



Date: January 15, 2025
To: Heritage Parks Association Members
Topic: Firewise USA Program – Wildfire Preparedness

Dear Members:

Our Heritage Parks Association spends a significant portion of our annual operating budget each year on Nature Preserve and Open Space maintenance, brush clearing and tree trimming. We ask our HOA members to do their part to help make and keep our community safer from wildfires by properly maintaining and fire hardening your own property. The HOA Board of Directors is encouraging each of our members to participate in the Firewise USA Program.

The National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) provides very specific information to help you prepare your home for wildfires. For details on fire hardening your home, visit the following link to obtain a copy of the Home Ignition Zone Checklist: <https://www.nfpa.org/en/education-and-research/wildfire/preparing-homes-for-wildfire>

To request a FREE Home Ignition Zone (HIZ) assessment from the local Santa Cruz Fire Safe Council, click on the following link: <https://www.firesafesantacruz.org/HIZ>. **This is a valuable service that provides specific recommendations for fire hardening your home from the potential effects of wildfires. This evaluation is provided by a Certified Arborist working with the local Firewise organization.** Please keep track of your home hardening efforts so that we can submit community totals to qualify as a Firewise Community

Respectfully,

Heritage Parks Association Board of Directors