**Galena Country Estates Firewise Action Plan**

**2024-2026**

Hello, from the Galena Country Estates (GCE) Firewise Committee.  The actions below are intended to help homeowners become more “firewise” and are based on the Community Wildfire Risk Assessment.  This assessment was completed by Marc Titus of the Nevada Division of Forestry (NDF) on 6-28-2021 for GCE membership into Firewise USA.  GCE homeowners need to become more knowledgeable in how to increase the chances of their home surviving a wildfire when exposed to embers and/or a surface fire plus create an emergency action plan during an evacuation.

Our *Surrounding Environment* and *Structures Rating*s are **High Hazard.**  Truckee Meadows Fire PD (TMFPD) reduced wildland fuels behind 25 GCE homes boarding the Government Lots to the north via NV Energy Grants in 2021-2022. In 2023, NDF cleared 20’ of brush around Whites Creek Park fencing plus thinned out fuels boarding the west side of GCE. Galena Country Estates Firewise Committee suggests these actions to help homeowners make wise decisions when maintaining their properties and help emergency personnel.

**2024 Plan:**

* Encourage homeowners to paint 4” black address numbers on white reflective background on curbs near a mailbox or on driveway aprons. Only 40% of our HOA homes have readable numbers painted on curbs. This is a request from TMFPD so emergency personnel can find houses easily during a crisis with power outages, smoke and/or wind, especially at night.
* Remind homeowners to keep bushes trimmed away and snow removed from fire hydrants. Our HOA purchased reflective 5’ stakes to mark the location of 22 fire hydrants before winter snows.
* Encourage homeowners to clear wildfire fuels in ditches/access roads on their properties. Four visible ditches were cleared out by NDF one-time in the fall of 2023 but homeowners are ultimately responsible for maintaining those areas. NDF Herbicide specialist suggested distributing herbicide granules over such areas in the fall annually so rain will dissolve it into the ground preventing more growth in the spring.
* Encourage homeowners with properties that border the Government Lots to the north to maintain what was cleared out by TMFPD in 2022. TMPFD cleared out 50-75% of the sagebrush and rabbitbrush. Chipped mulch can help inhibit weeds such as cheat grass.
* Inform homeowners that May and November are Clean-up Months for our subdivision. Waste Management will pick up 6 extra bags of waste (no yellow stickers required) each week during those months.
* Continue to educate homeowners with information from Living with Fire about the risks from falling embers. Either do a Zoom Meeting in the spring/fall or have an event at Whites Creek Park hosting Firefighters, Living with Fire representatives, and other interested agencies in May or September. Plus invite surrounding subdivisions.
* Continue to send out quarterly e-mails via our management company about “How to Prepare Your Home for Wildfires.” Homeowners can pick up information flyers from Firewise USA and Living with Fire at the Little Free Library on Solitude Drive. An example is “Junk Your Junipers: The Little Green Gas Cans.”
* Homeowners need to remove dead trees/bushes in their backyards as well as front yards.
* Organize TMFPD curbside chipping of green waste to mulch in spring and/or fall. Read more details on Truckee Meadow Fire PD website.

**2025 Plan:**

* E-mail information to homeowners about webinars offered by various fire agencies in the area including reducing fire risk by cleaning gutters, pruning trees away from houses; adding 1/8 inch metal screen behind roof vents, separating wooden fences from the house with a stone or metal barriers and other suggested mitigation measures. Think Lean, Clean and Green.
* **Do all the items listed for 2024.**

**2026 Plan:**

* E-mail information to homeowners about webinars offered by various fire agencies in the area including reducing fire risk by cleaning gutters, pruning trees away from houses; adding 1/8 inch metal screen over roof vents, separate wooden fences from the house with a stone or metal barriers and other suggested mitigation measures. Think Lean, Clean and Green.
* **Do all the items listed for 2024.**