

## FIREWISE USA PROGRAM OVERVIEW

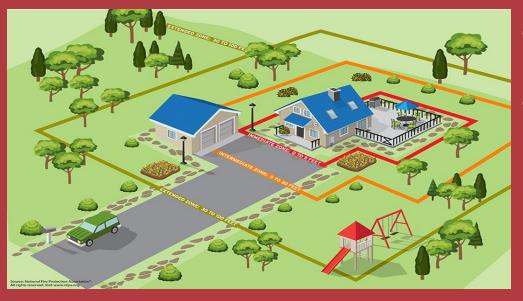
### • Presenter:

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Inspector and Firewise Regional
Coordinator

## • Questions?



## FUELS MANAGEMENT



- Choosing fire resistant plants and other materials for landscaping
- Selecting ignition-resistant building materials when considering improvements

- Create Defensible Space around residential structures
- Addressing Home Ignition Zones (0, 1, 2)
  - Zone 0 (0-5 feet) Area immediately around the home and attached portions of the home
  - Zone 1 (5-30 feet) Decreases fire behavior
  - Zone 2 (30-100 feet) Interrupt fire path



- The national Firewise USA® recognition program provides a collaborative framework to help neighbors in a geographic area to
  - Organize
  - Plan
  - Do
- To increase the ignition resistance of their homes and community and to reduce wildfire risks at the local level.
- The Firewise USA® program is administered by NFPA® and is cosponsored by the USDA Forest Service and the National Association of State Foresters. While the NFPA® administers this program, individuals and communities participate on a voluntary basis.

# How TO BECOME FIREWISE

#### • ORGANIZE IT

- Create a board of volunteers to represent your community
- Minimum requirement of 8 households up to a max of 2500
  - Households do not have to be all adjoining parcels
- Appoint a leader

#### • <u>PLAN IT</u>

CONTRA COSTA

- Collaborate with CCCFPD Regional Coordinator to complete a community wildfire risk assessment
- For more on Wildfire risk assessment visit:
  - Firewise USA® How to become a Firewise USA® site (nfpa.org)

### • <u>DO IT</u>

- Meet the minimum wildfire risk reduction investment
  - 1 hour per household annually or \$25 toward reduction efforts

#### • <u>TELL FIREWISE ABOUT IT</u>

• Resident Leader applies for recognition through the Firewise® Portal (portal.firewise.org)



# COMMUNITY RISK ASSESSMENT

#### • <u>HAZARD</u>

A condition, situation, or behavior that presents the potential for harm or damage to people, property or the environment.

#### • <u>RISK</u>

A measure of the probability and severity of adverse effects that result from the exposure to a hazard.

#### • <u>COMMUNITY RISK ASSESSMENT</u> (CRA)

The purpose of the (CRA) is to evaluate a community's risks prior to the development of a Community Risk Reduction (CRR) plan and programs to reduce, mitigate, or eliminate the community's risks.

The most important person protecting a house from wildfire is *not* the firefighter, but the property owner!

COST





#### CONTRA COSTA COUNTY

## **3 STEPS TO A SAFER FIRE SEASON**

# Find your evacuation zone Visit the Zonehaven website to learn your evacuation Zone.

KNOW YOUR ZONE



Community.zonehaven.com

## Subscribe to CWS

The Community Warning System (CWS) sends you emergency messages in Contra Costa County. CWS will let you know if your area needs to be evacuated.

If we can't reach you, we can't ALERT you.



## Protect your home with defensible space



Identify vegetation hazards, and make a plan to address them.

linktr.ee/firedistricts



## **Questions ?**

