President’s Message 4

Last year you may recall that prior to the much needed monsoon rains that fell in late summer, our area had been particularly dry, even for an arid state like ours. In fact, our hot, dry summer raised the fire potential to the point that the entire Coconino National Forest was closed to all visitors for several weeks during the height of tourist season. While there has been some moisture here during the winter and early spring, it is likely that we can expect another hot and dry summer this year.

With that in mind, I wanted to send out a reminder about some common sense steps that each of us can take to protect our property and homes from fire this summer. One would be to create a defensible space within 30 feet of your home. This can be done by removing tall grasses and excess vegetation which can provide a path for fire. In addition, removing debris from gutters, including leaves and pine needles, can reduce the fire risk to your home. Finally, pruning limbs to increase the height of the lowest limb from the ground will reduce the chances of the entire tree and others nearby being engulfed in flames.

In addition, while we all hope to again enjoy rain during the monsoon season, we can reduce the risk of flooding by removing debris in drainage areas that could otherwise block stormwater runoff.

Taking steps like these well in advance of any adverse weather or fire events will reduce the danger to homes and property, and enable us to continue enjoying life in this scenic and beautiful place.

Sincerely,

Chris Hartman

President, Pinon Woods III Homeowners Association