

Tollgate Firewise Committee – Three-Year Action Plan

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This plan outlines strategies to maintain Firewise USA® recognition, strengthen wildfire preparedness, expand defensible space, and enhance community resilience.

Year 1 – 2026

Outreach, Education & Communication

- Expand homeowner education on home hardening and defensible space; align with NFPA/Firewise and IBHS standards.
- Provide fire risk assessments with follow-up support.
- Update materials on evacuation routes, preparedness and structure-to-structure ignition risk.
- Recommend defensible-space and home-hardening policies to the TPOA Board.
- Use multiple channels: newsletter, website, targeted emails, posters, flyers, signage.
- Provide quarterly Firewise Committee reports to TPOA Board and membership.
- Hold a Community Wildfire Preparedness Action Day (May).

Home Hardening & Defensible Space

- Increase defensible space through conducting assessments and promoting neighbor-to-neighbor assistance.
- Encourage neighbor-to-neighbor property assistance to increase defensible space.
- Work with USFS, ODOT and SCSFD to pursue new evacuation routes.

Fuels Management

- Conduct at least four volunteer work parties focused on defensible-space improvement, common-area thinning, and ladder-fuel removal.

Partnerships & Public Service

- Participate in countywide wildfire forums, workshops, and Firewise network events.
- Collaborate with USFS, ODF, Sisters-Camp Sherman Fire District, neighboring communities, and local groups.
- Initiate development of new evacuation routes with ODOT, DNF & SCSFD

Grants & Funding

- Collect volunteer hours and expenses data to support Firewise renewal & grant eligibility.
- Pursue county, state, and federal grants for fuels work and community education.

Evaluation & Renewal

- Track progress and prepare documentation for annual Firewise renewal.

Year 2 – 2027

Outreach, Education & Communication

- Evaluate and refine messaging and materials.
- Engage volunteers to assist with outreach.
- Launch Ambassador / “Cul-de-sac Captain” program.
- Hold a Community Wildfire Preparedness Action Day (May).

Home Hardening & Defensible Space

- Increase participation in assessments and follow-up support.
- Promote ignition-resistant materials and home-hardening upgrades (vents, fencing, etc.).
- Encourage seasonal maintenance of gutters, roofs, and vegetation.

Fuels Management

- Conduct annual common-area inspections and update priority zones.
- Expand slash/needle disposal options and wood-donation programs.

Partnerships & Public Service

- Continue collaboration with USFS, ODF, SCSFD, and other Firewise communities.

Grants & Funding

- Continue to pursue grants and document volunteer time and expenses.

Evaluation & Renewal

- Assess progress and adjust priorities as needed.

Year 3 — 2028**Outreach, Education & Communication**

- Provide annual education refreshers.
- Hold a Community Wildfire Preparedness Action Day (May).

Home Hardening & Defensible Space

- Increase homeowner participation in defensible-space maintenance and home-hardening upgrades.

Fuels Management

- Evaluate effectiveness of prior treatments; update maps and priorities.
- Establish recurring maintenance for evacuation routes, roadside thinning, and common-area follow-up work.

Partnerships & Public Service

- Participate in Firewise events, preparedness fairs, and assist other Firewise Communities.

Grants & Funding

- Continue to pursue grants and document volunteer time and expenses.

Evaluation & Renewal

- Conduct three-year performance review.
- Reaffirm Firewise USA® status with strong documentation and resident engagement.