

Firewise Monthly Educational Community Meeting August 15th, 2026

Documents available at <https://flfdaz.com/firewise> to view the Forest Lakes Firewise Program related information and forms.

Program Status

- As of the end of July, we have had 1350 Loads to the Green Waste Site equating to 8,100 hours. January to July investment cost of \$234,833 for just the volunteer hours in lot cleaning.
- Total investment cost of \$293358 or 9 times the requirement for Firewise active status.
- Four firewise signs coming for the community (two on the south side).

Resident Home Address Signage

- The water company has brought to our attention the issue with home address visibility. This is also an issue for the fire department and needs attention.
- Estimating 50% compliance currently. Looking to 2027 program to get closer to 100% signage compliance.
- Coconino County Ordinance 2007-05 - 4 is 4-inch white vertical numbers on reflective green background.
- Thinking of giving out Firewise t-shirts as an incentive to get in compliance when you purchase and place the signage. \$15-20 on Amazon.

Green Waste Site

- Approved for 5 acres but only using 50% right now. Considering growing that area for greater capacity. Looking into options for where we transport the waste or getting our own chipper.

Future Talks (2027)

- Working with Katie Root and the Garden Club on Forest Service talks for forest health in 2027.

Insurance Update

- Working with DFFM and NAU on wildfire insurance. Will start pulling in insurance folks to give industry status to see how things are changing. We hope to see changes in 2027.
- It has gotten very hard for folks to get insurance right now. We are aware and working hard to have our efforts go toward better insurance coverage.

0-5 ft \$100 Gift Card Winners for June (5 for June and 4 Carryover from May)

- Don and Faye Hubule
- Rich and Linda Curry

5" Diameter or less Ponderosa Tree Removal Project raffle entries:

- Four new added to the list
- Kim Krafft won the August drawing. Congrats Kim!!

Community Questions and Answers

- How do insurance companies make the ratings? A: Forest Lakes doesn't get a lot of credit for the efforts we and DFFM do to protect the community. We hope this will change in the future.
- Thinning for the south side was going to be an area of focus. What is the status? A: The problem is no one wants to buy the area and log it. The Forest Service would need to come up with a budget to thin the area. Black Mesa has thinning plans out to 2029.
- John Nelson reminded us of our tree thinning grant. If there is more interest, you will get put on a backup list as some people have backed out. The goal is to have 70-80 trees left on any acre property for Firewise.

Drone Program and Demo

- The Fire Department used the FLOA donation for a 2nd trainer drone.
- The drones can even drop a radio to someone so we can talk to them. They are used for accidents, finding lost people, hazmat situations, as well as wild fires. Drone sense capability allows us to connect the data to other organizations and people that may need the information to help resolve the situation.
- Thermal sensors on the drones make up about half the cost of the drones. Practice drones run about \$2500 and the state-of-the art drone we purchased is around \$8000.

Call-to-Action for Residents (reminders):

- Attend these monthly educational meetings the 3rd Saturday of each month May-Sep following the FLOA community board meetings.
- Fill out a [tracking form](#) after you rake your pine needles in Spring and Fall as necessary and anyone that may be coordinating a group clean-up activity to track the volunteer hours.
- Work on your property for the "0-5-feet" and "5" or less" programs and request inspection to be entered into the monthly drawings. Find this and other forms at: <https://flfdaz.com/firewise>