



Yavapai County Emergency Management

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YAVAPAI COUNTY OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT





Emergency Management

Emergency management is the managerial function charged with creating the framework within which communities reduce vulnerability to hazards and cope with disasters.

Emergency managers seek to promote safer, less vulnerable communities with the capacity to cope with all hazards and disasters.





Preparedness

Disaster **preparedness** planning involves identifying organizational resources, determining roles and responsibilities, developing **policies** and **procedures** and planning activities in order to reach a level of **preparedness** to be able to respond timely and effectively to a disaster should one occur.

- Training
- Equipping
- Exercising
- Cyclic evolution
- EIN – “Code Red”





Response Support

Response Support includes actions taken to save lives and prevent further property damage in an emergency situation. Response is putting your preparedness plans into action.

- Support Incident Management Teams
- Support First Responders
- Resource allocation and coordination
- Support shelter and feeding operations
- VOAD coordination
- Policy coordination
- Information Management





Recovery

Recovery includes actions taken to return to a normal or an even safer situation following an emergency.

Recovery includes getting financial assistance to help pay for the repairs.

Recovery activities take place after an emergency.

- Restoration of Lifelines
- Financial/Business
- Community well-being
- Coordination of local, State, and federal resources
- Supporting community best interests





Mitigation

Mitigation is the effort to reduce loss of life and property by lessening the impact of disasters. In order for mitigation to be effective we need to take action now—before the next disaster—to reduce human and financial consequences later (**analyzing** risk, **reducing** risk, and **insuring against** risk). It is important to know that disasters can happen at any time and any place and if we are not prepared, consequences can be fatal.

Effective mitigation requires that we all understand local risks, address the hard choices, and invest in long-term community well-being. Without mitigation actions, we jeopardize our safety, financial security and self-reliance.





Mitigation Resources

Yavapai Firewise: <https://yavapaifirewise.org/>

- Firewise Communities
- Mitigation Coordination: Local, State, Federal
- Grant Mgt.

FEMA: <https://www.ready.gov>

- Severe Weather
- Flooding
- Extreme Heat
- Planning
- Active Shooter
- Financial Preparedness
- ETC.





Summary

The Pillars of Emergency Management

- Comprehensive
- Progressive
- Risk-Driven
- Integrated
- Collaborative
- Coordinated
- Flexible
- Professional





Firewise

Living in the Wildland Urban Interface

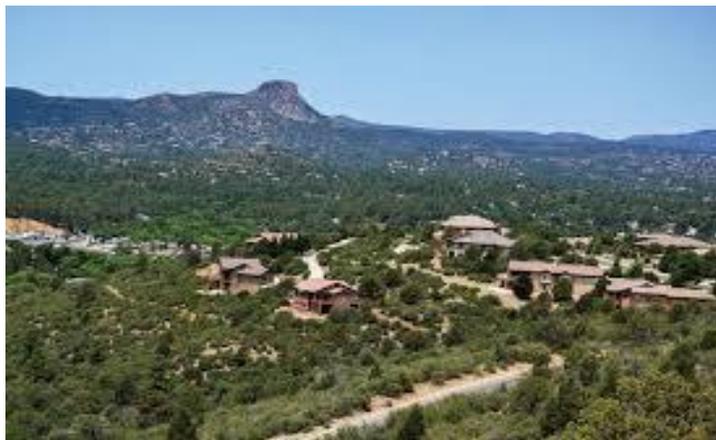
Randy Clark
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Yavapai County Emergency Management





What is Wildland Urban Interface?

- Simply put. Wildland Urban Interface or WUI for short is the population growth in areas where communities and nature meet that could be prone to wildfires. This includes town boundaries, unincorporated communities, incorporated communities, homesteads or other manmade infrastructure.
- Growth in these areas have more than tripled in the last 100 years and significant growth occurring over the last 40-50 years according the U.S. Department of Interior and the USDF.
- Wildland Urban Interface can be any area such as forest, wooded areas, and deserts. If there is fuel to burn like grass and trees, it will impact the risk to you and your property.





What is Firewise?

- Firewise describes a level of knowledge and preparedness for wildfires in residential and urban areas.
- Firewise was adopted in 1992 as a product of the National Wildland/Urban Interface Program from the devastating fire season of 1985.
- In 1999, the advisory group for the National WUI Fire Program became the WUI Working Team of the NWCG, which oversees the National WUI Fire Program and the Firewise Communities program.
- Firewise is a National program that provides communities and WUI homeowners with information and strategies for reducing the risk of living in a potential fire environment.
- Individuals and communities can begin by using at least one element of Firewise strategy and adding other elements over time.

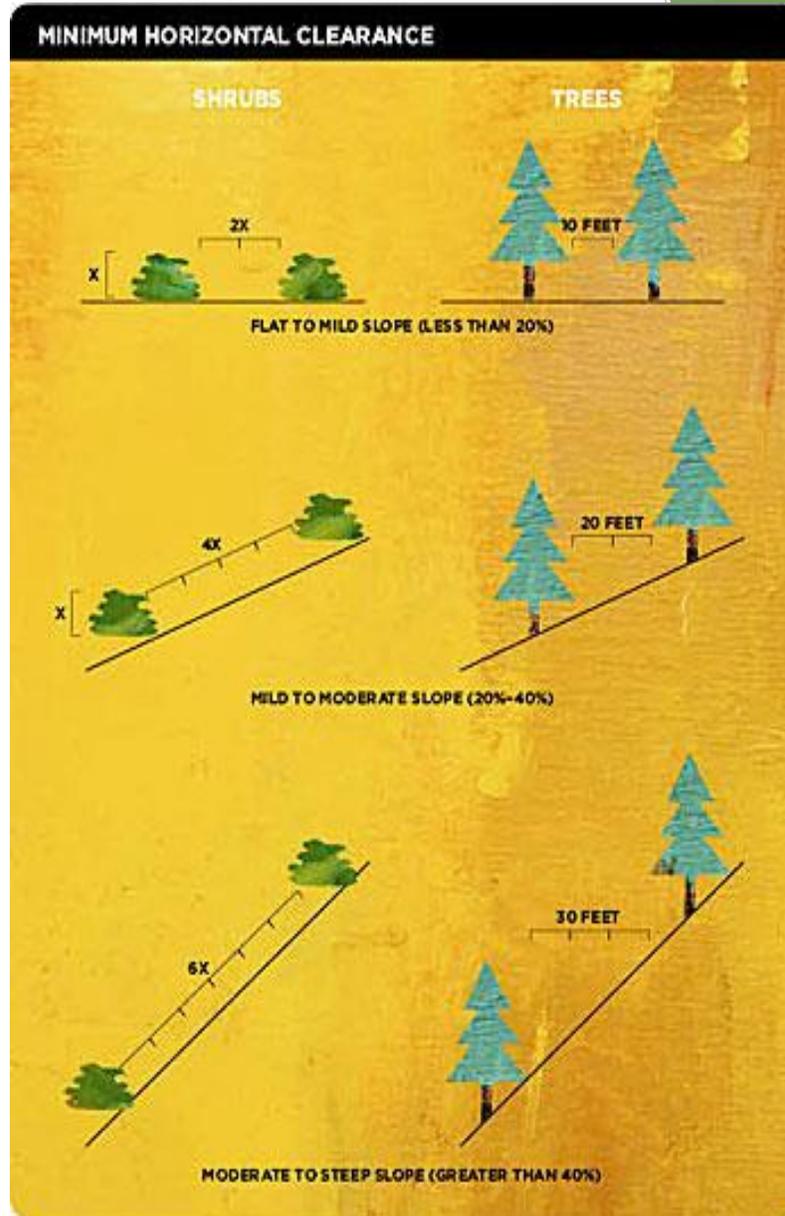
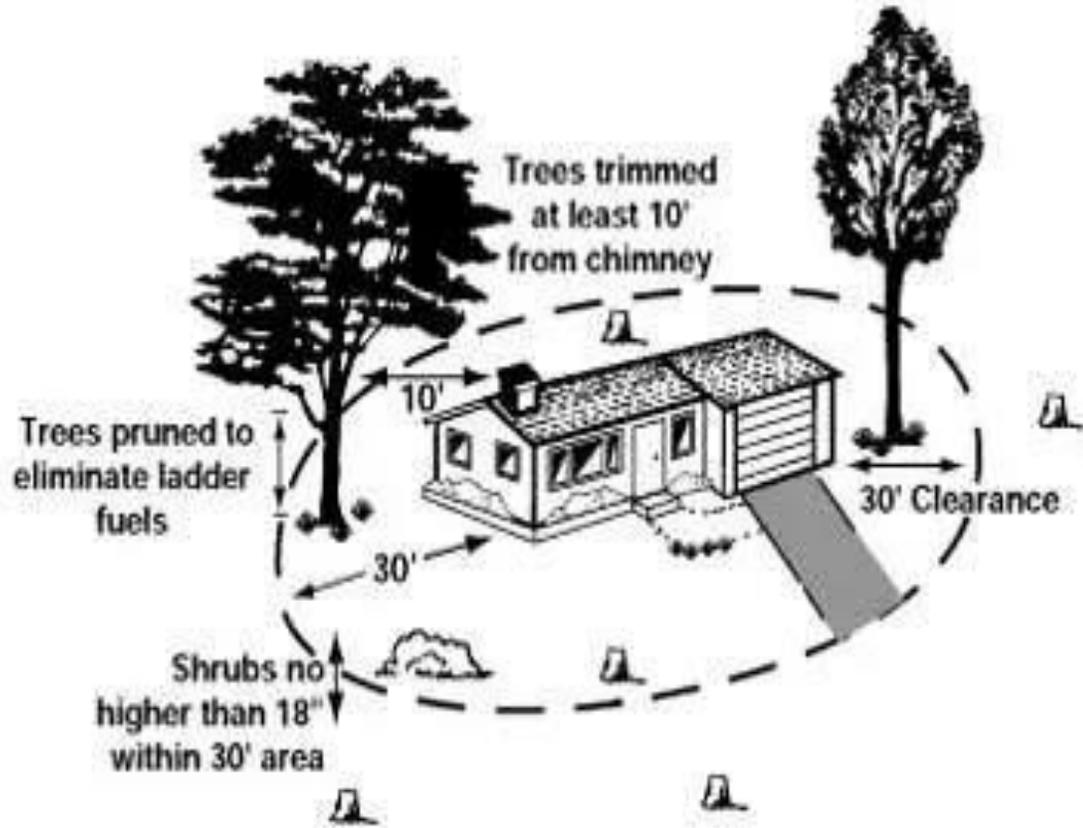


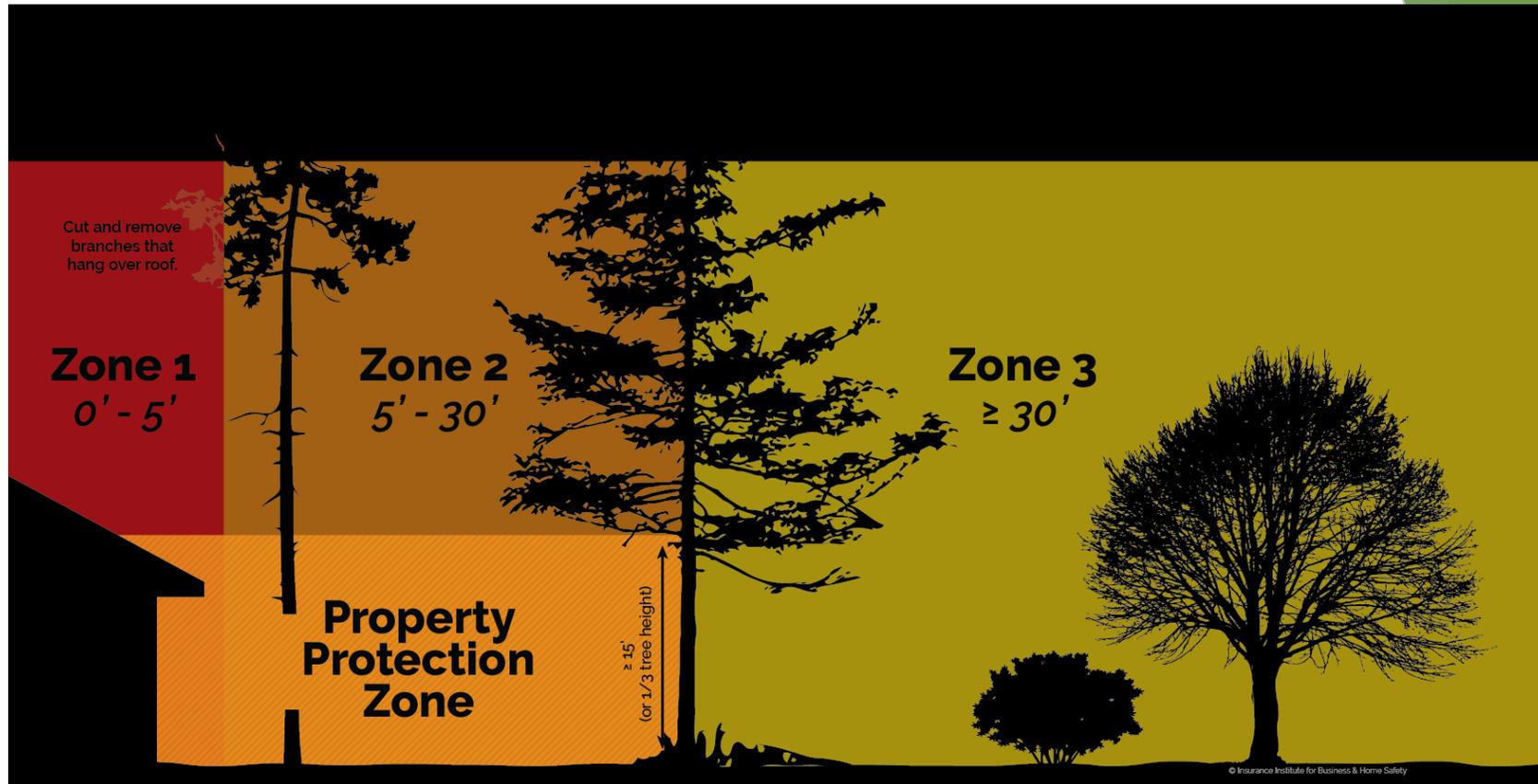


➤ Firewise Elements

- ✓ Create defensible space
- ✓ Choose fire-resistant plants
- ✓ Select ignition resistant building materials
- ✓ Position structures away from slopes
- ✓ Work with firefighters to develop emergency plans







- An example of creating defensible space around residential structures can be accomplished by zoning the defensive space and practicing responsible landscaping and lawn maintenance.
- The Firewise Communities provides resources for WUI that enhance firefighter safety, community planning landscaping, construction, and continuing maintenance.
- Additional information is found at www.Firewise.org. This website can provide information on becoming a Firewise Community.





How does it work in a nutshell ?

- A Firewise committee is formed to represent the community.
- The committee builds relationships and works with local agencies such as fire departments and forestry to develop a wildfire risk assessment.
- The assessment will have recommendations of actions that will reduce the risk of WUI fires and may take several years.
- Getting the word out about Firewise can be done in a number of different ways: posting on social media, being involved in community outreach events. The imagination is the limit!





Vegetation thinning and flooding

- When a wildfire burns through an area many times the burning is so complete there is little left in vegetation to hold soil and absorb water from rain and melting snow.
- Over thinning of vegetation can have the same effect.
- Removing grass and other vegetation to bare native soil will remove fuel from wildfire but it also removes the mechanism for absorbing and holding water.
- Land slope will have an effect on water movement and absorption. The steeper the slope the more readily water will flow without being absorbed into the ground. This increases the possibility of flash flooding and mudslides.
- By using Firewise landscaping and maintenance practices the possibility of reducing damage is greatly improved.





What can you do?

- Only remove enough vegetation which provides a safe buffer between you and a wildfire.
- Initiate and maintain defensible space practices by zoning your fuel reduction. Referred to in the Firewise website.
- Don't wait until fire season begins. Trim low hanging branches up, weed and mow yards and property, remove combustible materials away from structures, remove branches away from roofs, have trees thinned when needed, and sweep pine needles and leaves off roofs and gutters.
- Consider creating or joining Firewise community for support and information.
- Wildfire fires are a natural process which rejuvenates the land but can have serious consequences for those who do not practice and prepare in a WUI environment.





Funding

- There is some grant funding to assist the Firewise mission. **The Wildfire Community Preparedness Day Project Funding.** This grant is for groups or individuals describing how they would work towards reducing the risk of wildfire or impact of a recent fire, and/or advancing preparedness for wildland in the community.
- There are other grant opportunities for non-profit organizations through the Arizona Department of Forestry and Fire Management, Title III for fuel mitigation. Some grant opportunities have closed but there are others coming up during the off-season. Research into these opportunities can have a far reaching effect for future Firewise activities.





References

- National Firewise Communities Program Fact Sheet
- NWCG Wildland/Urban Interface Working Team
1 Batterymarch Park, Quincy, MA, 02169
- Living with Fire
- Firewise USA: NFPA
- Arizona Department of Forestry and Fire Management





What if I'm a contact to someone with COVID-19?

A [contact to COVID-19](#) should remain home and away from others for two weeks after their last exposure to someone with COVID-19. This is because it can take up to 14 days to develop symptoms of COVID-19 after being exposed to the virus.

Individuals should also stay home from work or school, unless they are considered an [essential worker](#). They should self-monitor for symptoms, including checking their temperature for a fever twice a day. If you are an essential worker, please follow-up with your employer or HR for specific guidelines.

Someone in my house is a contact for COVID-19. Does that mean I'm a contact too?

Not necessarily. If your household member develops symptoms of COVID-19 or tests positive for COVID-19, then you will be considered a contact for COVID-19. If your household member remains asymptomatic and does not test positive for COVID-19, then you are not considered a contact for COVID-19.

The contact in your house should self-monitor for [symptoms](#), including checking their temperature for a fever twice daily.



I tested positive for COVID-19. What do I need to do?

Doctors recommend self-isolating for a minimum of 14 days. That's because it can take anywhere from 2-14 days for symptoms to appear. How long symptoms last vary from person to person, and remember, some people are asymptomatic.

If you are experiencing any symptoms, it is important that you “self-isolate” in the following ways:

- Stay home, get rest, and drink plenty of healthy fluids (like water, Gatorade).
- Clean your hands often, either with soap and water for 20 seconds or an alcohol-based hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol. High priority times to wash hands include:
 - After blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing
 - After using the restroom
 - Before eating or preparing food
 - After contact with animals or pets
 - Before and after providing routine care for another person who needs assistance, such as a child.
- check your temperature and monitor your symptoms daily. Seek prompt medical care if you feel like you are getting worse.

When Do I No Longer Need to Stay Home and Self-Isolate?

People who have stayed home and self-isolated can stop isolation when they meet all three of these conditions:

- You have had no fever for at least the last 72 hours (that means three full days of no fever without the use of fever-reducing medication) AND
- Other symptoms have improved (for example, when your cough or shortness of breath gets better) AND
- At least 7 days have passed since your symptoms first appeared

Please contact your doctor if you have questions.

Someone In My House Has Covid-19. How Can I Prevent The Virus From Spreading To Others In The Home?

- Have the person with COVID-19 stay in one room, away from other people, as much as possible. Have them use a separate bathroom, if possible. In addition, caregivers and others who must interact with the patient should:
 - Avoid sharing personal household items, like dishes, towels, and bedding
 - Wear masks or face coverings around the infected person, and maintain distance as much as possible
 - Regularly clean and disinfect all surfaces that are touched often, like counters, tabletops, sink handles, light switches, and doorknobs