

Alleghany Firewise Community Three-Year Action Plan

Year One ~ May 2021- December 2021

Education goals

1. Continue public outreach via: email, regular mail and the local newspaper. Mail at least one newsletter per year. (resume town meetings when COVID restrictions allow). Educational materials include defensible space brochures, forms for tracking work, meeting schedules and participation opportunities.
2. Make sure all community members are signed up with the County's Emergency Notification system. Encourage residents to have both a landline and a cell phone if possible for emergency notifications. THERE is no cell coverage in Alleghany!
3. Develop firewise informational webpage with links to forms and contact information.
4. Develop a Facebook page where community members can report their efforts and learn more about the firewise program including event postings.
5. Establish streamlined system for community members to report firewise investments (hours and money invested in the effort) with both online and non-internet options. (Many community members do not have internet).
6. Recruit at least two community members to become defensible space advisors.
7. Encourage committee participation.
8. Offer defensible space inspections to all residents.
9. Draft evacuation plan, with input from community members. Identify primary and secondary evacuation routes. Establish meeting place in the event of a fire and siren codes for alerting residents.

Infrastructure goals:

1. Install a second siren at the South end of town to supplement the siren located at the north end of town.

Fuel reduction goals

1. Schedule dates for the Sierra County Firesafe Council's dumpster and chipper to be made available to residents (this task includes prior contact with residents to create location schedule)
2. Encourage residents to remove flammable material within the "home ignition zone" (5-feet from structures).
3. Encourage residents to install 1/8-inch screens over vents.
4. Continue to monitor and document fuel reduction work by local utility companies.
5. Continue to work with the Sierra County Road Department and the appropriate landowners (SPI, US forest Service) to increase the vegetation clearance on all potential evacuation routes.

Year two ~ January through December 2022

Education Goals

1. Continue public outreach via: email, regular mail and the local newspaper (resume town meetings when COVID restrictions allow). Educational materials include defensible space brochures, forms for tracking work, meeting schedules and participation opportunities. Minimum of one newsletter per year to be sent to all residents.
2. Hold evacuation drill.
3. Continue to make sure all community members are signed up with the County's Emergency Notification system. Encourage residents to have both a landline and a cell phone if possible for emergency notifications.
4. Schedule quarterly meetings of firewise committee.
5. Finalize evacuation plan and have two meetings specifically devoted to educating the public about the evacuation plan (if covid restrictions allow). Many residents do not have reliable internet, so zoom meetings are not practical).
6. Continue to offer defensible space inspections with follow-up visits.
7. Distribute evacuation route information to all residents.
8. Encourage all residents to install reflective address signs.
9. Determine the availability of, and assess the need for fuel reduction grants for residents and landowners.

Fire Reduction Goals

1. Continue to prioritize widening of all evacuation routes as identified in the evacuation plan. This includes working with the appropriate landowners and Sierra County.
2. Compliance goal of 50% with: Hardening of homes by clearing plant material within 5 feet of homes and installing vent screens with 1/8 inch screen material.
3. Schedule dates for the Sierra County Firesafe Council's dumpster and chipper to be made available to residents (this task includes prior contact with residents to create location schedule)

Year 3 ~ January 2023 – December 2023

Education Goals

1. Continue public outreach via: email, regular mail and the local newspaper (resume town meetings when COVID restrictions allow). Educational materials include defensible space brochures, forms for tracking work, meeting schedules and participation opportunities. Minimum of one newsletter per year to be sent to all residents.
2. Hold annual evacuation drill.
3. Continue to make sure all community members are signed up with the County's Emergency Notification system.
4. Schedule quarterly meetings of firewise committee.
5. Update evacuation plan as needed and have a minimum of one meeting devoted to educating the public about the evacuation plan.
6. Continue to offer defensible space inspections with follow-up visits.
7. Distribute evacuation route information to all residents.
8. Encourage all residents to install reflective address signs.
9. Determine the availability of, and assess the need for fuel reduction grants for residents and landowners.

Fire Reduction Goals

1. Continue to prioritize widening of all evacuation routes as identified in the evacuation plan. This includes working with the appropriate landowners and Sierra County.
2. Compliance goal of 80% with: Hardening of homes by clearing plant material within 5 feet of homes and installing vent screens with 1/8 inch screen material.
3. Schedule dates for the Sierra County Firesafe Council's dumpster and chipper to be made available to residents (this task includes prior contact with residents to create location schedule)
4. Decrease density of fuels in "pockets" between residences, especially on large parcels, with a goal of creating a contiguous zone of reduced fuel-load landscape within the firewise community boundary.