



### From The Chair

#### MEMORIAL DAY, INDEPENDENCE DAY, LABOR DAY.

SUN CITY people may be cooking outdoors on a grill. Use caution with grills.

A statement from a medical reference tells me burns are mostly on children & older adults by accident. Also, deaths by burns happen at home 75% each year.

A WARNING LABEL-LIGHTER FLUIDS says:  
Store away from direct flames and heat sources.  
Don't put fluid or glowing coals or flames on a grill.  
Avoid prolonged skin contact & breathing fumes. Use in a well ventilated area and close the cap before igniting the coal on the grill.

PROPANE: Signs at the store where tanks are bought say "don't bring tanks inside the store" & a sign has an emergency contact number.

Experts in RV camping have warnings. Replace rusty tanks. Tanks must be recertified at every 12-yrs. The experts determined that 2 to 12-percent fumes are enough to combust! RV guides will caution: keep pilot lights out when not cooking. Tanks can explode that are kept in direct sun. Test joints with a soap and water mix.

Travel is safest with the tank valve shut off. I get the message.

DON'T LET PROPANE GET OUT OF CONTROL.  
Have a safe holiday.

Mark Marino

Firewise Group Chair

### June

June 16 - Education-Training Work Group, 1:00p, Mesquite Room

June 22 - Firewise Group Meeting, 1:00 pm, Mesquite Room

### July

July 20 - Education-Training Work Group, 1:00p, Mesquite Room

July 26 - Firewise Group Meeting, 1:00 pm, Mesquite Room

### Firewise Volunteer Clearing Crew News

Another successful month for the Firewise Clearing Crew. 20 volunteers attended the Annual Wildfire Preparedness Day Event providing information as well as enjoying a wonderful lunch that was provided by the Sun City Community Association, a big Thank you for that.

More interest was expressed in seeing the before and after pictures of what our crew does on Tuesday mornings (see, we actually do some work and not just talk a lot. lol). Here's another set to share with you from our 21<sup>st</sup> May's workday.

Be sure to look around the outside of your homes to see what you can do to help keep our community "Firewise Safe".

Petra Garen

Firewise Clearing Crew Coordinator

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Please promote the  
Home Ignition Zone  
Evaluation!



Before



After

### Our Partners



**FIREWISE USA**  
Residents reducing wildfire risks

Click logo for information!

The Trumpet is published monthly except January. If you have information to share, please send it to [ole7734@suddenlink.net](mailto:ole7734@suddenlink.net) by the 28<sup>th</sup> of each month.

### Home Ignition Zone (HIZ) Numbers

As of:	<u>4/24</u>	<u>5/22</u>
Received	1,142	1,144
Completed	1,142	1,143
New requests	1	2
Open	0	1

### Firewise Group Meeting Notes

\* The May 24 Firewise Group Meeting had 13 members and 3 liaisons present. The following were the topics:

- \* Education/Training
    - Wildfire Preparedness-Appreciation Day review
  - \* .HIZ report (above)
  - \* Firewise Clearing Crew report. (see page 1)
- Meeting Notes for this and previous meetings can be found on the [web site](#).

The next Firewise Group meeting will be June 26, 2024 at 1 pm in the Mesquite Room.

### Insurance Dropped?

Apparently several insurance companies have dropped policies even though Sun City is a Firewise Community.

We know USAA Insurance promotes the Firewise program and offers their policy holders a small discount. Some insurance companies promote Firewise but do not offer discounts.

Why is this happening? The insurance companies are probably using models projecting the probability of embers from a wildfire reaching a location. They are based on the kind of vegetation that can produce embers within 2 miles. How far embers can be carried by the wind depends on wind speed, topography, and other factors.

The construction materials for Sun City homes are relatively fire resistant. Stucco, brick and cement board don't burn. But we have wood door frames and other areas embers may collect against or enter.

If you or someone you know has been dropped by their insurance, shop around.

### June Holidays

June 14	June 6	June 16
Flag Day	D-Day Anniversary	Father's Day
June 19	June 20	June 29
Juneteenth	First Day of Summer	Hug Holiday

**Please promote the  
Home Ignition Zone  
Evaluation!**

### Upcoming Events

August 16, 2024, Thursday - New Resident Orientation, 8:30a-9:15a, SCB  
October 25, Friday - Home Ignition Zone Evaluator Training, 9:00a-

### Partners Corner

A reminder - a Partner is ask to:

- \* share Firewise information and where to find it
- \* promote the Home Ignition Zone (HIZ) Evaluation
- \* promote the Firewise Clearing Crew
- \* promote Firewise events
- \* if possible, attend Firewise Group meetings to provide input, gain information and ask questions, etc.
- \* review the Firewise Trumpet newsletter to keep up to date

### The First Five Feet

The Firewise concept is based on critical zones around the perimeter of the house. The most important is the 0-5 feet zone next to the house. This zone is known as the immediate zone. The goal is to reduce the potential for embers landing on or near the house to ignite dry fuels exposing the house to flames.

Shrubs can be a hazard if dry material ignites under them. The hazard can be reduced by maintaining a 6-12 inch clearance from the house wall and a 4-6 inch clearance above the mulch. Some shrubs may not be easily maintained. The need is to reduce the accumulated dry material under them.

Exposed wood is another concern. Examples are door frames (including garage) and posts would be areas of concern. Keep these areas clear of accumulated leaves and other dry material.

You can get more information in the publication *Being Firewise Around Your Home* ([click here](#)).



Clearance from the wall and below shrubs make it easier to remove leaves and other debris that embers could ignite.

### Sun City Texas Firewise Web Links

[Web Site](#)  
[Meeting Notes](#)  
[Current Publications](#)  
[Home Ignition Zone Evaluation](#)  
[Annual Renewal Documents](#)  
[2023 Town Hall video](#)  
[Landscape Vendor Service Provider list](#)

### Firewise Group Leadership

Chair - Mark Marino  
Vice-Chair - Pete Mollidor  
Recorder - Cheryl Taylor  
Webmaster - Melissa Lane  
HIZ Coordinator - Paul Ohlenbusch  
Firewise Clearing Crew Coordinator - Petra Garren  
Education Coordinator - Dan Dodson  
Training Coordinator - Paul Ohlenbusch