



Horizons Village Firewise Chipping Day will be the week of July 18, 2016. Please have all your wood debris roadside by Sunday July 17!

Reminder– Home Ignition Zone: The primary goal for Firewise landscaping is fuel reduction — limiting the amount of flammable vegetation and materials surrounding the home and increasing the moisture content of remaining vegetation. The home itself and everything around it up to 100 – 200 feet is known as the ‘home ignition zone.’ In areas across the country where the risk of wildfire is high, the home ignition zone extends up to 200 feet beyond the actual home structure. Within this 200 foot area, there are three zones:

Zone 1 encircles the structure and all its attachments for at least 30 feet on all sides. In this area plants should be carefully spaced, low-growing and free of resins, oils and waxes that burn easily. You should mow the lawn regularly and prune trees up six to ten feet from the ground. Your conifer trees should be spaced 30 feet between crowns and any trees that overhang the house should be trimmed. Create a ‘fire-free’ area within five feet of the home, using non-flammable landscaping materials and/or high-moisture-content annuals and perennials. Remove dead vegetation from under deck and within 10 feet of house. Consider fire-resistant material for patio furniture, swing sets, etc. Remove firewood stacks and propane tanks; they should not be located in this zone. Water plants, trees and mulch regularly.

Zone 2 is 30 to 100 feet from the home, and plants in this zone should be low-growing, well irrigated and less flammable. In this area leave 30 feet between clusters of two to three trees, or 20 feet between individual trees and encourage a mixture of deciduous and coniferous trees. Create ‘fuel breaks’, like driveways, gravel walkways and lawns. Prune trees up six to ten feet from the ground.

Zone 3 is 100 to 200 feet from the home and this area should be thinned with smaller conifers that are growing between taller trees and heavy accumulation of woody debris removed. Although our covenants prevent large scale removal of trees it is a good idea to reduce the density of tall trees so canopies are not touching.

From <http://firewise.org/wildfire-preparedness/be-firewise/home-and-landscape/defensible-space.aspx?sso=0>



Photo 1: Ignition Zone.

Firewise Community and Homeowner Checklist:

Some ideas to consider: (www.firewise.org)

- Keep needles, leaves and forest debris off your roof, gutters, porches and decks.
- Remove all flammable material including firewood, portable propane tanks, and dry vegetation within 30 feet of your home's foundation, garages and other buildings
- Keep your lawn and gardens hydrated and maintained. Dispose of lawn cuttings quickly to reduce fire.
- Cover exterior attic vents and soffits vents with metal wire mesh no larger than 1/8 inch to prevent embers from entering the house
- Firefighters need to get to your home quickly and safely. They also need room to move their equipment around.. A gate with a strong lock could stop fire-fighters from reaching your home in time to save it.
- Roads and driveways should be wide enough to let emergency vehicles through. Provide a minimum unobstructed width of 12 feet (4 meters), and a minimum unobstructed height of 14 feet (4.2 meters).
- Driveways on the downhill side of your home make a good fire barrier.
- A turnaround is ideal for the end of your private drive or road. Make sure it is at least 100 feet in diameter. Don't park on it. Clear a separate area for parking.
- Make your home easy to find . Keep trees and bushes cut back so that sign always stands out.

Homeowners: Please Remove Dying and Dead Pines from our community especially along our roads.



Tree Services on Nelson County
Government Site:

Arboristry Associates, Inc.
434-263-4324
Mostly Maples , LLC
434-361-1588

Owens Treescap
434-263-4704
Practical Arborculture, Inc.
434-760-1818 (cell)
Taylor Tree Service
434-277-9696
Trees by Tate, LLC
434-263-7677

Photo 2: Pine Bark Beetle Infested Tree

**Horizons Village
Firewise
Committee**

Gary Strong, Chair
David Bennett
Randy Whiting
Larry Herring

gwstrong@gmail.com 434-361-2135
dkbenn2@mac.com 434-361-1538
randallswighting@yahoo.com 434-361-1803
larryemail43@gmail.com 434-361-1538