



# ORACLE FIRE DISTRICT Firewise News

News from Oracle Fire District to the community



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www.oraclefire.org

VOLUME X

PO Box 977 • 1475 W. American Ave., Oracle, AZ 85623

SUMMER 2022

Dear Oracle Fire District Residents,



According to information published on the website of the Arizona Department of Forestry and Fire Management, nine out of 10 wildfires across our country are started by people. In 2021, 71% of Arizona fires were human-caused. This year, with higher temperatures forecasted, lack of moisture and dry vegetation around our community, it is more important than ever to take precautions and follow

some suggested 'being firewise' actions to reduce the risk of your home being destroyed by wildfire.

The backside of this newsletter has several helpful and well-documented tips on how you can prevent property fire damage, early preparedness suggestions and evacuation safety-procedure guidelines. Please take a moment to read and put them into practice. If you haven't signed up for the emergency notification system at the Oracle Fire Station to alert you during an emergency, do so now. It's free and it's confidential.

Don't hesitate to get involved with the Oracle Firewise group or the Community Emergency Response Team. Both volunteer groups support Oracle Fire District as needed. Check our website at: [oraclefire.org](http://oraclefire.org) or visit us for more information.

Sincerely, *Robert Jennings*  
Oracle District Fire Chief

## ORACLE WILDFIRE PREPAREDNESS DAY

*Save the Date!*  
**Saturday**  
**May 7 • 7am-3pm**

Join us for a  
**Free\* Brush Dump Day!**  
*\*OFD residents only please!*

- **Pick up valuable Firewise information**
- **Enter our Raffle to win an Evacuation Kit!**

In recognition of . . .  
National Wildfire Community Preparedness Day, we want to encourage \*Oracle Fire District residents to clear brush, trim trees, and cut grass – then haul it away in preparation for Wildfire Season!

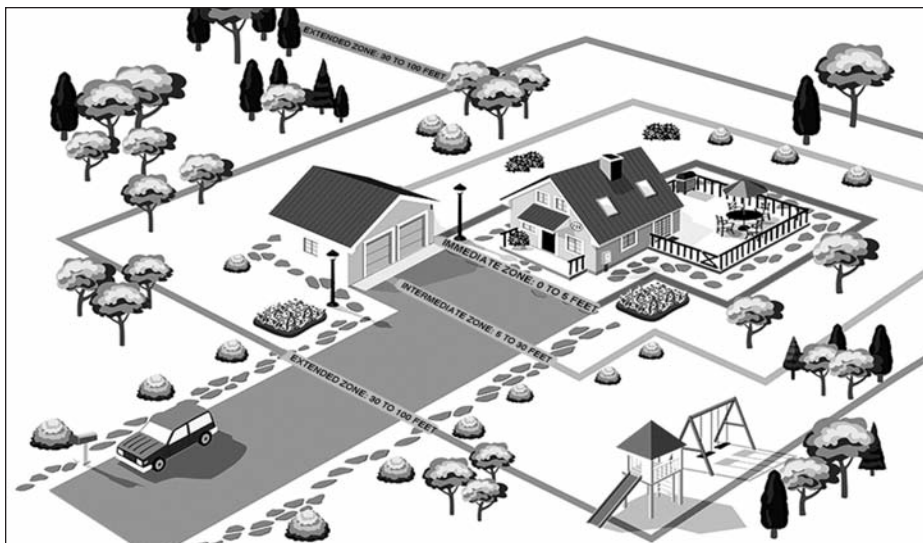
*The Raffle winner will receive an Evacuation Kit all set up for emergency and evacuation. See our website for a list of the items!*



## WHAT YOU DO MATTERS!

### WILDFIRE PREPARATION

When it comes to wildfire preparation, staying close to home is a good thing! Cleaning debris and flammable materials from the first five feet around your house can make the biggest difference in reducing wildfire's impact. Wildfire season is here! Make a plan for preparing and protecting the perimeter around your home. See tips and guidelines at: [nfsa.org](http://nfsa.org)



source: National Fire Protection Association (NFPA)

### NFPA names 2022 Wildfire Community Preparedness Day Funding Award

An award of \$500 was granted to the Oracle Firewise Board, and will be used to fund a FREE Oracle Brush Dump event on Saturday, May 7th from 7am-3pm.

A valid Oracle Resident's card (or permit for landscapers/contractors) will be required. These may be obtained in advance at the Oracle Fire station: Mon-Thurs: 8am-4:45pm & Fri 8am-noon.

Current policies and procedures are available at the fire station or on our website: [oraclefire.org](http://oraclefire.org)

# PREPARE . . . Think Ahead!



## WHAT CAN I DO IN A SINGLE DAY TO STAY SAFER FROM WILDFIRE?!

Oracle, like other communities, exists in a fire-prone ecosystem with wildfires being a reality. When we talk about Firewise, we are suggesting that homeowners be responsible and take precautions to minimize the possibility of your home being destroyed.

*Here are some suggestions that will improve chances of your home surviving wildfire . . .*

## CLEAR . . .

Clear off pine needles, dead leaves and anything that can burn from your roof lines, gutters, decks, porches, patios and fence lines. Falling embers will then have nothing to burn.

## STORE AWAY . . .

Store away furniture cushions, rattan mats, potted plants & other decorations from decks, porches & patios. These items catch embers and help ignite your home if left outside.

## SCREEN & SEAL . . .

Wind-borne embers can get into homes easily through vents and other openings, burning the home from the inside out. Walk around your house to see what openings you can screen or temporarily seal up.

## REMOVE . . .

Walk around your house and remove anything within 30 feet that could burn, such as woodpiles, spare lumber, vehicles, and boats – anything that could act as a large fuel source.

## TRIM . . .

Trim back any shrubs or tree branches that come closer than 5 feet to the house and attachments, and any overhanging branches.

## RAKE . . .

Embers landing in mulch that touches your house, deck or fence is a big fire hazard. Rake out landscaping mulch to at least five feet away.

## CLOSE . . .

In order to evacuate, make sure all windows & doors are closed tightly and seal up any pet doors. Many homes are destroyed by embers entering openings and burning from the inside out.

## Ready. Set. Go!

For more vital tips and information when things start happening fast, we recommend this ready, set, go website at: [ein.az.gov](http://ein.az.gov)

*Watch out for embers!*



## MORE WILDFIRE TIPS

*When it comes to wildfire tips, here are some others you may not have thought of . . .*

- Can your address number be seen from the street?
- Do you know at least two routes out from your home?
- Keep at least a 1/2 tank of gas in your car ALWAYS! If power goes out, there may not be any gas!
- Always carry some cash, an evacuation box and water in your car.
- Preparing for evacuation: Back your car in and have a flashlight and your keys readily available.
- Close all windows, doors, vents and doggy doors; remove draperies and other coverings over windows.
- Remember the three "P"s: Prevent, Prepare and Proceed!



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