



Welcome to Los Reyes Canyons, a gated, large-lot, established neighborhood located on Highway 16, just a couple minutes' drive from Old Town Helotes, Texas. Each year, thousands of acres of property are destroyed by wildfires, and natural disasters have become increasingly costly to both the ecosystem and individuals. Los Reyes Canyons includes 206 homesites situated within a total of 419 heavily wooded acres. At the end of 2025, there were 198 occupied residences on those homesites.

The Firewise program within the Los Reyes Canyons community ensures the residents of the community are aware of the dangers our community faces being heavily wooded and sloped, as well as steps they can take to mitigate these dangers to the greatest extent possible.

Each community 1.7 - 5.7 acre lot is enclosed by a 10-foot conservation zone, and the Los Reyes Canyons Board of Directors has a contract in place through the Fall of 2026 to aggressively clear overhanging vegetation within that 10 foot zone along our roadways, creating significant fire breaks throughout the community. Our design committee for new construction maintains the hill country look of the neighborhood which tends to favor fire resistant materials like masonry or stucco exteriors. The large lot size means a large portion of each lot can be cleared from brush and maintained creating extensive open space between homes.

One of the priorities for the Firewise committee is to encourage easements, common areas, and thoroughfares be maintained between homes. To support that activity, the community has six scheduled brush pickups per year where every household has an opportunity to dispose of tree and brush trimmings. This opportunity is provided through our mandatory Helotes waste management contract. Residents are encouraged to report their personal brush removal efforts in term of hours of labor, as well as the dollar expense for contracted work, through a Resident Firewise Report linked from our HOA webpage and provided via email to each resident once per year, and periodically through our Facebook page. Generally this work takes the form of tree and brush trimming or removal, but also has included landscaping with fire resistant materials like rock and paving stones.

The yearly plan for the Firewise Committee includes the following actions.

- Include fire prevention tips and tasks in an annual newsletter, providing residents with information on risk mitigation strategies, providing links to Firewise USA materials, and providing a digital Resident Firewise Report form for reporting risk mitigation effort hours and monetary expenditures.
- Organize a community Firewise Prevention Drive before the first community brush pick up of each year, providing each resident with an information package on regional fires, prevention, and request each homeowner to complete a Resident Firewise Report.
- Present Firewise information at the periodic Homeowners Association Meetings. Required by our bylaws once per year but more frequent in practice.
- Set up a Firewise Table at community social events with Firewise USA educational materials and handouts as well as printed Resident Firewise Reports. Opportunities vary, but in October 2025 we will have a table at our annual Chili Cookoff as one example.
- Create a dedicated Firewise section on the new LosReyesCanyons.org website being developed by our Home Owner's Association by the end of October 2025, containing links to Firewise USA educational materials as well as fire prevention information of local interest.