



# FIREWISE USA®

## RESIDENTS REDUCING WILDFIRE RISKS

Dear Tillicum Village Homeowners,

With caution to not spread coronavirus, **THE VOLUNTEER DAYS IN APRIL AND MAY HAVE BEEN CANCELLED.** Instead, the Firewise Task Force and the HOA Board will work with any interested volunteers to accomplish small tasks throughout the village while maintaining social distance. **NEIGHBORS HELPING NEIGHBORS** tasks can be accomplished with a family or a two-three person team. Ideas include raking areas of common space or pathways or street frontage, picking up pinecones, pruning plant growth under trees to the recommended 3 foot height, blowing off a section of common space, or a task of your choice. Consider working with a neighbor on a cleanup task. Common space piled debris will be collected before mid-April. If questions contact Bert Neumaier (860-836-4923 or bneumaier@sbcglobal.net).

Just as the coronavirus hit, TV received a \$500 **"Wildfire Community Preparedness Day"** grant for our clean up days, which are now cancelled. Instead **NEIGHBORS HELPING NEIGHBORS** will be our approach to this spring's cleanup. Consider doing tasks that benefit everyone in our community. Consider helping a neighbor, especially someone who is homebound or not able to take on yard cleanup. This year our approach must be different due to social distancing, but our results can be amazing and even better—both with cleanup and spreading goodwill.

**TV SPRING HOMEOWNER ROADSIDE PICKUP** will take place from Saturday, May 2<sup>nd</sup> to Sunday, May 10<sup>th</sup>. The piles must be **ON TARPS** separated by **DEBRIS** (pine needles, pine cones, leaves) and **BRANCHES** (6' max length, 3" max diameter). There is **NO COST** during these dates if you drop off loads yourself at the Knott landfill.

Helped by the mild winter, our landscaper worked hard since January cleaning up the commons. Arbor Tree Service removed hazard trees, thinned out juniper trees crowding out other trees, limbed up many trees, and removed stumps. Adult & Teen Challenge removed ornamental juniper bushes on Chase and Mowitch and will remove more in the coming weeks. Our lawn service will now focus on irrigation and lawn maintenance.

**IRRIGATION START UP TARGET DATE IS APRIL 15<sup>TH</sup>.** Contact Dan Sempert with irrigation issues.

**IN CONCLUSION, PLEASE CONSIDER THE FOLLOWING INFO AS YOU CLEAN UP YOUR HOUSE THIS SPRING:**

**ZONE ONE IS THE 0-5 FEET IMMEDIATE ZONE** since it is most vulnerable to flying embers. If you haven't seen it yet, watch the video footage of how quickly flying embers can ignite a home! [Go to **"Fire Safety"** link on the TVHOA website.]

- Clean the roof, gutters, & decks of dead leaves, sticks, pine needles.
- Box in areas below patios & decks to prevent debris from accumulating. Install 1/8 inch metal mesh screening in attic or soffit vents to prevent or at least reduce embers from gaining access. 1/8" is far better than 1/4".
- Clear away any combustible material next to the house including dead vegetation, dried leaves, pine needles, stacks of wood, even furniture.
- Replace wood mulch products with non-combustible materials such as stepping stones, gravel, or just plain dirt.
- Remove trees & shrubs from this area right next to the house. Trim tree limbs that hang over the house since they drop debris on a regular basis.
- Break any house-to-house connections with a metal gate (although TV doesn't have many such fences). If one wood fence touches another, this can lead the fire directly to your home—a metal gate is a solution.



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For April Board Minutes - Firewise Report

TV received a \$500 “Wildfire Community Preparedness Day” grant, one of 150 nationwide grants sponsored by State Farm and the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA). Our “Neighbors helping neighbors” approach meets their expectations and is in compliance with social distancing safety measures. Funds will help support cleanup and debris removal efforts around the village.

All \$4000 of the Deschutes County “Fuel Reduction Grant” plus additional TV Board funds were spent hiring Arbor Tree Service to remove hazard trees, thin out crowded juniper trees, limb up ladder fuel, and grind stumps. Multiple walk arounds helped coordinate the areas selected.

Adult & Teen Challenge teams have been removing ornamental juniper bushes in the commons and will continue removal in several more common areas. The men will also help with debris pickup before the irrigation system is turned on.