlett Tree Experts				X	2017
Big Country Tree Experts				X	2016
Bravo Curb Appeal LLC	X	X	X	X	2017
Brents Tree Service				X	2017
Certified Arbor Care				X	2017
GF Enterprises	X	X	X	X	2017
Green Tree & Shrub Care				X	2015
Ground Groomers	X	X	X		2015
ISS Grounds Control Inc.	X	X	X	X	2016
JC's Professional Tree				X	2017
Native Land Design	X	X	X	X	2016
TCB Landscaping	X	X	X		2017
Russell Glass Company	X	X			2015
Valley Crest Landscape	X	X	X	X	2017
Z's Landscape & Lawn Co	X	X	X		2017

Contact Information:

Aabear Tree Care	512-864-9898	Ground Groomers	512-746-2720
Austin Land Service	512-260-1576	ISS Grounds Control Inc.	512-845-3303
Bartlett Tree Experts	512-310-7545	JC's Professional Tree	512-350-8681
Big Country Tree Experts	512-983-2200	Native Land Design	512-918-2270
Bravo Curb Appeal LLC	512-573-6670	Russell Glass Company	512-863-4527
Brents Tree Service	512-310-8789	TCB Landscaping	512-864-2722
Certified Arbor Care	512-671-8733	Valley Crest Landscape	512-373-2567
GF Enterprises	254-554-1226	Z's Landscape & Lawn Co	512-639-8646
Green Tree & Shrub Care	512-504-3697		

firewise trumpet



Volume 1

March 2014

Number 2

Grass Fire Behind Walgreens

On February 20 about 4:00 pm, a grass fire occurred in the grass area between Walgreens and the concrete fence along N12. The Georgetown Fire Department controlled the fire quickly. The fuel break along the concrete fence performed well stopping the fire. See photos on page 2.

Firewise Group Update

The Firewise Group met February 26. Items discussed included the April 30 Firewise Town Hall and May 3 Wildfire Preparedness Day. Details of both will be available at the March meeting. See current details below.

HIZA Training and Refresher will be Saturday, May 17. More information to come.

Election of officers

Chair - Jim Whittaker

Vice-Chair - Barry Harding

Secretary - Roger Dennen

Next meeting—March 26, 1 pm, MR1-2.

HIZA Work Group

The HIZA Work Group met February 12 with Evaluators present. The HIZA completion status was:

Received to date 652

Completed..... 636

Open 13

On hold 3

The HIZA Archive has archived 405 to date.

Several upcoming dates of interest were discussed (see Calendar). The next HIZA Training will be Saturday, May 17. The hours are 9:00 am to 3:30 pm.

Firewise Volunteer Clearing Work Group

The Firewise Volunteer Clearing Crew is meeting on Friday mornings weather permitting. Emails from Catrin Dubois will announce the time and place.

CWPP/Recertification Work Group

The Group continues to compile data for the 2014 recertification process.

Education Work Group

The Education Work Group will meet March 20 at 10 am in Meeting Room 1 of the Activities Center to continue planning and preparation for the April 30 Town Hall and May 3 National Community Wildfire Preparedness Day event planned. See items below for current plans.

The **Firewise Town Hall** will be Wednesday, April 30 at 9:30 am in the Sun City Ball Room. Texas A&M Forest Service and Georgetown Fire Department have been invited to participate. More details to come.

The **Sun City Wildfire Preparedness Day** on May 3 will be part of Firewise USA Wildfire Community Preparedness Day 2014. Firewise has initiated this first ever day to bring attention to the need to prepare for wild fire. Sun City will have our own! It will start at 9:30 am in the Ball Room with a safety and education session. Then the residents will be assigned to groups to remove junipers (cedars) from selected areas. When the residents return they will have a hot dog lunch.

More details to follow.

Calendar

March 12, 9 am, CCAC - HIZA Work Group

March 20, 10am, AC R1 - Education Work Group

March 26, 1 pm, AC R3-4 - Firewise Group

March 18, 'Managing Urban Natural Areas in Today's Environment', at Nature Club, 2:30 pm, SC Ball Room

March 31, Wildlife Management Town Hall, 9:30 am, SC Ball Room

April 2, EMC Town Hall, 9:30 am, SC Ball Room

April 30, Firewise Town Hall, 9:30 am, SC Ball Room

May 3, Sun City Wildfire Preparedness Day

February 20 Wildfire

On Thursday afternoon, February 20, a wildfire occurred behind Walgreens. Thanks to the quick response of the Georgetown Fire Department (GFD), the fire was under control quickly. As a result of their quick action and a fuel break next to the fence behind Neighborhood 12, no homes were damaged. These photos show the results.



A view of the wildfire area from the Williams Drive side with GFD crew at work.



GFD quickly controlled the fire.



The probable source of the wildfire. The scrap lumber has been here since before 2008 based on Google Earth imagery.



The fuel break stopped the fire and GFD made sure it was out.



The Ashe juniper (cedar) did not burn as many expect but at least the lower part will turn brown shortly from the heat.



Apparently some of the Sun City residents have been throwing their yard waste over the fence. This creates a fire hazard right at their own backyard!

Please Promote the
Home Ignition Zone Assessment
in your neighborhood!
You may use the information in this
newsletter.

firewise trumpet



Volume 1

March 2014

Number 3

Firewise/State Farm Grant

The Firewise/State Farm Insurance grant is **OURS!** The funds, plus donations from some companies, will help pay for some of the costs of the Sun City Wildfire Preparedness Day on May 3. Final plans are in progress.

2014 Firewise Certification Received

Sun City received its 2014 certification again! This is our sixth year as a Certified Firewise Community!

Firewise Group Update

The Firewise Group met March 26. Items discussed included the April 30 Firewise Town Hall and May 3 Wildfire Preparedness Day. Details of both will be available at the March meeting.

Next meeting - April 23, 1 pm, MR1-2.

HIZA Work Group

The HIZA Work Group met March 12 with The HIZA completion status was:

Received to date.....	666
Completed	636
Open.....	27
On hold	3

The HIZA Archive has archived 405 to date.

Upcoming dates were discussed (see Calendar). The next HIZA Training will be Saturday, May 17. The hours are 9:00 am to 3:30 pm.

Firewise Volunteer Clearing Work Group

The Firewise Volunteer Clearing Crew is meeting on Friday mornings weather permitting. Emails from Catrin Dubois will announce the time and place. We thank them for work!

CWPP/Recertification Work Group

2014 Certification was received March 25.

Calendar

- April 2, EMC Town Hall, 9:30 am, SC Ball Room
- April 9, HIZA Work Group, 9 am, Cowan Creek Amenity Center
- April 17, Education Work Group, AC MR1
- April 23, Firewise Group Meeting, AC MR 3-4
- April 30, Firewise Town Hall, 9:30 am, SC Ball Room
- May 3, Sun City Wildfire Preparedness Day
- May 17, HIZA Training, 9 am - 3:30 pm

Education Work Group

The Education Work Group met March 20 to plan and prepare May 3 National Community Wildfire Preparedness Day event. Items discussed included food and beverage needs, volunteer required, sites to be used, caps, and door prizes. The final planning meeting is April 17 at 10 am in Meeting Room 1, Activities Center. It will include final planning for the April 30 Town Hall.

The **Firewise Town Hall** will be Wednesday, April 30 at 9:30 am in the Sun City Ball Room. Texas A&M Forest Service and Georgetown Fire Department have been invited to participate. More details to come.

The **Sun City Wildfire Preparedness Day** on May 3 will be part of Firewise USA Wildfire Community Preparedness Day 2014. Firewise has initiated this first ever day to bring attention to the need to prepare for wild fire. It will start at 9:30 am in the Ball Room with a safety and education session. Residents will be assigned to groups to remove junipers (cedars) from selected areas. When the residents return they will have a hot dog lunch. Door prizes are planned. More details to follow.

Grass Fire Behind Walgreens - Update

On February 20 about 4:00 pm, a grass fire occurred in the grass area between Walgreens and the concrete fence along N12. The Georgetown Fire Department controlled the fire quickly. The fuel break along the concrete fence performed well stopping the fire.

UPDATE

The photos below show what has happened in the 30 days following the fire. Vegetation is greening and the juniper trees haven't changed much!



This is the same juniper shown in the last issue. Note the green plants growing.



This view along the concrete fence has good growth after the fire.

More Fires in Sun City

House Fire - On March 8, a house on Salado Creek Lane in N50 was struck by lightning. The resulting fire did major damage. The homeowner's T-Bird was saved! However, repairs are estimated to take 4-6 months.

Yard fire - A yard fire occurred in late March during lawn maintenance. About 100 square feet of lawn burned and at least one shrub was scorched. The fire was put out quickly.

Please be careful with the lawns still dormant and the weather dry!



This house on Salado Creek Lane was struck by lightning. The Georgetown Fire Department was able to contain the fire.

Please Promote the Home Ignition Zone Assessment in your neighborhood!

You may use the information in this newsletter to promote Firewise and its goals!

Please promote the May 3 Sun City Wildfire Preparedness Day in your neighborhood! It is a chance to have folks help reduce their dues if volunteers can remove small junipers rather than the CA Staff after they get bigger!

firewise trumpet



Volume 1

April 2014

Number 4

Firewise Group Update

The Firewise Group met April 23. Items discussed included the April 30 Town Hall. Discussion of the Firewise Town Hall and May 3 Wildfire Preparedness Day. Both are on track and will need volunteers. Calls for volunteers will be sent soon. Next meeting - May 15, 1 pm, MR3-4.

Home Ignition Zone Assessment (HIZA) Work Group Update

The HIZA Work Group met March 12 with The HIZA completion status was:

Received to date.....	671
Completed	640
Open.....	29
On hold	2

The HIZA Archive has archived 407 to date.

Upcoming dates were discussed (see Calendar). The next HIZA Training will be Saturday, May 17. The hours are 9:00 am to 3:30 pm.

Firewise Volunteer Clearing Work Group Update

The Firewise Volunteer Clearing Crew is on hold as the CA Staff has a heavy work load due to the high winds during April.

Community Wildfire Preparedness Plan/Recertification (CWPP) Work Group Update

Compiling of data and materials for recertification continues.

Education Work Group Update

The Education Work Group met April 17 to plan and prepare May 3 National Community Wildfire Preparedness Day event. Items reviewed included food and beverage needs, volunteers required, sites to be used, caps, and door prizes. (continued)

Calendar

- May 14 - HIZA Work Group, 9 am, Cowan Creek Amenity Center
- May 15 - Education Work Group, AC MR1
- May 15 - New Residents Orientation, SCB
- May 15 - Firewise Group Meeting, AC MR 3-4
- May 17 - HIZA Training, 9 am - 3:30 pm

The **Firewise Town Hall** will be Wednesday, April 30 at 9:30 am in Sun City in the Sun City Ball Room. Texas A&M Forest Service and Georgetown Fire Department will participate.

The **Sun City Wildfire Preparedness Day** on May 3 will be part of Firewise USA Wildfire Community Preparedness Day 2014. Firewise has initiated this first ever day to bring attention to the need to prepare for wild fire. It will start at 9:30 am in the Ball Room with a safety and education session. Residents will be assigned to groups to remove junipers (cedars) from selected areas. When the residents return they will have a hot dog lunch. There will be door prizes and Firewise caps.



Thanks to all of the volunteers who helped Sun City be a SAFER place to live!

Grass Fire Behind Walgreens - Update

On February 20 about 4:00 pm, a grass fire occurred in the grass area between Walgreens and the concrete fence along N12. The Georgetown Fire Department controlled the fire quickly. The fuel break along the concrete fence performed well stopping the fire.

UPDATE

The photos below show what has happened in the 3 months following the fire. Vegetation is greening and the juniper trees remain unchanged!



Again, the same juniper shown in the last issue. Plants are green and growing well.

Firewise Town Hall

The Firewise Town Hall was held on April 30. Will Boettner, Wildland Urban Interface Specialist with Texas A&M Forest Service, reviewed the current status of Firewise in Texas and the US. There are over 1,000 certified communities with 65 in Texas which ranks fourth overall. Insurance companies, led by USAA, are considering and requesting the ability of offering insurance discounts for Certified Firewise Communities.

Paul Ohlenbusch, Training Coordinator, reviewed the progress and goals of Sun City's Flood, Wildfire, and Wildlife Management Habitat Program, what has been accomplished, and how the program was developed.

Assistant Chief Jeff Davis of the Georgetown Fire Department thanked Sun City for the work that has been done by Sun City to reduce the potential for a wildfire to ignite houses. It means the fire fighters can use their brush fire gear (about 20 pounds) to fight the

fire. If a house burns they use turnout gear (60pounds) that is hot.

Dan Dodson, Education Coordinator, highlighted the fire vulnerable parts on a Sun City house. He also highlighted the primary things residents can do to improve their home's ability to survive embers falling during a wildfire.

Sun City Wildfire Preparedness Day

Wildfire Preparedness day had about 70 residents and staff enjoy a removing juniper (cedar) from two areas near the Social Center. They started with donuts and coffee and a safety orientation. Two groups were formed and walked to do justice to the juniper. They returned to a lunch of hot dogs, brats, chips, cookies and donuts with drinks. Everyone involved also received a Sun City Firewise Group cap. Door prizes were also given to four individuals.

Costs of the event were offset by a \$500 grant from Firewise USA and State Farm Insurance. Additional funding by donations from Bartlett Tree Experts, TCB Landscaping, and Valley Crest Landscaping. Bartlett Tree Experts also provided 100 tree seedlings for residents as part of their new nation wide program.



Our Food and Beverage Committee - Jim Romine, Executive Director, on the left and David Hahn,

Please Promote the
Home Ignition Zone Assessment in your
neighborhood!

You may use the information in this
newsletter to promote Firewise and its
goals!



Here are some photos from the activities on the Sun City Wildfire Preparedness Day.

Thank you to all the folks who came out and helped remove the small junipers that had grown in the past 3-4 years.

Photos by
Wes Odell



firewise trumpet



Volume 1

May 2014

Number 5

In This Issue:

Calendar
Firewise Group Meeting
Home Ignition Zone Work Group Meeting
Education Work Group Meeting
Community Wildfire Protection Plan/Recertification
Firewise Volunteer Clearing Crew
2015 Calendar
February 20 Wildfire Update

Calendar

June 11, 9 am, CCAC - HIZA Work Group
June 19, 10am, AC R1 - Education Work Group
June 25, 1 pm, AC R3-4 - Firewise Group
October 29, 9am-3:30 pm - HIZA Evaluator Training and Refresher

Firewise Group Update

The Firewise Group met May 28. Items discussed included reports on the April 30 Town Hall, May 3 Wildfire Preparedness Day, and May 17 HIZA Training.

Next meeting - June 25, 1 pm, MR3-4.

Home Ignition Zone Assessment (HIZA) Work Group Update

The HIZA Work Group met March 12 with The HIZA completion status was:

Received to date.....	674
Completed	646
Open.....	26
On hold	2

The HIZA Archive has archived 417 to date.

Upcoming dates were discussed (see Calendar). The next meeting will be June 11 at 9:00 am at the Cowan Creek Amenity Center

Firewise Volunteer Clearing Work Group Update

The Firewise Volunteer Clearing Crew is on hold as the CA Staff has a heavy work load due to the Spring maintenance and recent weather events.

Community Wildfire Preparedness Plan/Recertification (CWPP) Work Group Update

Continuing to compile data and materials for recertification.



This cap was supplied by the Community Association for Firewise Volunteers particularly HIZA Evaluators. Contact Ohlenbusch to get one! (512-639-0973 or ole7734@suddenlink.net)

Please Promote the Home Ignition Zone Assessment in your neighborhood!

You may use the information in this newsletter to promote

2015 Calendar

May 2, 2015 9 am -2 pm – **Sun City Texas 2015 Community Wildfire Preparedness Day** (Cowan Georgetown/Florence)
October 6, 2015, 9:30 am **Annual 2015 Firewise Town Hall** (SC Ballroom)
2nd Wednesday -9:00 – 11:00 am, **Firewise HIZA Work Group** (Jarrell/Walburg or AC MR1-2 or MR 3-4)
3rd Thursday 10:00 am – 12:00 **Firewise Education Work Group** (January - October, AC MR 1)
4th Wednesday 1:00 – 3:00 pm **Firewise Group** (January – October, December 2, AC MR1-2 or MR 3-4)
January 30, 2 pm - **Firewise Landscape Maintenance and Design Training**
April 9 am - 3:30 pm - **HIZA Training**
October 9 am - 3:30 pm - **HIZA Training**



Two new HIZA Evaluators were trained in May! Please welcome Larry Fowler (left) and Don Ballenger.

February 20 Wildfire Update

The area burned in the February 20 wildfire behind Walgreens continues to recover. The juniper that turned brown (see photos below) has not changed but the lower needles should begin to fall off soon. The wildflowers and grasses are recovering. Next year this could be an interesting location for wildflowers!



Junipers will grow in rock xeriscape areas!!!

firewise trumpet



Volume 1

June 2014

Number 6

In This Issue:

- July Calendar
- Home Ignition Zone Work Group
- Education Work Group
- Community Wildfire Protection Plan/Recertification
- Firewise Volunteer Clearing Crew
- Update on February 20 Wildfire

Firewise Group Update

The Firewise Group met June 25. 10 members were present.

Special Firewise Virtual Workshops are available. Both are available to be viewed by any HIZA Evaluators and others. The subjects are:

July 14, 12 pm - Understanding How Embers Ignite Roofs in a Wildland Fire and How to Make Your Roof More Survivable.

August 19, 3 pm - Mulch Combustibility-Choosing the Right Type for your Wildland/Urban Interface Home.

More information on page 2.

Next meeting - July 23, 1 pm, MR3-4.

Home Ignition Zone Assessment (HIZA) Work Group Update

The HIZA Work Group met March 12 with The HIZA completion status was:

Received to date.....	678
Completed	650
Open.....	26
On hold	2

The HIZA Archive has archived 411 to date.

Upcoming dates were discussed (see Calendar). The next meeting will be July 9, 9:00 am at the Cowan Creek Amenity Center

Firewise Volunteer Clearing Work Group Update

The Firewise Volunteer Clearing Crew is on hold for the summer.

Calendar

- July 9, 9 am, CCAC - HIZA Work Group
- July 14, 12 pm, AC MR 3/4 - Understanding How Embers Ignite Roofs in a Wildland Fire and How to Make Your Roof More Survivable interactive webinar
- July 17, 10am, AC R1 - Education Work Group
- July 23, 1 pm, AC R3-4 - Firewise Group

- August 13, 9 am, CCAC - HIZA Work Group
- August 19, 3 pm, CC Jarrell-Walburg Room - Mulch Combustibility-Choosing the Right Type for your Wildland/Urban Interface Home interactive webinar
- August 21, 10am, AC R1 - Education Work Group
- August 27, 1 pm, AC MR3/4 - Firewise Group

Our Partners



Please Promote the Home Ignition Zone Assessment in your neighborhood!

You may use the information in this newsletter to promote Firewise and its goals!

February 20 Wildfire Update

The area burned in the February 20 wildfire behind Walgreens continues to recover. The juniper that turned brown (see photo below) has not changed but the lower needles should begin to fall off soon. The wildflowers and grasses are recovering. Many of the grasses are invasive including Johnsongrass and KR bluestem. Some native grasses such as sideoates grama are present. Broadleaf plants (weeds?) are doing well and spring wildflowers have about finished for the year.



Firewise Virtual Workshop Viewing Information

Arrangements have been made for HIZA Evaluators and others who are interested as follows:

July 14, 12 pm - Understanding How Embers Ignite Roofs in a Wildland Fire and How to Make Your Roof More Survivable at 12 pm in AC MR3/4

August 19 - Mulch Combustibility-Choosing the Right Type for your Wildland/Urban Interface Home; 3 pm in CC Jarrell-Walburg Room.

Dr. Stephen Quarles is the featured presenter and "Ask an Expert" for both the July and August sessions/topics. Steve is a senior scientist with the Insurance Institute for Business & Home Safety where he assists with research on building performance with regard to wildfire and moisture exposures. Prior to joining IBHS, Steve was with the University of California where he addressed durability and in-service performance issues of wood-frame buildings, particularly those subjected to wildfires.



Upright Rosemary (*Rosmarinus officinalis*) is a woody, perennial shrub with a high oil content. While it has a nice aroma and is an excellent herb, it is highly flammable. It should not be planted close to a building, particularly under windows or other opening that could allow fire to enter. Plant at least 5 feet from walls.

Like other flammable plants, rosemary tends to start burning in the dead material inside the plant. Regularly removing leaves and other debris from under and around the plant is best.



This cap was supplied by the Community Association for Firewise Volunteers particularly HIZA Evaluators. They will be available at meetings or by contacting Ohlenbusch to get one! (512-639-0973 or ole7734@suddenlink.net)

firewise trumpet



Volume 1

August 2014

Number 7

In This Issue:

- August Calendar
- Home Ignition Zone Work Group
- Education Work Group
- Community Wildfire Protection Plan/Recertification
- Firewise Volunteer Clearing Crew
- Update on February 20 Wildfire

Firewise Group Update

The Firewise Group met July 23. Seven members were present.

July 15 Firewise Virtual Workshop was discussed. The subjects for August 19 is "Mulch Combustibility-Choosing the Right Type for your Wildland/Urban Interface Home". More information on page 2.

Announced the August 27 Texas Firewise Workshop in Schertz. Sun City will have a presentation. More information to come!

NO MEETING in August!

Home Ignition Zone Assessment (HIZA) Work Group Update

The HIZA Work Group met March 12 with seven members present.

The HIZA completion status was:

Received to date.....	680
Completed	650
Open.....	28
On hold	2

The HIZA Archive has archived 422 to date.

Upcoming dates were discussed (see Calendar). The next meeting will be September 10, 9:00 am at the Cowan Creek Amenity Center.

Firewise Volunteer Clearing Work Group Update

The Firewise Volunteer Clearing Crew is on hold for the summer.

Calendar

HIZA Work Group - August 13 - NO MEETING
Mulch Combustibility – Choosing the Right Type for Your Wildland/Urban Interface Home: Tuesday, August 19, 3 pm (see info)

Education Work Group - August 21, 10am, AC MR1

New Resident Orientation - August 21, 8:30 am, SCB

Firewise Group - August 27 - NO MEETING
FIREWISE WORKSHOP, *A Proactive Approach to Preparing Communities for Wildfire - August 27, 8am to 5pm, Schertz* (see info)

HIZA Work Group - September 10 - 9 am, CCAC

Education Work Group - September 18, 10am, AC MR1

Firewise Group - September 24, 1 pm, AC R3-4

This cap was supplied by the Community Association for Firewise Volunteers particularly HIZA Evaluators. They will be available at meetings or by contacting Ohlenbusch to get one! (512-639-0973 or ole7734@suddenlink.net)



Please Promote the Home Ignition Zone Assessment in your neighborhood!

You may use the information in this newsletter to promote Firewise and its goals!



August 27 will be the 2014 Firewise Workshop. Sun City has been invited and accepted to present a discussion on *Firewise – A Community Perspective*. Any Sun City Firewise volunteer or interested resident can attend. The Firewise Group will coordinate car pooling. Full information will be sent out as soon as it is available.

The next virtual workshop has been scheduled for viewing on August 19, 3 pm, Jarrell-Walburg Rooms. This topic has been discussed many times in Sun City. This will be an opportunity to hear new information. No registration is required. You only need to come and watch.



February 20 Wildfire Update

The area burned in the February 20 wildfire behind Walgreens continues to recover. The bottom of the juniper turned brown (see photo below) has not changed. The lower needles have started to drop. The wildflowers and grasses are recovering. Many of the grasses are invasive including Johnsongrass and KR bluestem. Some native grasses such as sideoates grama and silver bluestem are present and doing well. Broad-leaf plants (weeds?) are doing well and spring wildflowers have finished for the year. Wonder what the area will look like next wildflower season?



Dr. Stephen Quarles is the featured presenter and “Ask an Expert” for the session. Steve is a senior scientist with the [Insurance Institute for Business & Home Safety](#) where he assists with research on building performance with regard to wildfire and moisture exposures. Prior to joining IBHS, Steve was with the University of California where he addressed durability and in-service performance issues of wood-frame buildings, particularly those subjected to wildfires.

The one-hour interactive agenda includes a presentation from Dr. Quarles along with a live “Ask an Expert” segment where pre-selected homeowners have an opportunity to ask a question related to the session’s topic. This unique learning format provides wildland/urban interface homeowners with information on how to implement important mitigation modifications at their homes.

Our Partners



Need Some Materials From Firewise USA?

Firewise USA has many publications and materials available on line for order. Shipping is free. Go to http://www.nfpa.org/catalog/category.asp?category_name=Firewise%3A+Wildfire+Safety+to+order.

firewise trumpet



Volume 1

September 2014

Number 8

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September Calendar	1
Much Combustibility Workshop	1
Get Prepared, Stay Alive, Rebuild Your Life	1
February 20 Wildfire Recovery Update	2
Home Ignition Zone Work Group	2
Community Wildfire Protection Plan/Recertification Education Work Group	2
Firewise Volunteer Clearing Crew	2
National Fire Prevention Week	2
February 20 Wildfire Recovery Update	2
Home Ignition Zone Assessments	2

September Calendar

September 10, 9 am, CCAC - HIZA Work Group
September 18, 10am, AC MR1 - Education Work Group
September 19, 12pm, Jarrell Room - Get Prepared, Stay Alive, Rebuild Your Life virtual workshop
September 24, 1 pm, AC MR3-4 - Firewise Group
October 5-11 - National Fire Prevention Week

NOTE: Beginning with this issue, during September, all the **Firewise Trumpet** issues will be available from the Sun City Firewise Web site!

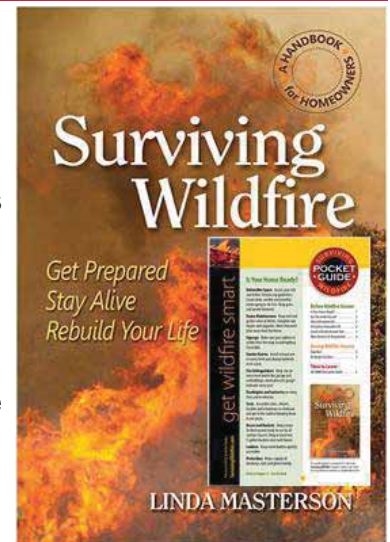
Mulch Combustibility on line workshop

The August 19 Mulch Combustibility-

Choosing the Right Type for your Wildland/Urban Interface Home workshop was a good review of how different classes of landscaping mulch reacts to embers and their burn characteristics. Mulches like our hardwood mulch was represented by cypress mulch (a hardwood). While it readily ignited it burned slowly and produced low heat. Pine needles and bark mulches ignited easily and produced rapid and hot fires. The worst mulch was shredded rubber tires which burned the fastest and hottest. Want to watch the workshop? Click [here](#).

The July workshop, *Understanding How Embers Ignite Roofs*, can be viewed by clicking [here](#).

Linda Masterson will share what she learned as she navigated through the evacuation, recovery and rebuilding stages to help residents living with a wildfire risk need to know. She shares the importance of being prepared long before the fire happens and explains how to accomplish it.



Firewise Trumpet Goal

The Firewise Trumpet is published monthly to review the activities of the group and to highlight coming activities and events.

All meetings are open to Sun City residents and are welcome.

Volunteers Welcome!

Our current major need is for one or two individuals to receive, assign, and monitor the Home Ignition Zone Assessment process. Understanding and using a spread sheet database is desirable.

We will be holding our next Home Ignition Zone Assessment Training October 29, 9:00 am to 3:30 pm. We need volunteers but particularly in the older neighborhoods.

Want to volunteer? Online ([click here](#)) or at the Monitor Desk in the Social Center or Cowan Creek Amenity Center.

Our Partners



Firewise Group Update

The Firewise Group did not meet in August. Seven members attended the Firewise Workshop, *A Proactive Approach to Preparing Communities for Wildfire*, in Schertz, Texas. Dan Dodson and Paul Ohlenbusch presented *Firewise – A Community's Perspective*.

The August 19 Firewise Virtual Workshop *Mulch Combustibility-Choosing the Right Type for your Wildland/Urban Interface Home* was viewed.

Home Ignition Zone Assessment (HIZA) Work Group Update

The HIZA Work Group did not meet in August.

The HIZA completion status as of August 30 was:

Received to date.....690

Completed 655

Open..... 35

On hold 2

See the calendar for upcoming events. The next meeting will be September 10, 9:00 am at the

Firewise Volunteer Clearing Work Group Update

The Firewise Volunteer Clearing Crew is on vacation for the summer.

February 20 Wildfire Recovery Update



The vegetation in the February 20 wildfire continues to improve. The larger cedar tree continues to lose needles on the lower part that was desiccated by the fire. The small cedar to the left remains brown and is dead. Most of the grasses and forbs have produced seed.

Home Ignition Zone Assessments

Home Ignition Zone Assessments (HIZA) continue to be slow. Some of the reasons residents seem reluctant to request one include:

Worry that findings will be used negatively by:

- Community Association Community Standards
- Their insurance company to raise rates
- By others if recommendations are not implemented

The opinion that "my home will not be affected as the wildland interface is too far away"

There have been no wildfires this year so "Why worry"

The results of the HIZA are only known to the HIZA Evaluators and the resident. No one else sees them at any time. Also, the document contains recommendations the resident can or can not do. It is really an education tool of the Firewise Group to help residents better understand the vulnerability of their home.

Please Promote the Home Ignition Zone Assessment in your neighborhood!

You may use the information in this newsletter to promote Firewise and its goals!



National Fire Prevention Week

National Fire Prevention Week is coming October 5 through 11. The theme this year is "Working Smoke Alarms Save Lives". Many homes in Sun City Texas have smoke alarms that are more than ten years old, the recommended replacement life, should be replaced. With today's technology, homes should be equipped with detectors that use ionization, photoelectric and carbon monoxide sensors. While prices vary, most acceptable alarms cost from \$30 to \$60. Replace all installed alarms with alarms from the same manufacturer. See additional information about the available products on manufacturer web sites [Kidde](#), [First Alert](#), [BKR](#), and consumer information at [Consumer Reports](#).

firewise trumpet



Volume 1

October 2014

Number 9

In This Issue:

Calendar
Virtual Workshops
HIZA Training
Home Ignition Zone Work Group
National Fire Prevention Week
Community Wildfire Protection Plan/Recertification
Firewise Volunteer Clearing Crew
Update on February 20 Wildfire



Thursday, October 23, 2:30pm to 3:30pm, Walburg Room

This unique learning format provides wildland/urban interface homeowners and stakeholders with information on how to implement important mitigation modifications. The October topic includes information on improving driveway accessibility, the importance of address visibility and information on what fire personnel look for when making decisions about which homes may be defensible; along with simple tips on how homeowners can help firefighters prior to evacuating.

Previous Workshops

Here links to view the previous workshops:

Understanding How Embers Ignite Roofs in a Wildland Fire and How to Make Your Roof More Survivable ([view](#))

Mulch Combustibility – Choosing the Right Type for Your Wildland/Urban Interface Home ([view](#))

Surviving Wildfire - Get Prepared, Stay Alive, Rebuild Your Life ([view](#))

Calendar

October 5-11 - Fire Prevention Week, Working Smoke Alarms Save Lives
October 8, 9 am, CCAC - HIZA Work Group
October 9, 10am, AC R1 - Education Work Group
October 23, 2:30 pm, Walburg Room - Workshop Improving Access for Wildland Firefighters
October 28, 1 pm, AC R3-4 - Firewise Group Meeting
October 29, 9 am-3:30 pm, Home Ignition Zone Assessment Training

Home Ignition Zone Assessment Training October 29

The Firewise Group will be holding a training for volunteers who will conduct the Home Ignition Zone Assessments (HIZA) requested by residents. It will be October 29, Wednesday, 9 am to 3:30 pm. The morning session will be classroom covering basic Firewise concepts and how Sun City conducts the HIZA. Lunch is provided. This is an opportunity to help Sun City reduce the potential for embers from wildfires within 2 miles of Sun City or house fires to ignite structures.

To volunteer, go to the Sun City website, select 'Site Index' in the top center, then select 'Firewise' under the F's and click on volunteer. Or you can complete the volunteer form at the Monitor Desk at either Amenity Center.

Please Promote the Home Ignition Zone Assessment in your neighborhood!

You may use the information in this newsletter to promote Firewise and its goals!

Firewise Group Update

The Firewise Group met 24. The virtual workshops were reviewed.

The August 19 workshop *Mulch Combustibility - Choosing the Right Type for your Wildland/Urban Interface Home*. See page 1 for link.

The September 16 workshop *Get Prepared, Stay Alive, Rebuild Your Life*. See page 1 for link.

HIZA Training will be October 29, 9 am to 3:30 pm. There will be new and revised material. Evaluators who haven't been to a training in 2 years are encouraged to come for continuing education.

The Recertification Work Group is beginning to develop the data and materials for applying for the 2015 Firewise Certification.

Home Ignition Zone Assessment (HIZA) Work Group Update

The HIZA Work Group did not meet in August.

The HIZA completion status as of September 30 was:

Received to date.....	697
Completed	665
Open.....	30
On hold	2

See the calendar for upcoming events. The next meeting will be October 8, 9:00 am at the Cowan Creek Amenity Center.

Firewise Volunteer Clearing Work Group Update

The Firewise Volunteer Clearing Crew plans to continue as Staff work load allows.



National Fire Prevention Week

National Fire Prevention Week is coming October 5 through 11. The theme this year is "Working Smoke Alarms Save Lives". Many homes in Sun City Texas have smoke alarms that are more than ten years old, the recommended replacement life, should be replaced. With today's technology, homes should be equipped with detectors that use ionization, photoelectric and carbon monoxide sensors. While prices vary, most acceptable alarms cost from \$30 to \$60. Replace all installed alarms with alarms from the same manufacturer. See additional information about the available products on manufacturer web sites [Kidde](#), [First Alert](#), [BKR](#), and consumer information at [Consumer Reports](#).



The vegetation in the February 20 wildfire continues to improve. The larger cedar tree continues to lose needles on the lower part that was desiccated by the fire. The small cedar to the left remains brown and is dead. Little bluestem, sideoates gramma, silver bluestem, Maximillian sunflower and others are showing their fall colors.



Maximillian sunflower (left) and golden rod are two wildflowers beginning to bloom. Maximillian sunflower is in the burned area and goldenrod is in the unburned area.

Please Promote the Home Ignition Zone Assessment in your neighborhood!

You may use the information in this newsletter to promote Firewise and its goals!

firewise trumpet



Volume 1

November 2014

Number 10

In This Issue:

November Calendar
HIZA Training October 29 Results
Firewise Virtual Workshop Links
Fall Maintenance Suggestion
Firewise Volunteer Clearing Crew
Home Ignition Zone Work Group
Education Work Group
Update on February 20 Wildfire
Volunteer Time Needed for Recertifying

November Calendar

November 12, 9 am, CCAC - HIZA Work Group
November 20, 10am, AC R1 - Education Work Group
December 3, 1 pm, AC R3-4 - Firewise Group

Volunteer Time Needed for Recertifying

It's time for all Firewise volunteers to send in your hours spent promoting Firewise in your neighborhood or other times. Do not include attendance at Firewise meetings, HIZAs, or events. Those have been logged through meeting notes and the HIZA database. Please send to HIZA@suddenlink.net.

Firewise Virtual Workshop Links

Here links to view the previous workshops:

- * Understanding How Embers Ignite Roofs in a Wildland Fire and How to Make Your Roof More Survivable ([view](#))
- * Mulch Combustibility – Choosing the Right Type for Your Wildland/Urban Interface Home ([view](#))
- * Surviving Wildfire - Get Prepared, Stay Alive, Rebuild Your Life ([view](#))
- * Improving Access for Wildland Firefighters, ([view](#))



*Have a Safe and
Happy Thanksgiving!*

You may use the information in the *Firewise Trumpet* to promote Firewise and its goals!

HIZA Training October 29 Results

The 12th HIZA Training was held on October 29 with 4 new evaluators and 2 Master Gardner representatives from Bexar County (San Antonio) plus 10 Evaluators in for updating. The training covers basic Firewise concepts and fire behavior as well as how Sun City conducts the HIZA evaluations.



The HIZA Class of October 2014 members: seated, John Sells and Lisa Nixon, Bexar County Master Gardeners; back row, Jim Whittaker, Fred Hill, Tom Kisinger, and Joe Patrick. Congratulations!

Firewise Group Update

The Firewise Group met October 22. The virtual workshops were reviewed.

The October 23 workshop *Improving Access for Wildland Firefighters* will be viewed. (See page 1 for link.)

HIZA Training will be October 29, 9 am to 3:30 pm. There will be new and revised material. Evaluators who haven't been to a training in 2 years are encouraged to come for continuing education.

The Recertification Work Group is beginning to develop the data and materials for applying for the 2015 Firewise Certification. Volunteers are needed to help with 2014 material and data assembly plus help in compiling the 2015 data.

Home Ignition Zone Assessment (HIZA) Work Group Update

No meeting in December!

The HIZA completion status:

	9/30	10/31
Received.....	690	705
Completed	662	675
Open.....	28	30
On hold	2	0

See the calendar for upcoming events. The next meeting will be January 14, 2015, 9:00 am at the Cowan Creek Amenity Center.

Please Promote the
Home Ignition Zone Assessment
in your neighborhood!

Volunteer Time Needed for Recertifying

It's time for all Firewise volunteers to send in your hours spent promoting Firewise in your neighborhood or other times. Do not include attendance at Firewise meetings, HIZAs, or events. Those have been logged through meeting notes and the HIZA database. Please send to HIZA@suddenlink.net.

Firewise Volunteer Clearing Work Group Update

The Firewise Volunteer Clearing Crew plans to continue as Staff work load allows.



The vegetation in the February 20 wildfire continues to improve. The larger cedar tree continues to lose needles on the lower part that was desiccated by the fire. The small cedar to the left has fallen over and is no longer visible. Little bluestem, sideoates gramma, silver bluestem, and other grasses are beginning to drop their seeds. Maximilian sunflower is about finished blooming. The main grass with seed heads is KR bluestem, an introduced invader, that was seeded in the area. It has little value for wildlife.



Fall Maintenance Suggestion

The leaves and acorns are falling and making a mess in some yards. Removing the leaves from the yard is what most folks think about. As we go from fall to winter, vegetation will brown and has the potential for wildfires. Leaves accumulate in gutters, on the roof, and under shrubs where wildfire embers can fall and ignite them. Remove leaves and other plant debris from under plants to reduce the hazard. Remember, the City of Georgetown is picking up yard waste every other week!

firewise trumpet



Volume 1

December 2014

Number 11

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December Calendar
Fall-Winter Maintenance Suggestions
Firewise Virtual Workshop Links
Firewise Volunteer Clearing Crew
Home Ignition Zone Work Group
Education Work Group
Update on February 20 Wildfire

Fall-Winter Maintenance Suggestions

With the leaves and acorns falling, it's time to think about what maintenance needs to be done to help protect your house should a wildfire, house, or yard fire caused by embers falling. Plants, particularly grasses (including lawns), are now dormant and can be dry with the potential for embers or other heat sources to ignite the dry vegetation.

Look around your house and see what can ignite and possibly burn. Suggested maintenance includes cleaning gutters and roofs of debris, especially leaves. Any landscape plants that can collect debris underneath or areas that collect debris should be cleared.



The Georgetown Fire Department controlled the grass fire along Cool Spring Way on March 11, 2011. Fires can occur during the dormant season.

Firewise Volunteer Clearing Work Group Update

The Firewise Volunteer Clearing Crew plans to continue as Staff work load allows.

December Calendar

December 3, 1 pm, AC R3-4 - Firewise Group
HIZA Work Group - no meeting
December 18, 10am, AC R1 - Education Work Group

January Calendar

January 14, 9 am, Cowan Creek - HIZA Work Group
January 15, 10 am, MR 1 - Education Work Group
January 28, 1 pm, AC R3-4 - Firewise Group

You may use the information in the *Firewise Trumpet* to promote Firewise and its goals!

Event Dates for 2015

January 30, 2015 - Landscape Company Training
April 15, 2015 - HIZA Training
May 2, 2015 - Wildfire Preparedness Day
October 6, 2015 - Firewise Town Hall

Please Promote the Home Ignition Zone Assessment in your neighborhood!

Firewise Virtual Workshop Links

Firewise USA produced 4 workshops with information that can be applied to Sun City. Here are links to view the previous workshops:

- * Understanding How Embers Ignite Roofs in a Wildland Fire and How to Make Your Roof More Survivable ([view](#))
- * Mulch Combustibility – Choosing the Right Type for Your Wildland/Urban Interface Home ([view](#))
- * Surviving Wildfire - Get Prepared, Stay Alive, Rebuild Your Life ([view](#))
- * Improving Access for Wildland Firefighters, ([view](#))

Firewise Group Update

The Firewise Group met October 22. The virtual workshops were reviewed.

The October 23 workshop *Improving Access for Wildland Firefighters* will be viewed. (See page 1 for link.)

HIZA Training will be October 29, 9 am to 3:30 pm. There will be new and revised material. Evaluators who haven't been to a training in 2 years are encouraged to come for continuing education.

The Recertification Work Group is beginning to develop the data and materials for applying for the 2015 Firewise Certification. Volunteers are needed to help with 2014 material and data assembly plus help in compiling the 2015 data.

Home Ignition Zone Assessment (HIZA) Work Group Update

No meeting in December!

The HIZA completion status:

	10/31	11/30
Received.....	705	707
Completed	675	686
Open.....	30	21

See the calendar for upcoming events. The next meeting will be January 14, 2015, 9:00 am at the Cowan Creek Amenity Center.



The vegetation in the February 20 wildfire is now dormant. The larger cedar tree continues to lose needles on the lower part that was desiccated by the fire. The small cedar to the left was mowed recently. Little bluestem, sideoates gramma, silver bluestem, and other grasses are now brown as well as Maximilian sunflower in the foreground. The dormant grasses are now in condition to burn if dry, windy conditions occur.



**Have a
safe and fulfilling
holiday season!**



Appendix C

Media Items

Firewise Articles

Sun Rays Articles

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS CONTINUED:

son response during 2011; and the Texas Intrastate Fire Mutual Aide System, maintained by the TFS, which is part of our preparedness efforts and has allowed the agency to evolve and leverage work with cooperators in the state.

The agency has always focused on prevention and public outreach. In addition to winning two Firewise Awards, our statewide prevention efforts have earned TFS five bronze Smokey's. Texas also leads the nation with more than 339 RSG members, and we've got more members joining every day as a result of TFS efforts to leverage the program across the state.

How-To: The TFS has supported a robust Firewise program, with a growing number of participating communities. How did Firewise get started in Texas (including in what year and first communities to get recognition), what were strategies used to expand participation, and how many recognized communities are there currently? How many do you anticipate adding by the end of 2014?

Nick Harrison: The Wildland/Urban Interface (WUI) program, which delivers the Firewise program, is managed by the department head for TFS Mitigation & Prevention, under the Forest Resource

Protection Division of the TFS. Our program was recognized nationally with one of the first Firewise awards. We also teamed with National Night Out to promote Firewise programs and received a national award from them for our work. And, we've been invited twice to Prescott, AZ by the Prescott Area WUI board to present about our programs.

The TFS WUI program got started in 1998 following a long wildfire season in Texas and the threat of wildfires that were impacting our urban/interface areas. TFS became involved with Firewise early on, not long after the national program began in 2002. Texas' involvement with Firewise led to three initial Firewise recognized communities (FWC) in 2003; two of those communities—Tierra Linda Ranch and the Wildcatter Ranch—are still active today. We then added six new FWCs in 2004, with 5 still active now. TFS staff members began recognizing these communities with 10-year Firewise awards in 2012 and 2013, and that will continue.

By the end of 2013, we had 64 FWCs, which included 16 newly recognized communities added that year. Of those new communities, 11 were in Travis County, including 9 in Austin, the state's capital, which had

seen the effects of multiple wildfires in and around the Austin/Travis County area, including the devastating fire that burned in the adjacent Bastrop County Complex in 2011. We're aiming to add a minimum of 12 new communities in 2014, but hopefully we'll add above that amount.

How-To: What are some of the beneficial activities that Texas communities have engaged in? Why do you think they were so effective?

Nick Harrison: There are a number of examples from among our FWCs. These include the following.

Tierra Linda Ranch was one of the first Texas Firewise Communities to receive recognition status (in 2003), and they remain an active community to this day. Theirs is a self-sustaining program. Their Firewise chair and committee have established a good partnership with their homeowners and the Tierra Linda volunteer fire department. Their community conducts home assessments, which help both the owners and the fire department. The community has a burn pit that is available to residents to have their slash/debris safely burned. And the fire department has clear knowledge concerning access to the property and locations for accessing possible water resources in the

event of a wildfire.

Located near Huntsville, TX, **Elkins Lake** is bordered by the Sam Houston National Forest. While it first earned Firewise recognition status in 2012, the community had become proactive about addressing fuels mitigation in years prior, thanks to the Huntsville Fire Department and Walker County forming a cooperative group to develop a Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) in 2005. The CWPP helped identify high-risk areas in the county that included Elkins Lake. The residents of Elkins Lake raised \$15,000 to help with fuel reduction and mitigation.

Sun City Texas Community Association, located near Georgetown in Williamson County, north of Austin, became a recognized FWC in 2009. It is a retirement community that has a very robust and active Firewise Committee, who motivate and work with Sun City residents to assure the program is self-sustaining. They have a home ignition zone (HIZ) working group that helps residents with assessments and a volunteer clearing crew that helps in the WUI areas. They also publish a monthly Firewise Trumpet newsletter and make a true community effort to keep their residents educated. Sun City also helped co-host a

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS CONTINUED:

Firewise Workshop with the TFS in February 2013.

Steiner Ranch, located near Austin, was affected by a wildfire on Labor Day weekend in 2011, which led to the loss of 24 homes. This prompted the community to actively work towards becoming a Firewise Community; they achieved their goal in 2012. Their Firewise Committee has been very active about providing educational information to its residents through a community Facebook page. They hosted a WUI Summit in cooperation with the TFS, which served to further educate its residents and other residents within Travis County about WUI issues, mitigation and fuel reduction practices. Steiner Ranch's efforts also are self-sustaining and proactive.

Leon Valley, located near San Antonio in Bexar County, became an FWC in 2013. Its residents' efforts to become a FWC were led by then interim fire chief Luis Valdez and the Leon Valley Fire Department, after they had developed a CWPP and found several at-risk areas in their community. Now the full-time chief, Valdez credits the Firewise Community recognition, identifying high-risk areas, and creating a shaded fuel break in an historic park adjacent to a subdivision, with his promotion.

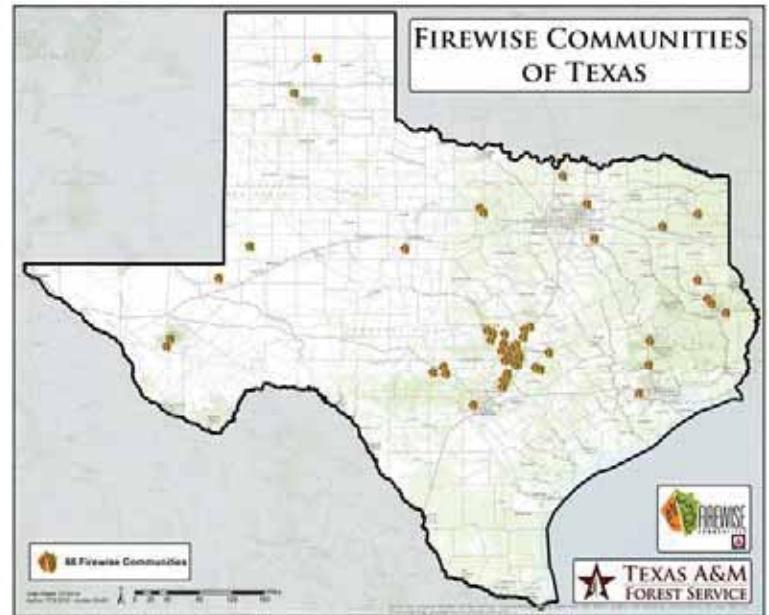
In my experiences working with all of these communi-

ties, I found that once we helped get them started, they were great at becoming self-sufficient and maintaining their status as a Firewise Community. Whether holding educational events, offering training on HIZ and assessments, assisting with fuel mitigation, or keeping their residents informed and engaged in their community, each of these communities has found ways to keep their momentum moving forward. These are just five examples, but every FWC in Texas has a variety of beneficial activities that we can learn from.

How-To: Did many Texas communities take part in the recent national Wildfire Community Preparedness Day? If so, how many, and are there any communities whose particular activity(ies) stand out as exemplary/noteworthy?

Nick Harrison: While TFS staff assisted with five events in Texas, there were numerous others held, both by existing Firewise Communities and by interested communities and fire departments. I don't have an exact count of the total number of communities that took part.

In addition, two Texas Firewise Communities – Sun City, TX Community Association, in Georgetown, and Long Canyon Firewise Community, in Austin--



received State Farm grants for their respective activities.

Among the Texas events supported by TFS staff were the following.

Joint Etoile and Etoile School FWC teamed with the New World FWC project on May 1, to create a defensible space area near the entry to New World, in Nacogdoches County in East Texas.

Austin Fire Department held a Wildfire Preparedness Day Workshop attended by 125 community members on May 3. The event included cooperator displays offering educational materials, and TFS staff recognized the Meadow Mountains FWC by presenting representatives from that community with their 10-year award.

TFS hosted a booth at The Colony FWC, in Bastrop County, on May 3, providing educational materials

to those in attendance. The Colony also offered a brush/chipping event for residents.

Tahitian Village, a non-FWC held an event on May 3 at which TFS hosted a display and provided educational materials. TFS crews also did some defensible space demos, and showed off the Firewise landscaping at the fire station.

At Eagles Landing annual HOA meeting, held on May 3, TFS staff presented the community with their 10-year Firewise award.

In the **Lucas FWC**, located in Collins County in northern Texas, the TFS offered a display featuring Firewise, RSG, and other prevention materials. The event also featured a visit from Smokey the Bear, delighting children in attendance.

How-To: What are the state's goals for 2014/15?

Nick Harrison: Among our goals for the coming year,

Fire Break – Wildfire Safety Blog

10/31/2014

Sun City Texas resident creatively utilizes virtual workshops



I have to put it on my calendar for next week to ask Dan Dodson, the [Firewise](#) Education Coordinator with the [Sun City Texas Community Association](#), what he did in his former career before taking on his current homeowner's association role. I'm betting it's something related to coaching, education or training, because he's turned our [Firewise Virtual Workshops](#) into a group educational training complete with a robust Q & A at the end of the live broadcasts.

He's taken the basic home party concept to a whole new level - and the product he's selling is wildland fire education and awareness! In his community, he's creatively made the workshops a coordinated training opportunity for residents. Once Dan learns a session's date and time he books a room in their community center and invites homeowners to participate in the group training event.

To you Dan, our kudos for your creativeness, and also for having a genuine concern for making Sun City residents safer while increasing their wildland fire knowledge and awareness. The Sun City Texas Community Association has participated in the national [Firewise Communities/USA program](#) since 2009.



Posted by [Cathy Prudhomme](#) on 10/31/2014 at 03:48 PM in [Community Action](#), [Education](#), [Firewise](#),

[Training](#), [Wildfire Hazards](#), [Wildland Urban Interface](#) | [Permalink](#)

[Technorati Tags](#): [Firewise](#), [Firewise Communities/USA](#), [Sun City](#), [Sun City TX Firewise](#), [TX](#), [wildfire awareness](#), [wildfire education](#)

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You can follow this conversation by subscribing to the [comment feed](#) for this post.

Get Involved - Apply for a CA Committee!

Submitted by the Nominating Committee

It's time to apply for a CA Committee! At this time, a total of 21 positions are available on 10 of the committees. You can find a description of each committee, as well as the number of open positions, by going to the Sun City Texas website at www.sctxca.org > Site Index > Apply for an Advisory Committee.

Soon, look for the Committee Application forms on the new orange and blue "Get Involved" banners in the Cowan Creek Amenity Center, Putters Cafe, Texas Drive Fitness Center, Activities Center, and Social Center; and an online version of the application on the Sun City Texas website.

Applications will be available the week of February 2. The deadline to apply is Friday, March 14. Interviews will be conducted the week of April 14.

Bits of Info from Ginny's Desk

Submitted by Ginny Wagner, Community Standards Supervisor

SPRING PLANTING

With spring approaching, it is a good time to take a look around to see which plants need to be replaced. Recent efforts with our highly successful Water Wise and Firewise programs suggest staying with native plants that require less water and aren't of an oily nature. Check the Xeriscape section of the Design Guidelines if you are using a lot of rock, or removing turf from your yard, to be sure your plan meets the standards before turning in your B-1 application.

Our Garden Club has put together a beautiful binder (available at both Monitor locations) with pictures to help when choosing plants. As long as the size of the bed, material for the edging, and one plant per 100 square feet guideline is adhered to, an application isn't necessary, even if you are changing out the edging of the bed. Just remember to keep all plants under 36 inches in the sight triangle of a corner lot, and in the last 20 feet from the rear perimeter of a golf course lot.

A landscape project worksheet has been developed by the Community Standards Office to help you with landscape projects that require a B-1 Application Form. The worksheet can be picked up from our office, or can be emailed to you at your request. The worksheet condenses the Design Guidelines requirements, providing a simple checklist to be sure everything



is provided for the Committee's review.

ELECTION SIGNS

If you want to have an election sign in your yard for the March primary, be sure to review the Political Sign Policy online:

- Log in at www.sctxca.org
- Under the Community Association tab, click on CA Documents
- Scroll down to the Policies subhead, and click on Political Sign Policy listed below

VALENTINE'S DAY

Finally, since Valentine's Day is February 14, and page 55 of the Design Guidelines allows decorations to be displayed for seven days prior, during, and seven days after the holiday, feel free to put out hearts, flowers, and flags with cupid in celebration from February 7 to February 22.

Ginny Wagner can be reached at 512-948-7462 or email ginny.wagner@sctxca.org

Resident Directors' Open Session

Wednesday, February 19, 3 p.m., CCG/F

The Resident Directors' Open Session is an excellent opportunity for residents to discuss, with the Resident Directors, matters listed on the February Board Workshop Agenda prior to their taking action on the items during the March 6 Board Meeting. Residents are also welcome to discuss any other topics with the Resident Directors. All Sun City Texas residents are encouraged to attend the Open Session, the CA Board Workshop and the CA Board Meeting.

New Resident Orientation

Thursday, February 20, 8:30 a.m., Social Center Ballroom

If you are new to Sun City Texas, please join us for the New Resident Orientation. At 8:30 a.m., the Club Fair begins. Enthusiastic members will visit with you and tell you about their chartered clubs. The Community Association staff presentation begins at 9:15 a.m. and ends around 10:15 a.m. You will have an opportunity to meet the staff, learn how your Association operates, and gather valuable information. Refreshments will be served.

Early Voting for March 4 Primary Election

Voters may cast their ballots at any polling place. Those who wish to vote in Sun City Texas may do so at the Cowan Creek Amenity Center in the Walburg Room.

- Tuesday, February 18 through Friday, February 21: 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- Saturday, February 22: 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.
- Sunday, February 23: 1-6 p.m.
- Monday, February 24 through Friday, February 28: 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.



APRIL 2014

Sun Rays

THE OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF SUN CITY TEXAS

**WILD TEXAS WEATHER AND
FIREWISE TOWN HALLS**

Pages 11 & 12

GARAGE SALE

Saturday, April 5 - Page 15

SHRED DAY!

Tuesday, April 29 - Page 7



NEWS & VIEWS TURNS 10!

Page 38

Firewise Town Hall and National Wildfire Community Preparedness Day

Submitted by *Dan Dodson, Firewise Education Coordinator*

Sun City Texas is a **Certified Firewise Community**, a project of the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA).

The Sun City Texas Emergency Management Committee **Firewise Group** is hosting two events focused on educating residents about the dangers of wildfires and encouraging participation in activities that can be accomplished to reduce the probability of losses if a wildfire occurs.

FIREWISE TOWN HALL

Wednesday, April 30, 9:30 a.m., SCB

The annual Firewise Town Hall will be held on Wednesday, April 30 at 9:30 a.m. in the ballroom. Learn what the Firewise Group is doing to provide information about landscaping and maintenance around the exterior of your residence, and how resident volunteers work with the CA Landscaping Department to hand-clear vegetation in Sun City Texas common areas, thereby reducing fuel loads. Also, this Town Hall will provide information about the National Wildfire Community Preparedness Day and how you can participate.

NATIONAL WILDFIRE COMMUNITY PREPAREDNESS DAY

Saturday, May 3, 9:30 a.m., SCB

The upcoming second event hosted by the Firewise Group will be held on Saturday morning, May 3. On that day, communities across the nation will conduct projects designed to reduce



wildfire risk and increase preparedness. Our community will join the effort by having a common areas clearing event. Resident volunteers will meet in the ballroom at 9:30 a.m. for coffee and doughnuts, followed by a short project education and safety briefing. Then, volunteers will go to designated areas to remove Ashe Junipers and ladder fuels using hand tools. Staff and Firewise Group members will oversee all activities. At the conclusion of the clearing activities, volunteers will return to the ballroom for hot dogs and soft drinks. Participants will be given a small memento to recognize their participation.

Note: Volunteers participating in the Saturday activities should bring their own loppers and handsaws marked with their name. No resident-operated power tools will be permitted. Gloves and good footwear are a must. No open-toed shoes. Long pants are highly recommended.

Ant Bait Application this Month

Submitted by *Catrin Dubois, Landscape Superintendent*

Howdy, neighbors! This is the month in which weather conditions are favorable to broadcast fire ant bait throughout our common areas, golf courses, and your residential lawns and flower beds. As a reminder, the CA has staged signs in high traffic locations throughout Sun City Texas. Your Neighborhood Rep most likely has contacted you already to see if you would like to participate in ant baiting.

HOW ANT BAIT WORKS

First, ant bait is not a poison. The active ingredient is an insect growth regulator which works over a period of two to six weeks. The bait is not harmful to your pet. The sandy, corn-sized bait is coated with coconut oil, which is like candy for ants. When temperatures stay in the 70s, ants are actively foraging for food and will travel quite a distance to pick up the bait and carry it back into the mound. It is shared with the soldiers and the queen and, depending on how the growth regulator/inhibitor is designed, it inhibits growth of the mouth so the worker ants can no longer feed the soldiers and the queen and, basically, they starve to death. Ants are quite smart and have shown resistance to baits after a period of time; this is why you need to make sure to switch ant baits every time you apply it—we schedule ant bait application twice a year. Some of the basic product names for

baits are Amdro, Combat Ant Killer Granules, Ascend, Varsity, Award, Logic, and Hi-Yield Fire Ant Bait, among others.

TIPS FOR SUCCESSFUL APPLICATIONS

- Do not schedule any irrigation for 48 hours, and wait until all dew has dried from turf areas.
- Do not apply if there is a chance of rain in the 2-day forecast.
- Do not apply if temperatures are below 60 degrees.
- Use small amounts of bait and broadcast with a small hand spreader. If applying by hand be sure to wear plastic gloves and follow label directions.
- Before purchasing a product, check with your lawn care company to see if this insect control is included in your contract.
- If you live in a Landscaped Maintained Home, you do not need to do anything. Ant bait application is part of the scope of work in the landscape contract. TCB Landscaping will leave door tags at your residence so you know the work has been done.
- And, remember, if you see ant mounds during the year and you wonder if the product is working—ant bait is a means of control, not eradication.

For more information, visit fireant.tamu.edu.

Firewise & Wildfire Community Preparedness Day 2014

Saturday, May 3, 9:30 a.m., SCB

Submitted by Dan Dodson, Firewise Group Education Coordinator



Sun City Texas will be participating in the National Wildfire Community Preparedness Day on Saturday, May 3. Communities across the nation will conduct projects designed to reduce wildfire risk and increase preparedness.

Sun City Texas will join the effort by conducting a Common Areas clearing event. All residents are invited to participate.

HOW YOU CAN HELP

Our morning will begin with a safety orientation and brief Firewise education presentation in the Social Center Ballroom at 9:30 a.m. Participants will be divided into several workgroups and will proceed to predetermined Common Area worksites near the ballroom and Legacy Hills, where we will remove small cedar trees. Following our fun outdoors, we will return to the ballroom for hot dogs, soft drinks and door prizes. Each participant will be given a specially-designed cap in appreciation of their participation.

Work gloves and closed-toe shoes are required. Long pants are highly recommended. Participants should bring their own hand-held pruners, tree limb loppers and/or handsaws marked with their name. No power equipment will be used during this activity.

ABOUT FIREWISE

Our Firewise program is comprised of four major groups/programs.

1. **The Home Ignition Zone (HIZ) Assessment Program** has more than 50 trained volunteers who evaluate residential properties to identify outside ignition sources, in the event of traveling or falling embers from a wildfire or a house fire. More than 650 homeowners have participated in this program!
2. **The Vine and Cedar Clearing Group** works with the CA staff to clear cedars and ladder fuels in the Level 4 area. Together, the crew and staff have cleared approximately 176 acres since the program began in 2011.
3. **The Education Group** organizes the annual Firewise Town Hall and takes the Firewise program to New Resident Orientations and various other Town Halls. The group also offers Firewise training to landscape vendors who work in Sun City Texas.
4. **The Community Wildfire Protection & Re-certification Plan (CWPP) Group** collects data during the year to be used in supporting our annual Firewise recertifica-

tion process. The national Firewise program requires that participants maintain and report activities annually to maintain certification.

As central Texas continues to be under a severe drought, residents are encouraged to request a Home Ignition Zone (HIZ) Assessment to evaluate the risks of a fire caused by falling embers from a wildfire or house fire. This year, we have already had a grassfire at the Del Webb entrance, a house fire caused by a lightning strike, and a small yard fire. The HIZ request form is available online at the Firewise microsite, and at the Social Center and Cowan Creek Monitors Desks.

Remember, it's too late to make preparations if the fire is already happening.

New Resident Orientation

Thursday, May 15,

8:30 a.m., Social Center Ballroom

If you are new to Sun City Texas, please join us for the New Resident Orientation. At 8:30 a.m., the Club Fair begins. Enthusiastic members will visit with you and tell you about their chartered clubs.

The Community Association staff presentation begins at 9:15 a.m. and ends around 10:15 a.m. You will have an opportunity to meet the staff, learn how your Association operates, and gather valuable information. Refreshments will be served.

JOINT GENERAL and SPECIAL ELECTIONS EARLY VOTING SCHEDULE

Through Saturday, May 3

8 a.m. to 6 p.m.; NO Sunday Voting

Monday, May 5 and Tuesday, May 6
7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

ELECTION DAY

Saturday, May 10; 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

PRIMARY RUNOFF ELECTION

EARLY VOTING PERIOD

Monday, May 19 - Friday, May 23
7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

PRIMARY RUNOFF ELECTION DAY

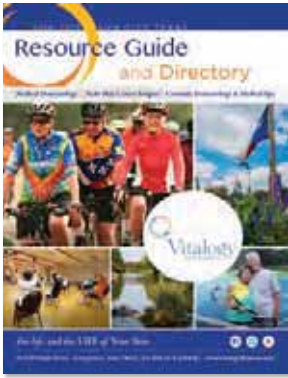
Tuesday, May 27; 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Location, all voting: Cowan Creek Amenity Center or voting location of your choice

For more information: www.wilco.org

CPR/FIRST AID/AED CLASSES

CPR/First Aid/AED classes are taught monthly in Sun City. For information, contact Barbara Akers at bslakers@aol.com.



Resource Guide & Directory Distribution

Submitted by Krystal Wilson, Director of Communications

The Sun City Texas Resource Guide & Directory will be available beginning June 6 in two locations: the Social Center Lobby and Cowan Creek Amenity Center. The schedules are different for each location, so please check the schedule for the location you choose. Each household receives one “New” SCT

Resource Guide & Directory. Please bring your old directory to turn in when you receive your new one so that we can shred it to protect your information.

- **You must bring your ID Badge or a Driver’s License to pick up your directory.** You will also need to sign for it at the time of pick up. Even though the person handing these out may know you, ID is required. This is to protect your information.
- If you are out of town or not able to pick one up during this

week, the books will be available at Member Services in the Social Center after this week.

- Please support our advertisers whenever possible. Their participation pays for this book and makes it available to you free of charge.

Social Center Lobby Schedule:

- Friday, June 6: 9 a.m. – 2 p.m.
(as part of the Home & Garden Show)
- Monday, June 9: 8 a.m. – 3 p.m.
- Tuesday, June 10: 8 a.m. – 3 p.m.
- Wednesday, June 11: 8 a.m. – 3 p.m.
- Thursday, June 12: 8 a.m. – 3 p.m.
- Friday, June 13: 8 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Cowan Creek Amenity Center Schedule:

- (Drive-through service)
- Monday, June 9: 7 - 11 a.m.
- Tuesday, June 10: 7 - 11 a.m.



FIREWISE & WILDFIRE COMMUNITY PREPAREDNESS DAY

The Firewise Group of Sun City Texas led the activities on Wildfire Community Preparedness Day on May 3. The event was part of a national program sponsored by the National Fire Protection Association (www.nfpa.org). Sun City Texas was awarded a \$500 grant from State Farm Insurance for the community project, which aimed to reduce wildfire risk and increase awareness. Resident participants and staff joined in the effort by conducting a Common Areas clearing event.

PHOTOS BY WES ODELL





Let's Communicate!

Jim Romine, Executive Director

Water Conservation Groups in Sun City Texas

Given the historic drought conditions, the growth of Central Texas and the demand for water, it is comforting to know we have a few groups in Sun City Texas looking at ways to use and conserve this natural resource. This month's article is dedicated to providing our community with a brief summary of each of these water groups and how their work helps all of us in Sun City Texas. Remember, we cannot *make* water, but we can *use* it responsibly.

WATER AMBASSADORS

The goal of the Water Ambassadors is to conserve water through educating residents on the proper use of their irrigation systems for the Central Texas climate, thereby helping homeowners irrigate effectively and intelligently.

Water Ambassadors Do:

- Familiarize the resident with their sprinkler control box so as to ably program their own irrigation settings.
- Check to ensure that sprinkler heads are working properly and distributing water efficiently to the lawn and planter beds.
- Provide advice on recommended actions of water conservation measures consistent with current Central Texas soil moisture conditions.
- Review with the resident where water shut-off valves are located.
- Familiarize the resident with the City of Georgetown's AquaAlert System (presetting water usage levels and receiving alerts when reached).
- Provide information on Georgetown Utility Systems landscape irrigation restrictions in effect.

Water Ambassadors Do Not:

- Repair anything! Irrigation installation and repairs are regulated in Texas

by the TCEQ (Texas Commission on Environmental Quality), and are to be completed by appropriately licensed individuals. (Note: The TCEQ regulations **DO allow for homeowners to perform their own repairs on their own properties.**)

- Respond to emergencies, such as water line breakage, frozen water pipes, broken sprinkler heads or water supply lines, water sensor malfunction, any water-related problems in the home, etc.

NRO RESIDENT WATER CONSERVATION SUBCOMMITTEE

This group works as a "think tank" for the Water Ambassadors, helping them meet their goals and providing input on ways to enhance the overall Water Ambassador program. One of the subcommittee's main goals is to encourage homeowners to review their water bills each month, educating themselves on their monthly water usage. Please note, the city's objective is for homeowners to use no more than 160 gallons per person per day, including outdoor irrigation.

P&G WATER CONSERVATION SUBCOMMITTEE

The Property & Grounds Committee formed a Water Conservation Subcommittee in early 2011 to identify plans, projects and programs addressing our irrigation shortcomings and/or needs specific to systems, infrastructure, and management as it relates to water conservation efforts for our community amenities and common areas (non-residential). The subcommittee's main focus has been on converting potable water (drinking water) use to non-potable water for our common area irrigation. Their work has been successful and to-date reflects converting approximately 83 million gallons of potable water usage to non-potable per year. This conversion saves

the Community approximately \$87,000 per year.

Our Golf Operations team has been involved in this subcommittee and has done a great job managing irrigation on our golf courses. Please refer to the great article concerning water usage on our golf courses, submitted by Ron Delaney, which appeared on page 54 of the June *Sun Rays*.

LANDSCAPE MAINTAINED HOMES WATER CONSERVATION PROGRAM

The LMH Committee has an ongoing proactive water conservation program that is currently testing two products designed to reduce water usage for landscaping. Current testing includes a soil moisture sensor and the testing of Aqua Smart, a soil amendment. Both of these products can save water both independently and in conjunction with one another.

The soil sensors, when tested on a small scale within the LMH program, resulted in approximately a 20 percent reduction in landscape water use. These savings were sufficient enough to expand the program into 2014 and the group is currently testing 35 sensors throughout the LMH program. The soil sensor's primary advantage is that it interrupts the controller at times when irrigation is scheduled, but should not run due to sufficient moisture in the soil resulting from recent rainfall.

Aqua Smart is a soil amendment product that has the ability to absorb water equivalent to up to 10 times its own weight; then, as the plant needs it, release the stored water gradually.

The committee is evaluating both of these products to determine their feasibility and return on investment for the LMH program.

MODIFICATIONS COMMITTEE

The Modifications Committee continues to evaluate amendments to the Design

Continued on page 9

Let's Communicate! *Continued from page 7*

Guidelines, which would allow homeowners to modify their yards for water conservation purposes. They established the community's first xeriscaping landscaping standard that includes mandatory requirements for drought-tolerant and deer-resistant plants in new landscaping projects and optional requirements for **Firewise plants** in new landscaping projects. This year, the committee is reinvestigating the use of artificial turf as part of residential landscaping, which is currently prohibited by the City of Georgetown.

Resident Directors' Open Session

Wednesday, August 20, 3 p.m., CCG

Submitted by Gary Preston, Board Secretary

The Resident Directors of the Sun City Texas Community Association Board will host an Open Session on Wednesday, August 20 at 3 p.m. in the Georgetown Room at the Cowan Creek Amenity Center. This meeting allows for a two-way dialogue between the Resident Directors and the residents at large and will focus mainly on matters listed on the August Board Workshop agenda. All residents are welcome and encouraged to attend.

Town Hall: Avoiding and Recognizing Investment Fraud

Friday, September 5, 10 a.m., SCB

Submitted by Jim Romine, Executive Director

Representatives from federal and state law enforcement agencies will speak to Sun City Texas residents on Friday, September 5 about the warning signs of investment fraud and what investors should do if they suspect they have been defrauded. Ms. Sharon Pierce, Executive Assistant United States Attorney of the Western District of Texas, Mr. Bob Elder, Communications Coordinator & Investor Education Specialist of the Texas State Securities Board, and Mr. Drew Zimmerman, Attorney Adviser with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission's Office of Compliance Inspections and Examinations, will highlight patterns of investor fraud and various resources available for investor protection and education. The presentation starts at 10 a.m. in the Social Center Ballroom.

The presentation will explain how investors can defend themselves against promoters of fraudulent or inappropriate investments by being aware of the tactics they use, by carefully checking all the investment material they provide, and by investigating their credentials before committing any money to the investment opportunity.

The speakers will also highlight specific types of risky investments law enforcement agencies have investigated or prosecuted recently, including various types of promissory notes and high-yield offerings, oil and gas projects, life settlement investments, and private offerings.



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Alzheimer's Education

Sun City - Cowan Creek Amenity Center, Andice Room Wed., August 27, 10 a.m.	Tiffin House Thursday, August 21, 10 a.m.
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Let's Communicate!

Jim Romine, Executive Director

2015 Community Association Budget Process

Each July, the Community Association (CA) begins developing its budgets (operating, capital and reserve) for the following calendar year. It might be surprising to know that the CA is a \$16+ million business encompassing several different business operations, including golf, fitness centers, common areas, communications and activities, building maintenance and general administration. The CA generates revenue from assessments and fees, of which, \$7.2 million are derived from member assessments, \$4.5 million from golf revenue and \$1.6 million in activities and advertising revenue. The remaining balance is made up of various fitness and administrative fees.

The process starts each year with our CA Board's budget direction, which is currently posted on the Board's website. During a kick-off meeting between myself; Ann Dodson, Director of Finance; and all key members of staff who have budget development responsibilities, basic guidelines and assumptions are discussed in detail before the CA Department Directors draft their respective departmental budgets. These draft departmental budgets are reviewed and adjusted by Ann Dodson and myself. Revised departmental budgets are then submitted to various committees in September for review and input from the residents serving on those committees. After the committees have reviewed their respective budgets, staff will make additional adjustments and compile one overall budget, which we then submit to the Finance Committee.

The Finance Committee spends several days in October reviewing the budget in detail, establishing priorities, identifying challenges, considering options and making adjustments accordingly. In addition to creating the operating budget, the Board, staff and committees create budgets for capital repair and replacements, create

a 3-year (long term) financial plan, and accept Capital Asset Fund expenditure requests for the year 2015 from members of staff. The Board officially approves the budget at the November Board meeting.

The CA Board of Directors has provided staff with some basic direction for the 2015 annual budget. These guidelines include:

ASSUMPTIONS

- a. A Developer decision to expand the community will have no impact on the 2015 operating budget.
- b. The number of new homes and resales for 2015 should be estimated at mid-year based on 2014 experience.
- c. No additional neighborhoods are anticipated for 2015.
- d. The Community Association will be responsible for irrigating Pedernales Falls Drive from the Cowan Creek fishing pond for the entire year.

BUDGET GUIDANCE FOR 2015

- a. **Boulevards:** A major effort is necessary to repair worn and unsightly portions of Del Webb and Sun City Boulevards with emphasis on the medians. The 2012 Waterwise Task Force established a guiding principle to "maintain the same general look and feel" and "find ways to save on the use of irrigation water." These two concepts are not totally compatible. In many cases, the restoration, re-grassing and xeriscaping will require modifications to the irrigation zones in order to achieve a common sense balance between "look and feel" and "saving water". Request Staff and Property and Grounds to prepare a prioritized list of areas and zones to be repaired with a price tag for each.
- b. **Irrigation:** Continue the approved projects to convert from potable to non-potable water in the Common Areas.

c. **Firewise and Waterways:** Clearing is to be continued at a maintenance level.

d. **Capital Asset Fund:** Prepare a five-year program (2015-2019) for the purchase of capital assets to include:

- (1) Conversion of leased golf equipment to purchase
- (2) Conversion of leased fitness equipment to purchase
- (3) Other equipment with emphasis on utilities savings

e. **Staffing:** Review Community Association staffing level and contract for outside salary review.

f. **Lake and Fishing Management Plan:** Provide adequate funding for the plan being prepared by the Wildlife Management Committee.

g. **Chartered Club Finances:** Staff and Finance Committee are to prepare a procedure to monitor club cash balances and alert the Board and appropriate committees when balances are excessive compared to budget. Also, recommend a procedure for corrective action.

h. **Golf:** Operate financially at breakeven during 2015. Emphasis on maintaining high-quality course conditions.

In addition to budgeting for existing services and programs, the Board and Finance Committee consider new services and programs during the budget process. Adding new services usually results in additional expenses. With that said, the CA will likely assume responsibility for additional Common Area in 2015, which will add expense to the CA's operations.

Lastly, I would like to thank the staff and committees for their valued time during this process. It is due to their countless

Continued on page 9

Veteran Burial Benefits

Submitted by J. Paul Comola, CTSVC Outreach Volunteer, 512-819-9953

Are you an honorably discharged veteran from active duty in the U.S. Armed Forces? If so, you and your spouse are likely eligible for this incomparable State of Texas Veterans Cemetery benefit. Internment at the Central Texas State Veterans Cemetery-Killeen is at no cost for the veteran and minimal cost for the spouse. The benefit includes: space, concrete liner (for caskets), opening/closing, headstone, engraving and perpetual care. There are three options for cremated remains: Columbarium Wall; Scattering Garden; and In-ground Internment. Military Honors are arranged through your Funeral Director. Misinformation continues to keep eligible veterans from applying for this benefit, including:

- You must be a Texas resident: **False**
- My spouse cannot be buried there: **False**
- You must be killed in action: **False**
- You must be a disabled or retired veteran: **False**

Unlike the National System, the Texas program allows you

to pre-register. For information, call the CTSVC at 254-616-1770, or call the CTSVC Outreach Volunteer, Sun City Texas resident J. Paul Comola, at 512-819-9953 to arrange an appointment. Paul has all the required forms and will assist you with pre-registration. You will need a copy of your DD214 and marriage certificate. It is highly recommended that you visit the cemetery before completing the paperwork. A visit will help to understand the program and make you proud of this benefit that is available to veterans - a benefit you have earned!

The Central Texas State Veterans Cemetery is located about 13 miles north of Florence on SH 195 (out the Sun City Texas back gate and left on SH 195). All Sun City Texas residents are welcome to visit the cemetery, which is open to the public daily from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.



Tree Trimming on Your Property Line

Submitted by Catrin Dubois, Landscape Superintendent

Sun City Texas Design Guidelines

Approved by the Sun City Texas Community Association Board of Directors

March 6, 2014

4.3.17. RIGHTS OF OWNERS OF NEIGHBORING PROPERTIES

- a) A home owner has the right to remove any portion of a tree or shrub that extends across their property line from a neighboring property, including neighboring lot, CA property or City of Georgetown property. However, home owners are strongly encouraged to coordinate any planned tree or shrub trimming with their neighbors. Home owners may only trim the portion that extends over their property line.
- b) Home owners are not authorized to enter CA or City of Georgetown property to trim trees or shrubs.

One of the most common issues the CA landscape department deals with involves tree limbs which reach from CA property and touch the roofs of resident homes. This issue is addressed in our Sun City Texas Design Guidelines, item 4.3.17. (See sidebar)

Once any tree or shrub grows through your fence or over your property line, the issue becomes yours to deal with. Some Common Area trees provide shade for the home and that is very much appreciated; however, once the tree limbs have grown over the roof line and are touching the shingles, the situation needs to be addressed. Some residents call the landscape department to have the trees pruned; we have, in some cases, accommodated these requests if the job was a simple one. However, CA staff normally do not go on a resident's private property to trim trees nor are we insured to climb and prune trees unless staff can do so safely from the ground.

Fall is a good time to evaluate your yard for trimming needs. Look up at the trees around your roof lines and above your street's curb lines to see if trimming is needed. Remember, the garbage trucks move very closely along the curb lines and may be scraping or damaging the

overhead branches of trees above your curb. Plus, fire trucks normally require a 13' 6" clearance, so you don't want low-hanging limbs to interfere with their access. Unfortunately, the City of Georgetown does not have a tree trimming crew to send all over Georgetown's neighborhoods to prune tree limbs growing over the streets. The best solution is to hire a professional tree trimming service.

TREE TRIMMING TIPS

- Get more than one quote from professional arbor care companies. Ask if there is a discount available if you get your neighbors to have their trees taken care of at the same time.
- Be sure that the company commits to performing all safety steps necessary to minimize the risk of Oak Wilt. Cut and paint practice is best.
- Some articles state that you should wait to have any oak pruning performed during the hottest or coldest time of the year because the Oak Wilt beetle is not active.
- If your tree limbs are touching your shingles now, it is time to take action.
- Remember it is always a good **fire-wise** practice to have good clearance between trees and roof lines.

September Tips for a Beautiful Water Wise Landscape

By Winola VanArtsdalen

New residents have requested a brief checklist for beginning their new landscape, and this information is also appropriate for those converting existing landscapes to more drought-tolerant areas as well. The following is only a brief list, but procedures will be discussed in further detail in future months with Texas A&M Earthkind resources suggested.

To begin planning your landscape, first analyze conditions in your landscape area: sun/shade, shadows, wind, drainage, etc. Also, consider getting your soil tested by the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service to have all of the information you need available early in your landscaping project. For information on the different tests, how to submit a soil sample, and the results and what they mean, go to http://publications.tamu.edu/SOIL_CONSERVATION_NUTRIENTS/E-534.pdf. If you decide to have your soil tested, go to soiltesting.tamu.edu and click "Our Submittal Forms," then click on "Urban Soil Submittal Form."

Next, decide how you will use the landscape. Will it be more of an entertaining area, or a place for quiet contemplation, privacy, seclusion, or projects/experiments? With that in mind, plan trees, drainage, and hardscape to reduce future costs and maintenance.

Plan hydrozones—areas with plants grouped by like water needs—with plants needing additional water near the house for easy hand watering. Keep rocks that reflect heat and less fire-resistant plants, such as upright rosemary, pampas grass, and yaupon holly, away from the house. It is best to plan a combination of sprinkler and drip irrigation rather than sprinkler system alone.

Plan for a variety of hardscape ma-

terials, elevations, color and texture of plants, being sure to anticipate for growth and shade. Evaluate carefully before making decisions on saving or removing trees.

For turf and flower beds, you need a minimum of four inches (4") of soil; it is better to have six to eight inches (6-8"). Amend the soil in accordance with soil test results for both turf and flowerbeds. Adding quality soil and amendments now is a wise investment, as you will use less water and have healthier plants for years to come. For flower beds, you may buy a soil mix from a trusted dirt yard with compost, sands, and composted top soil, but it is better to amend your own soil. To mix amendments into your existing soil in flower bed areas, add one-third to one-half compost, as well as minerals—such as expanded shale or decomposed granite—for drainage. For example, add three inches of compost if tilling soil six inches deep.

SEPTEMBER GARDENING TIPS

- Save seeds from summer annuals you want to plant next spring. Plan to start new plants from cuttings of favorite perennials when weather cools, but before winter.
- Be ready to plant wildflower seeds for spring bloom, with a target date of October 1. You will need to have cleared the area and loosened the soil before planting.
- Groom roses and other plants for fall blooms. Remove debris from beds.
- Add compost to areas now to prepare areas where you plan to begin transplanting perennials at the end of this month, but wait until winter to move evergreens.
- Turf care:
 - September 1: Apply pre-emergent



NEXT MONTH: Join me as we discuss hydrozoning strategies for a healthy, water-saving and Firewise landscape.

Winola is a Williamson County Master Gardener, a member of the Sun City Garden Club and a member of the Sun City Water Wise Task Force.

Master Gardeners and other experienced gardeners are available to answer questions a half hour before Sun City Garden Club meetings each month. The Garden Club meets the second Wednesday of each month beginning with the question/answer period at 12:30 p.m.

for annual winter weeds.

- September 15-30: Monitor for brown patch, a fungus characterized by circular patches one foot to several feet in diameter with a "smoke ring" appearance.
- Apply one-half to one inch of top dressing after temperatures lower, usually mid-September.

Horticulture Questions:

Contact Williamson County AgriLIFE Extension Office at 512-943-3300.



Let's Communicate!

Jim Romine, Executive Director

Sun City Texas All-Stars

Volunteers are critical to Sun City Texas Community Association (CA), assisting with recreational activities, providing administrative support, and making our system of governance possible. Quite frankly, without these All-Stars, the CA would not be able to provide the level of service our residents and guests have enjoyed for so many years. For example, the volunteers who assist Jenny Phillips and our Lifestyle Department allow the CA to provide the wide variety of activities currently available. Neighborhood Representatives ensure that the CA is able to communicate effectively with all residents.

The Board of Directors and our many Committees are also staffed by volunteers. Resident Board members devote countless hours to attending a variety of meetings and providing governance for our Association. The Covenants Committee is critical to the enforcement of our community's rules and governing documents, and the Modifications Committee helps homeowners navigate the Design Guidelines and complete modifications to their homes within the rules. Our invaluable Finance Committee monitors the fiscal affairs of the CA, while the Nominating Committee facilitates the filling of vacancies within the other twelve committees. The Elections Committee assists in our annual elections, oversight of our CA property maintenance is provided by the Property and Grounds Committee; and Sun City's numerous recreation activities, clubs and facilities are presided over by the volunteers of our Sports and Chartered Clubs Non-Sports Committees. The Sun City Golf Committee works with staff to provide a quality golf experience at reasonable prices. The Landscaped Maintained Homes Committee works to meet the needs of those living in the homes within this program. Working in conjunction with **Firewise**

and Citizens on Patrol, the Emergency Management Committee (EMC) educates our residents on emergency and disaster preparedness. Our Wildlife Management Committee helps us to understand and manage the existing flora and fauna of our beautiful property, and, last but not least, the Communications Committee reviews our community's many channels of communication to ensure that information reaches our residents in a timely, efficient manner.

Many residents volunteer their time and energy to the CA, participating in vine cutting, running News and Views, distributing directories, maintaining our busy library (and busy they are!), and aiding with a range of administrative needs.

I would be remiss not to mention our Adopt-a-Hole All-Stars who help Gary and his team keep our golf courses looking their best.

There are many other All-Stars who contribute to the success of our community,

and it is certainly not my intent to overlook anyone or diminish the work of those not mentioned. I am attempting to merely illustrate the impact these All-Stars have in Sun City Texas by sharing a few examples. As these All-Stars are vital to the success of our community, the CA continually strives to recognize and thank all of them. The Community Association hosts several events each year to honor these All-Stars, with entertainment and a good time for all. If you have not guessed already, our theme this year is "All-Stars", which certainly describes our volunteers.

Residents, either individually or collectively, are making positive contributions to our community every day. These residents give unselfishly of their time and energy without seeking recognition or personal gain. If you know a volunteer in Sun City Texas, take a moment to thank them for their efforts. I sincerely appreciate all residents who help make Sun City Texas the best community it can be. Thank You!

Early Voting for November 4 Joint General and Special Elections

Voters may cast their ballots at any polling place. Those persons who wish to vote in Sun City Texas may do so at the Cowan Creek Amenity Center in the lobby.

- Monday, October 20 through Friday, October 31, 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.
- Sunday, October 26, noon to 6 p.m.

October Tips for a Beautiful Water Wise Landscape

By Winola VanArtsdalen

Gardeners can be an important part of fire safety by doing our part in the landscape. Good gardening practices and fire safety work well together. For those of us with landscapes already in place, making changes can be a challenge, but it is well worth the effort.

To save water, it is recommended that we group plants with like water needs and keep “thirsty” plants near the house and/or a water source for easy hand watering. If only one or a few plants need water, water by hand rather than using the sprinkler system to water the whole zone.

For fire protection, plant choice and arrangement are important factors in contributing to the survival of a home during a wildfire. Maintain a buffer zone near the house, keeping easily flammable plants, such as upright rosemary and yaupon holly, further away. See the **Firewise website** for excellent information:

- Visit www.sctxca.org
- Click on Site Index
- Click on **Firewise**

When designing a landscape, plants can be arranged in small groups surrounded by less flammable landscape materials. This can be a very attractive arrangement with less heat reflection than using large areas of gravel.

Maintenance is important for the health and beauty of your garden, for saving water, and for being **firewise**. It just makes sense that you need to remove all dead and dying vegetation, including leaves, sticks and branches, especially near the house.

Trees and bushes should be kept trimmed, with trees trimmed up to at least 6 ft. off the ground and branches trimmed 4-6 ft. above the roof. Bushes must be kept trimmed and away from the house with air space for fire safety, circulation for health of plants and to keep bugs from having easy access.

Keep a water hose by each outdoor faucet. For your neighbor's view, keep the hose a neutral color, but do have it available for an emergency. Be sure each hose nozzle has an on/off attachment for conserving water.

In September 2011, on a single day, wildfires burned over six different locations in Travis County. The Emergency response teams were short of personnel and crews were fatigued from lack of sleep and the constant stress of fighting the fires. This could happen to us! We are fortunate in Sun City to have dedicated employees working alongside the Firewise committee to clear our area, but they need our help. We must do our part to educate ourselves, plan ahead and prepare our home landscape.

OCTOBER GARDENING TIPS

First of October is the target date to plant seeds for spring-blooming wildflowers. Clear area and loosen soil. Follow the instructions on the seed packet or get information from the person who gave you seeds. Nutrients, sun and water needs vary. Most wildflower seeds do not need to be covered, but they do need to make contact with the soil. Don't just throw seeds on top of mulch. Loosen the soil, spread the seed and use your feet or a board to press seeds into soil. If it is



Early October is the time of year in which to plant spring-blooming wildflower seeds.



NEXT MONTH: Join me for soil amendment recommendations.

Winola is a Williamson County Master Gardener, a member of the Sun City Garden Club and a member of the Sun City Water Wise Task Force.

Master Gardeners and other experienced gardeners are available to answer questions a half hour before Sun City Garden Club meetings each month. The Garden Club meets the second Wednesday of each month beginning with the question/answer period at 12:30 p.m.

a mulched bed, poke holes through the mulch and press with your hand. Seeds will need to be kept moist when they first germinate. Record date planted and watch the weather, though usually Mother Nature takes care of watering.

TURF

Apply fall fertilizer. Do not spread both top dressing and fertilizer, as this would be too much nitrogen.

Horticulture Questions:

Contact Williamson County AgriLIFE Extension Office at 512-943-3300.

Appendix D
Financial Data

Sun City Texas Community Association Firewise Group
2014 Firewise Credits
as of December 1, 2014

item	amount	units	total value
Volunteers			
Firewise volunteers - events	992.5	hours	22,380.88
Home Ignition Zone	56.0	number	1,264.30
Volunteer Clearing Crew	208.0	hours	4,690.40
Individual hours	1,102.0	hours	24,850.10
Subtotal-Volunteer input	2,358.5		53,185.68
Landscape Maintained Homes	726	homes	463,919.00
Community Association			
Creek Clearing Crew	2,880.0	hours	\$ 80,640
Staff Work	631.5	hours	\$ 17,682
Golf staff	20.0	hours	\$ 400
Contractor Work			\$37,000
Subtotal-Community Association			\$ 135,722
Resident contribution (prorated)	houses		
Paid to vendor	1,030	paid	\$ 1,357,540
Own care	1,030	hours	\$ 2,833,633
Subtotal-Resident Contribution			\$ 4,191,173
Total Contribution			\$ 4,844,000

Sun City Texas Community Association Firewise Group

2014 Firewise Group

date	name of group or event	function	number	hrs	total
					credits
1/9/2014	HIZA Work Group	meeting	12	24	541.20
1/16/2014	Education Work Group	meeting	3	6	135.30
1/22/2014	Firewise Group	meeting	14	28	631.40
2/12/2014	HIZA Work Group	meeting	9	18	405.90
2/20/2014	New Residents Orientation	promotion	3	4.5	101.48
2/26/2014	Firewise Group	meeting	8	16	360.80
3/12/2014	HIZA Work Group	meeting	8	16	360.80
3/15/2014	Education Work Group	meeting	4	8	180.40
3/26/2014	Firewise Group	meeting	8	16	360.80
4/9/2014	HIZA Work Group	meeting	11	22	496.10
4/10/2014	Education Work Group	meeting	2	4	90.20
4/23/2014	Firewise Group	meeting	5	10	225.50
4/30/2014	Town Hall	Firewise Day	18	36	811.80
5/3/2014	Wildfire Preparedness Day	Firewise Day	72	216	4,870.80
5/14/2014	HIZA Work Group	meeting	8	16	360.80
5/15/2014	New Residents Orientation	promotion	3	4.5	101.48
5/15/2014	Education Work Group	meeting	3	6	135.30
5/17/2014	HIZA Training	training	7	63	1,420.65
5/17/2014	HIZA continuing education	continuing education	4	12	270.60
5/28/2014	Firewise Group	meeting	10	20	451.00
6/11/2014	HIZA Work Group	meeting	7	14	315.70
6/19/2014	Education Work Group	meeting	2	4	90.20
6/25/2014	Firewise Group	meeting	9	18	405.90
7/9/2014	HIZA Work Group	meeting	7	14	315.70
7/17/2014	Education Work Group	meeting	4	8	180.40
7/23/2014	Firewise Group	meeting	12	24	541.20
8/21/2014	New Residents Orientation	promotion	3	4.5	101.48
8/27/2014	Texas Firewise Workshop	workshop	6	72	1,623.60
9/10/2014	HIZA Work Group	meeting	5	10	225.50
9/18/2014	Education Work Group	meeting		0	0.00
9/24/2014	Firewise Group	meeting	7	14	315.70

Sun City Texas Community Association Firewise Group
2014 Firewise Group

date	name of group or event	function	number	hrs	total	
					credits	
10/10/14	HIZA Work Group	meeting	16	32	721.60	
10/18/14	Education Work Group	meeting	2	4	90.20	
10/22/14	Firewise Group	meeting	8	16	360.80	
10/23/14	Virtual workshop	workshop	12	15	30	
10/29/14	HIZA Training	training	12	108	2,435.40	
10/28/14	HIZA Training	continuing education	8	24	541.20	
11/6/14	New Residents Orientation	promotion	2	3	67.65	
11/12/14	HIZA Work Group	meeting	16	32	721.60	
11/20/14	CWPP/Recertify Work Group	meeting	6	6	135.30	
12/7/14	Firewise Group	meeting	12	24	541.20	
				0	0.00	

year Total Firewise event hours 992.5 22,072.63

year HIZAs performed 56 84 1,794.24

Individual input

Paul Ohlenbusch	hours outside events	350.0	7,892.50
Dan Dodson	hours outside events	250.0	5,637.50
Jim Whittaker	hours outside events	400.0	9,020.00
Jay Casper	hours outside events	29.0	653.95
Fred Hill	hours outside events	1.5	33.83
Larry Fowler	hours outside events	1.0	22.55
Joe Patrick	hours outside events	1.0	22.55
Ed Angel	hours outside events	10.0	225.50
Art Kroll	hours outside events	5.0	112.75
Mike Glackin	hours outside events	5.0	112.75
Yvonne Mautner	hours outside events	10.0	225.50
Sammy Alexander	hours outside events	5.0	112.75
Bob Robinson	hours outside events	5.0	112.75

Sun City Texas Community Association Firewise Group

2014 Firewise Group

date	name of group or event	function	number	hrs	total	
					credits	
	Don Ballenger	hours outside events		0.5	11.28	
	Barry Harding	hours outside events		2.0	45.10	
	Gail Abend	hours outside events		6.0	135.30	
	Jim Mills	hours outside events		21.0	473.55	
		hours outside events		0.0	0.00	
	Individual total			1102.0	24,850.10	
	Totals				48,716.97	

Sun City Texas Community Association Firewise Group

2014 Firewise Volunteer Clearing Crew

start	end	Activity	Hours	People	Total Hrs	value
1/27/14	1/27/14	CCGC #3/Palmetto	8.0	12	96.0	\$2,164.80
2/21/14	2/21/14	CCGC #2/Fieldstone	2.0	8	16.0	360.80
2/28/14	2/28/14	CCGC #2/Fieldstone	2.0	6	12.0	270.60
3/7/14	3/7/14	CCGC #2/Fieldstone	2.0	2	4.0	90.20
3/14/14	3/14/14	CCGC #2/Fieldstone	2.0	4	8.0	180.40
3/21/14	3/21/14	CCGC #2/Fieldstone	3.0	4	12.0	270.60
3/28/14	3/28/14	CCGC #2/Fieldstone	3.0	4	12.0	270.60
4/4/14	4/4/14	CCGC #2/Fieldstone	3.0	8	24.0	541.20
4/11/14	4/11/14	CCGC #2/Fieldstone	4.0	6	24.0	541.20
			0.0	0	0.0	0.00
				42	208.0	\$4,690.40

**Sun City Texas Community Association Firewise Group
Creek Crew staff - 2014**

Dates		Location	Work Item	CA Staff hrs	Amount	Contractor
start	end					
1/2/14	11/30/14	All locations	Firewise work	2,880.0	40,320.00	
					0.00	
					0.00	
Totals				2,880.0	40,320.00	0.00

**Sun City Texas Community Association
Golf and Contractor Work on Firewise items 2014**

Dates		Location	Work Item	mhrs	Amount	Contractor
start	end					
1/2/14	11/30/14	all courses	tree trimmimg			16,000.00
		Cowan Creek #3	removing willow baccharis	20	400.00	
totals				20	400.00	16,000.00

**Sun City Texas Community Association
Staff and Contractor Work on Firewise items 2014**

Dates	start	end	Location	Work Item	Staff	mhrs	Amount	Contractor
1/6/14	1/7/14	304 McKinney Falls	vine & tree removal by the retaining wall	CA	18.0	504.00	0.00	
1/7/14	1/7/14	Horseshoe pits Fitness Center	trimming limbs & adding sand	CA	2.0	56.00	0.00	
1/8/14	1/8/14	411 Fort Buggy Drive	removal of 3 willows/lantana	CA	6.0	168.00	0.00	
1/13/14	1/13/14	132 Stetson Trail	vitex remal in the ditch	CA	2.0	56.00	0.00	
1/15/14	1/15/14	136 Enchanted drive L3 near golf cart path	removal of dead branches & large rocks	CA	2.0	56.00	0.00	
1/16/14	1/16/14	Dog Park	vacuuming leaves & clean up	CA	6.0	168.00	0.00	
1/20/14	1/23/14	Breezeway In and Dove Hollow	vacuuming and hauling off leaves	CA	66.0	1,848.00	0.00	
2/5/14	2/5/14	129 Running Water	remove two dead fallen trees	CA	21.0	588.00	0.00	
2/5/14	2/5/14	411 Hills of Texas	remove large fallen cedar limbs	CA	1.0	28.00	0.00	
2/6/14	2/6/14	161 Whispering Wind	tree pruning	CA	3.0	84.00	0.00	
2/6/14	2/6/14	183 Whispering Wind	tree pruning	CA	3.0	84.00	0.00	
2/7/14	2/7/14	111 Nighthawk	chip and haul off	CA	4.0	112.00	0.00	
2/10/14	2/10/14	263 Red Poppy	cut & treat willow b.& cedars	CA	4.0	112.00	0.00	
2/12/14	2/12/14	105 Vinca	limb up natives & remove cedars and dead wood	CA	6.0	168.00	0.00	
2/13/14	2/13/14	115 Vinca	deadwood pruning & raise cedars	CA	4.0	112.00	0.00	
2/17/14	2/17/14	105 Lantana	limb up live oak	CA	5.0	140.00	0.00	
2/18/14	2/18/14	Entry House on Del Webb	thinning crepe myrtles and native trees	CA	3.0	84.00	0.00	
2/20/14	2/20/14	Del Webb & Scissortail	remove 1 dead tree on LHGC	CA	3.0	84.00	0.00	
2/24/14	3/7/14	Breezeway In and Dove Hollow	leaf mulching and leaf removal	CA	140.0	3,920.00	0.00	
2/14/14	2/14/14	Hubbard Creek & Pedernales	weedeating dead dry grass	CA	2.0	56.00	0.00	
4/1/14	4/1/14	200 Cider Orchard Cove	removal of dead downed limbs	CA	2.0	56.00	0.00	

**Sun City Texas Community Association
Staff and Contractor Work on Firewise items 2014**

Dates		end	Location	Work Item	Staff	mhrs	Amount	Contractor
start								
4/10/14	4/10/14	120	Beach Mountain Cove	limbing up a cedar	CA	1.0	28.00	0.00
4/15/14	4/15/14	Breezeway	In and Dove Hollow	remove all dead limbs	CA	6.0	168.00	0.00
4/16/14	4/16/14	between Hubbard &	Duck Creek	weedeating dead dry grass	CA	2.0	56.00	0.00
4/22/14	4/22/14	Pedernales & 113	Beach Mountain	limb up and clear dead cider	CA	1.0	28.00	0.00
4/24/14	4/24/14	TOTF & Whipporwill		clear drain areas	CA	10.0	280.00	0.00
5/5/14	5/5/14	Sun City Blvd &	Del Webb	clear all dead limbs	CA	3.0	84.00	0.00
5/9/14	5/9/14	102 Wild Plum		remove dead tree	CA	8.0	224.00	0.00
5/12/14	5/12/14	119 Yaupon		remove dead trees	CA	5.0	140.00	0.00
5/19/14	5/19/14	109 Copano Bay		dead limb removal	CA	1.5	42.00	0.00
5/19/14	5/19/14	301-303 Breezeway		remove dead trees	CA	5.0	140.00	0.00
5/19/14	5/19/14	190 Dove Hollow		clear willow baccarus	CA	1.0	28.00	0.00
5/19/14	5/19/14	Retention Pond at	Pedernales	treat all vegetation/willow b	CA	2.0	56.00	0.00
5/20/14	5/20/14	133 Prairie Creek		remove vines	CA	2.0	56.00	0.00
5/21/14	5/21/14	behind 100 Rock	Rose court	dead tree removal	CA	2.0	56.00	0.00
5/21/14	5/21/14	203 Trinity		deam limb removal	CA	2.0	56.00	0.00
5/27/14	5/27/14	Del Webb south of	the bridge	dead tree removal	CA	1.0	28.00	0.00
6/26/14	6/26/14	127 Bass		limb up live oak	CA	1.0	28.00	0.00
6/26/14	6/26/14	163 Whispering	Wind	limb up tree	CA	1.0	28.00	0.00
6/26/14	6/26/14	109 Stetson		limb up tree	CA	1.0	28.00	0.00
7/8/14	7/11/14	114 Caddo lake		black willow removal and treatment	CA	50.0	1,400.00	0.00
7/10/14	7/10/14	Sun City Blvd &	Del Webb	limb up tree	CA	1.0	28.00	0.00

**Sun City Texas Community Association
Staff and Contractor Work on Firewise items 2014**

Dates	start	end	Location	Work Item	Staff	mhrs	Amount	Contractor
7/10/14	7/10/14	7/10/14	softball field	limbing up trees	CA	3.0	84.00	0.00
7/14/14	7/14/14	7/14/14	111 Egret cove	dead tree removal	CA	3.0	84.00	0.00
7/14/14	7/14/14	7/14/14	209 Goose Island	lg dead cedar	CA	27.0	756.00	0.00
7/23/14	7/23/14	7/23/14	Cooper Lake/Cool Springs	remove dead limbs	CA	0.5	14.00	0.00
7/23/14	7/23/14	7/23/14	107Dan Moody	dead limb removal	CA	1.0	28.00	0.00
7/24/14	7/24/14	7/24/14	209Scurry pass	limb up Cedar, remove a cedar	CA	6.0	168.00	0.00
7/25/14	7/25/14	7/25/14	Verbena Pk	remove dead red bud	CA	1.0	28.00	0.00
7/28/14	7/29/14	7/29/14	Red poppy Pk	dead limb removal and canopying	CA	20.0	560.00	0.00
7/30/14	7/30/14	7/30/14	113 Trinity	dead limb removal	CA	0.5	14.00	0.00
8/18/14	8/18/14	8/18/14	SC pk lot	dead limb removal	CA	1.0	28.00	0.00
8/18/14	8/18/14	8/18/14	Hole 3, legacy	dead limbs removed from tr.	CA	2.0	56.00	0.00
8/19/14	8/19/14	8/19/14	Mckinney falls Wall	clear fire break starting at Cool springs	CA	6.0	168.00	0.00
8/26/14	8/26/14	8/26/14	132 Warbler	remove cedar in Drain	CA	0.5	14.00	0.00
9/16/14	9/16/14	9/16/14	104 Honeysuckle	remove dead willow	CA	4.0	112.00	0.00
9/16/14	9/16/14	9/16/14	412 Fort Boggy	remove willow	CA	2.0	56.00	0.00
9/22/14	9/22/14	9/22/14	Wall across from Pickle Ball	remove 4 dead trees and cut and treat vines	CA	4.5	126.00	0.00
9/22/14	9/22/14	9/22/14	104&107 Aransas	remove 6 lg dead trees	CA	13.5	378.00	0.00
10/7/14	10/9/14	10/9/14	limb up all oaks outbound at Del Webb	" "	CA	36.0	1,008.00	0.00
10/10/14	10/10/14	10/10/14	104 Honeysuckle	remove dead tree trunk	CA	1.0	28.00	0.00
10/10/14	10/10/14	10/10/14	514 Dove Hollow	remove dead elm in common area	CA	1.0	28.00	0.00
10/14/14	10/14/14	10/14/14	533 Mill Pond	remove large dead cedar	CA	5.0	140.00	0.00

**Sun City Texas Community Association
Staff and Contractor Work on Firewise items 2014**

Dates		Location	Work Item	Staff	mhrs	Amount	Contractor
start	end						
10/14/14	10/14/14	104 Stetson	remove 2 dead cedar elms	CA	6.0	168.00	0.00
10/14/14	10/14/14	tranquility tr	weed eat tall grass	CA	12.0	336.00	0.00
10/15/14	10/15/14	132 Lariat	remove limbs from roof line	CA	1.0	28.00	0.00
10/15/14	10/15/14	113 Mountain Creek	dead cedar removal	CA	2.5	70.00	0.00
10/15/14	10/15/14	108 Stetson	dead cedar elm removal	CA	2.0	56.00	0.00
10/16/14	10/16/14	118 Sandy Creek	3 dead trees in common area	CA	3.0	84.00	0.00
10/20/14	10/20/14	101 High Tr	limb up live oak in common area	CA	1.5	42.00	0.00
10/20/14	10/20/14	Across from 120 Bronco	clean up dead limbs left by... in common area	CA	0.5	14.00	0.00
10/20/14	10/20/14	110 Scissortail	removed large willow b's and treat	CA	1.0	28.00	0.00
10/20/14	10/20/14	512 Monarch	removed shrubs in drainage ditch	CA	1.5	42.00	0.00
10/20/14	10/20/14	112 Cowan Creek	removed large cedars from creek	CA	2.5	70.00	0.00
10/21/14	10/21/14	509 Sundance	remove limbs from roof line	CA	4.0	112.00	0.00
10/21/14	10/21/14	517 Sundance	remove crepe from roof line	CA	1.0	28.00	0.00
10/22/14	10/22/14	119 Muir	remove crepe from roof line	CA	2.0	56.00	0.00
10/22/14	10/22/14	202 Winter	remove crepe from roof line	CA	1.0	28.00	0.00
10/22/14	10/22/14	616 Deer Meadow Circle	remove crepe from roof line	CA	2.0	56.00	0.00
10/29/14	10/29/14	109 Sea Rim	dead and low hanging limbs removed	CA	4.0	112.00	0.00
10/29/14	10/29/14	105 AGAVE	limb up large oak, and remove small cedars	CA	3.0	84.00	0.00
10/30/14	10/30/14	115 Plover Pass	remove trees from CA wall	CA	3.0	84.00	0.00
10/30/14	10/30/14	pond 5	remove all tall dead grass, cedars, and willow bac	CA	10.0	280.00	0.00
10/31/14	10/31/14	pond 3	remove willow bac, cedars, and vines	CA	3.0	84.00	0.00

**Sun City Texas Community Association
Staff and Contractor Work on Firewise items 2014**

Dates	start	end	Location	Work Item	Staff	mhrs	Amount	Contractor
11/6/14	11/6/14	210	river rock	remove dead post oaks	CA	2.0	56.00	0.00
11/14/14	11/14/14	legacy pro shop		roof line clearance	CA	3.0	84.00	0.00
11/14/14	11/14/14	legacy pavilion BBQ area		lift up trees around BBQ pit	CA	2.0	56.00	0.00
11/17/14	11/17/14	115 Beach mountain		remove dead tree on wall	CA	1.0	28.00	0.00
11/17/14	11/17/14	149 Blacksmiths		remove dead trees in common area	CA	6.0	168.00	0.00
11/19/14	11/19/14	513 Sundance		remove crepe from roof line	CA	2.0	56.00	0.00
11/19/14	11/19/14	501 sundance		remove limbs from roof line	CA	1.0	28.00	0.00
			Tree trimmimg				0.00	2,000.00
			converted turf to rock-Sun City Boulevard				0.00	19,000.00
						631.5	17,682.00	21,000.00