

Kneeland

Firewise Action Plan



The Kneeland Community Assessment was reviewed and accepted by the Kneeland Firewise Committee on June 15, 2015, and it was decided to seek Firewise recognition. The initial action plan was created and agreed to by the Committee. Current and former Kneeland fire chiefs, community members and fire professionals with CAL FIRE and Humboldt County provided guidance for the development of the assessment and the action plan and the Kneeland Volunteer Fire Department was consulted. The Firewise Committee reviewed and approved the following action plan on June 15, 2015.

Given the capacity of the local community and potential supporting resources, it was determined that the fire safety of the community can best be served by implementing the following short-term actions. Progress will be directly proportional to the community's ability to access funding and other supporting resources. The following action plan specifically focuses on actions that address what can be done within the home ignition zone, within high risk community areas, and throughout the community in general.

ACTION	RESPONSIBLE PARTY	TIME-LINE
Lack of community participation		
<p><i>Firewise Day</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Host the first annual Firewise Day to build community and awareness about fire safety in Kneeland. 2. Host annual Firewise Day each year following. 	<p>Firewise Committee</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. June 7, 2015 <i>Completed</i> 2. Once / year
<p><i>Kneeland Firehouse</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Finalize plans and permits 2. Fundraise for building fund 3. Construct Firehouse 4. Host ribbon cutting 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. KFPD Building Comm. 2. KFPD Board 3. KFPD Contractor 4. KFPD Board 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 2015-16 2. 2015-16 3. 2016-17 4. 2016-17
<p><i>Connect with the Community</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Reduce ignitions from residents by 50% through education & outreach 2. Engage kids through local 4-H club, and Schools 3. Develop educational materials to be provided to landowners at events. 	<p>KFPD, KVFD</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 2017 2. / 3. / 4. June, 2015, and any event thereafter

ACTION	RESPONSIBLE PARTY	TIME-LINE
Lack of community participation (cont.)		
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4. Host at least two events per year (dances, spaghetti feeds) to promote community around fire safety. 5. Construct two signs (one for Greenwood Heights, one for upper Kneeland) to alert the community when burning is no longer permitted and also 6. Announce Kneeland Firewise certification. 7. Post semi-regular advisements on Next Door Kneeland related to red flag warnings and other time-sensitive fire hazards. 8. Begin regular education segment in each newsletter describing scenarios related to fire (e.g. response times, water required) 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 5. Firewise Committee 6. KFPD Secretary 7. KFPD Secretary and Fire Chief 8. KFPD Secretary and Fire Chief 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 5. 2016 6. 2015 7. As needed 8. August, 2015
Adequate volunteers, water and equipment for firefighting		
<p><i>Volunteer Firefighters</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Recruit at least five, preferably seven more volunteers for the KVFD. 2. Maintain a force of 10, ideally 15 well-trained volunteers for the KVFD that are regularly able to respond to calls. 3. Recruit and instate a new fire chief 4. Finalize a system of reimbursements for volunteer firefighters 	<p>KFPD Personnel Committee with the aid of the KVFD, and full KFPD Board</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Dec, 2016 2. 2017- 3. 2016 4. Aug, 2015
<p><i>Firefighting Equipment</i></p> <p>Complete firehouse (see above)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Develop and implement operations and maintenance plan for existing equipment to ensure all are in good, working order. 2. Evaluate the need for new equipment. 3. Purchase new equipment 4. Evaluate the feasibility of a “sub-station” for equipment in upper Kneeland. 	<p>(see above)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Op & Maint. Comm. (KFPD) 2. Op & Maint Comm., KVFD 3. KVFD, KFPD 4. KVFD, KFPD 	<p>2016</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Sept, 2015 2. Dec, 2015 3. As needed 4. 2017-18

ACTION	RESPONSIBLE PARTY	TIME-LINE
Adequate volunteers, water and equipment for firefighting (cont.)		
<i>Water for Firefighting</i>		
<u>Establish community water system</u>		
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Conduct outreach regarding the need for residents to be self-reliant in terms of water: 2,500 gallons minimum with proper fire fittings (2.5" thread). 2. Expand the Blue Dot program – Secure two new agreements (annually) for the timing and use of appropriate water sources for firefighting 3. Evaluate feasibility of KVFD providing fittings in exchange for water use agreement(s). 4. Evaluate the feasibility of a system of 6-12,000 gallons of water storage (including the potential for catchment systems) strategically placed throughout the District. 5. Identify (map) any new construction after 1992 (to identify residences with 2,500 gallons dedicated for fire suppression) and ensure landowners have the appropriate connections and markings. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Firewise Comm., KFPD, KVFD 2. Firewise Comm., KVFD 3. Firewise Comm., KVFD, KFPD 4. Firewise Comm., KFPD, KVFD 5. Firewise Comm., KFPD, KVFD 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. June, 2015 and any event thereafter 2. 2016- 3. 2016 4. 2017-2018 5. 2016 - 2017
Buildup of fuels		
Reach out to landowners and request a call be made to the KVFD prior to burning of slash piles.	Firewise Committee	2015 -
Provide education for landowners regarding safe implementation of slash burning including the need for adequate water during burn events.	Firewise Committee	June, 2015 and any event thereafter
Provide education for landowners related to defensible space around homes and access routes.	Firewise Committee	June, 2015 and any event thereafter
Seek funding to continue incentive-based fuels reduction projects in the District and greater response area.	Firewise Committee	2016-
Evaluate the feasibility of re-instating control burns on a pilot basis in Kneeland	Firewise Committee	2017-