

Being FIREWISE Helps to be Disaster Resistant

FIREWISE activities, if implemented on a broad-scale basis, will lessen the impact of a wildfire on a community, but many of the measures established under the Firewise planning effort might also benefit the community by reducing the impact of other natural disasters!

By incorporating Firewise planning into your community's existing disaster planning approach, you may see multiple benefits from a single action – perhaps impacting insurance ratings, public safety, natural resources, and government funding.

The table of attributes (in the left column) are commonly found among Firewise communities. These elements usually exist as part of a larger vision shared by fire agency leaders, community planners and residents. Many of the built-in Firewise features such as wide roads are often transparent to residents and visitors.

These attributes may be planned for inclusion into in new communities from the beginning or retrofitted into existing communities. As the community situation changes and new technologies become available, these elements may become incorporated into the fabric of the community and yield multiple disaster-resistant benefits.

FIREWISE COMMUNITY PLAN	DISASTER TYPE			
	FIRE	FLOOD	EARTH QUAKE	HURRICANE/ WIND
Prevention/Awareness/Education				
Real Estate Disclosure	•	•	•	•
Disaster Supply Kits	•	•	•	•
Outreach Projects	•	•	•	•
FIREWISE Planning & Development				
Land Use	•	•	•	•
Housing	•		•	•
Conservation	•	•	•	•
Open Space	•	•		
Safety	•	•	•	•
Access and Evacuation	•	•	•	
Roadways	•	•	•	•
Signage	•	•		•
Structure Density & Siting	•	•	•	
Property & Resource Protection				
Planning/Zoning	•	•	•	
Building Codes/Ordinances	•	•	•	•
Landscaping	•			•
Construction	•	•	•	•
Retrofitting Roofs	•			•
Fuels Reduction	•		•	•
Insurance	•	•	•	•
Underground Utility Lines	•		•	•
Trimming Trees and Shrubs	•		•	•
Prescribed Fire	•	•		•
High-Risk Area Development	•	•	•	•
Fire Protection/Emergency Services				
WUI Coordinator	•			
Fire Codes and Ordinances	•		•	
Access to Water Supplies	•		•	
Disaster Response	•	•	•	•
Aesthetics				
Environmental	•	•		•
Water	•	•	•	•
Air	•		•	•
Wildlife	•	•		
Plants	•	•		•
Sustainability				