



FIREWISE USA[®]

RESIDENTS REDUCING WILDFIRE RISKS

How to become a Firewise USA[®] site

Step 1: Organize it

Create a board or committee of volunteers to represent your community, including residents and partners such as local forestry agencies or the fire department. **Identify a resident leader** who will be the program point of contact. The board or committee defines the boundaries of the site and determines the number of individual single family dwelling units.



Community size: Minimum of 8 dwelling units and a maximum of 2,500.

Step 2: Plan it

The board or committee will collaborate with their local wildfire expert to complete a **community wildfire risk assessment**. The assessment should be a community-wide view that identifies areas of successful wildfire risk reduction and areas where improvements could be made. The board/committee will use the risk assessment to create a **three-year action plan** that identifies and prioritizes actions to reduce ignition risk to homes.

Each year, neighbors complete educational and risk reduction actions identified in the plan. At a minimum, each site is required to annually invest the equivalent of one volunteer hour per dwelling unit in wildfire risk reduction actions.



3. Register it

When the above criteria have been met and the plan has been made, the **Resident Leader** applies for recognition through the **Firewise® Portal** (portal.firewise.org), describing educational and mitigation work in the site. **Each year, sites renew their status by reporting their activity.**

