

Firewise Annual Update 2023

The Firewise Committee is in the process of compiling documentation in order to update our requirements for our Firewise status. The Cherry Creek Springs HOA continues to be in good standing with Firewise USA until the end of the year.

Firewise USA® Renewal season has been extended until Friday, December 15, 2023.

It is time for the community to update its Risk Assessment Plan. The Committee respectfully asks if the Cherry Creek Springs residents are still interested in having the Firewise designation before proceeding with updating our information.

The Firewise USA® program teaches people how to adapt to living with wildfire and encourages neighbors to work together and take action to prevent losses. We must remember that there is no true wildfire season in Colorado. There is the potential for wildfires year round. Part of being a recognized Firewise USA® site is reporting the ongoing work residents complete each year to reduce wildfire risks, while addressing the areas identified in our community's wildfire assessment. Because our community is so active in keeping our common areas mitigated and our residents take pride in the upkeep and landscaping of their homes, continuing our Firewise status is easy. Every year participating communities must submit an annual renewal application to maintain their "in good standing" status. All Firewise USA applicants are required to invest the equivalent of one volunteer hour (valued at \$29.95 per dwelling unit), in wildfire risk reduction efforts annually, as part of the national recognition program's criteria for obtaining/maintaining an "In Good Standing" status. Examples of potential actions, activities, and expenses include: improvements/maintenance on the home and outbuildings, removing debris on the roof and gutters, clearing vegetation, tree thinning/removal, mowing of lawns, native grasses and weeds as needed, raking and removing pine needles, leaves and ground debris. Besides the prestige of being recognized as a Firewise Community, Cherry Creek Springs residents who have USAA Homeowners Insurance receive a discount of approximately \$100 for this recognition.

The Firewise Committee and the Cherry Creek Springs HOA value the active participation of our community members to continue to report the hours worked either maintaining their personal property and/or volunteer hours they have worked in and around the community and common areas.

Community members may submit this information to Susan Beiner at mrsbeiner@hotmail.com.