

REDWOOD VALLEY/CHEZEM

FIREWISE ACTION PLAN



The Redwood Valley Community Assessment was reviewed and accepted by the Redwood Valley/Chezem Firewise Community Working Group on June 15th, 2014 and it was decided to seek Firewise recognition. Subsequently, the following action plan was created and agreed-upon by the Committee. Firefighters with CAL FIRE and the Blue Lake and Willow Creek volunteer fire departments provided guidance for the development of the assessment as well as the action plan.

Given local strengths and capacity, it was determined that the fire safety of the community can best be served by implementing the following short-term actions. The following action plan specifically focuses on actions that address what can be done within the home ignition zone and within high risk community areas.

ACTION	RESPONSIBLE PARTY	TIME-LINE
Improve firefighters' ability to find homes:		
Post road or driveway signs on at least 15 currently unmarked locations.	Firewise Committee and Property owners	December 2015
Complete a Map Book including addresses in Redwood Valley and on Chezem Road for emergency response personnel. Include designated areas for helicopters to land well as water sources for bucket dips (identify the latitude and longitude)	Firewise Committee, Susan Marshall, HSU student recruit	December 2014
Conduct evacuation planning and provide local training:		
Identify alternative access routes for a variety of emergency scenarios and provide educational opportunities focused on evacuation planning.	Firewise Committee	December 2014

ACTION	RESPONSIBLE PARTY	TIME-LINE
Identify potential evacuation zones within the community where residents could safely shelter in place and/or be airlifted out if necessary. Maintain these sites in a safe condition during fire season.	Firewise Committee	December 2014
Improve Water Supply and Access:		
Look for property owners to outfit large water storage tanks with hoses and fittings compatible with firefighting equipment, with an ultimate goal of 3 tanks by the end of 2015.	Firewise Committee	December 2015
Investigate and pursue options for increasing community fire protection water supply, including seeking out locations for additional water tanks.	Firewise Committee and Property owners.	December 2015
Coordinate with landowner to fill existing water tank on Cookson Ranch Road for additional community fire protection water.	Firewise Committee, Landowner	December 2014
Participate in the Blue Dot Program by placing reflective blue dots beside the driveways of residences that have water sources and proper hook-ups available for fire protection, and place blue dots beside actual water sources. (Consider providing a map of existing water sources available for fire protection to emergency responders including helicopter bucket filling spots).	Firewise Committee, Property owners	December 2014
Hazardous Fuels Reduction (Flammable Vegetation Management):		
Encourage residents to maintain good defensible space (including keeping gutters and rooftops clear of debris). Provide defensible space information to 60 residents.	Firewise Committee	December 2014

ACTION	RESPONSIBLE PARTY	TIME-LINE
Three property owners complete wildfire hazard reduction work funded through the Humboldt County Fire-adapted Landscapes and Safe Homes (FLASH) program. A home risk assessment is provided with this program and mitigation recommendations are made for reducing fire hazards in the home ignition zone. The County received funds for this program from the U.S.D.A Forest Service.	Property owners with assistance from FLASH technicians	December 2015
Conduct hazardous fuels reduction by brushing and thinning alongside Chezem, Bair, and Stover Roads.	CAL FIRE, Firewise Committee	December 2015
Coordinate with landowner to reduce hazardous fuels around Chezem campgrounds.	Landowner, Firewise Committee, CAL FIRE	December 2015
Enhance Emergency Preparedness Capacity:		
Host a “Redwood Valley/Chezem Firewise Day” event. This day showcases strategies that residents can use to reduce their risk to loss from wildfire and highlights community Firewise projects and accomplishments.	Firewise Committee, CAL FIRE, and neighboring fire service agencies	June 2014
Create a bulletin board at the top of Chezem Road and post Fire Safety information here and at top of Bair/Stover Rd. leading into Redwood Valley from Hwy 299.	Firewise Committee	December 2014
Stay informed about and pursue possibility of gaining community fire protection through annexation into the jurisdiction of the Blue Lake Fire Protection District.	Firewise Committee, Blue Lake Fire Protection District, County of Humboldt	Ongoing
Continue training opportunities with Blue Lake Volunteer Fire Department to increase knowledge of resident-owned fire truck.	Firewise Committee, Blue Lake Volunteer Fire Department, Fire truck owner	December 2015
Investigate and pursue options for building a shelter for local, resident-owned fire truck.	Firewise Committee, Fire truck owner	December 2015