



FIREWISE COMMUNITIES USA

Firewise Communities USA is a project of the National Wildland/Urban Interface Fire Working Group. The program recognizes communities or neighborhoods that demonstrate the spirit, resolve and willingness to take responsibility as a partner in wildfire protection.

Firewise Communities USA is a way to help prevent and reduce losses to wildland/urban interface fire and foster community participation in applying firewise principles.

In order to become a Firewise Community USA, a community or neighborhood must do the following:

- Enlist a wildland/urban interface specialist to complete a wildfire hazard assessment.
- Use the assessment to create a plan that identifies locally agreed-upon solutions that the community can implement.
- Sponsor a local Firewise task force, committee, commission or department that maintains the Firewise Community program and tracks its progress or status.
- Observe a Firewise Communities USA Day each spring, dedicated to a local Firewise project.
- Invest a minimum of \$2.00 per capita annually in local Firewise Communities USA efforts. (Work by municipal employees or volunteers using municipal and other equipment can be included, as can state or federal grants dedicated to that purpose).
- Submit an annual report to Firewise Communities USA documenting continuing compliance with the program.

Contact your local South Carolina Forestry Commission office (<http://www.state.sc.us/forest/scoff.htm>) for more information on how your community or neighborhood can participate in the Firewise Communities USA program or visit the Firewise Communities web site: <http://www.firewise.org/usa/>