Resident and Community Wildfire Resilience



Joe Hill and Isobel Woolner Forest and Community Resilience Specialists (509) 436-1601

https://cascadiacd.org



Wildfire Fuels Reduction and Home Hardening

Fuels Reduction

- Immediate zone (0-5')
- Intermediate zone (5-30')
- Extended zone (30-100/200')
- Past the extended zone-create clumps and gaps of vegetation for wildlife and further reduction of fire severity

Landscape Level

- County Stemilt, Nason Ridge Community Forest
- DNR working w/ USFS and private owners in Entiat
- USFS Upper Wenatchee Pilot project & Central Washington Initiative

Home Hardening

- Install 1/8th-1/16" vents
- Install gutter covers
- 5' of fence closest to house
- Siding and roofing





Landowner Opportunities

- Free HIZ Assessments
- Technical and Financial Assistance for Fuels Treatments
 - DNR, NRCS, Cascadia
- Roving Chipper/Free Dump Days
- Team Rubicon

Prescribed Fire

Forest Service

- Continued use of Rx fire to restore ecosystems and protect communities.
- Planning on increasing pace and scale in the coming years with CWI
- Department of Natural Resources
 - Revitalized their program in 2021
 - ▶ Offering cost share to landowners for Rx fire
 - Created the "Certified Burner" to help private landowners and contractors to burn on private land
- Cascadia
 - Helping to facilitate burning on private land
 - ▶ Helping create a PBA in Leavenworth
 - ► Spring "Learn and Burn"
 - Working with USFS on cross boundary burning
 - Private landowners and CDLT







Smoke Readiness

- Smoke increasingly prevalent: more frequent wildfires & more frequent prescribed fire
- Adapting to fire means also adapting to smoke; smoke can affect air quality a great distance from the source
- Stay informed about wildfire incidents and prescribed burns through InciWeb (inciweb.gov)

Photo source: WA Prescribed Fire Council (waprescribedfire.org)

Firewise USA



- Community-wide approach to wildfire risk mitigation actions
- Wildfire risks typically overlap property boundaries; cohesive efforts to mitigate risk can be more effective than individual or separate efforts
- Community Wildfire Risk Assessments are available via DNR & Cascadia through Wildfire Ready Neighbors program
- Funds available for technical assistance to complete risk reduction actions
- 10 Firewise communities in Chelan County currently, with more in the formation stage



Thank you