

The Ranch - Firewise Action Plan – 2025-2027

2025:

- Ranch Property Owners Association (RPOA) Board approved a Campaign in The Ranch for 2025 to entice homeowners to have a Homeowner's Fire Risk Assessment and then follow through with pruning, gutter cleaning, etc., following Firewise guidance to harden their homes. This Campaign included having the Durango Fire & Rescue org. set up in The Ranch, offering Assessments. To date, this effort has resulted in at least 73 homes with new Firewise Assessments. Most of the homeowners followed up by doing the recommended work. A volunteer neighborhood committee helped some homeowners where needed. This effort is ongoing.
- The RPOA held its Annual Homeowners meeting in June, including an informational Firewise table and a presentation and discussion with homeowners.
- As usual, over the past 11+ years, the Ranch hosted Spring and Fall Clean-up Days. In the weeks prior to these 2-day events, homeowners prune trees and shrubs and pile the limbs in front of their homes. During the events, a contractor is hired to help cut trees, prune branches, chip debris, and remove chips.
- The homeowner of one of the last three homes in the Ranch, having a wood-shingle roof, had their roof replaced with fire-resistant shingles. The other two are expected to be replaced in 2026. Note that from the start of the neighborhood in the late 1970s until 2001, all homes were required to have wood shake shingles.
- A Firewise Assessment was done for the 40 acres of the Ranch Common space (outside the Reserve woodlot) by the Durango Fire & Rescue org. Recommended treatments were completed for this Assessment.
- The Ranch was an active member of the regional Wildfire Adapted Partnership (WAP) with two Neighborhood Ambassadors, attendance at the quarterly WAP meetings, and other events. Historically, The Ranch took advantage of the Chipper Rebate Program from WAP, but it wasn't offered this year due to budget concerns.

2026:

- The Ranch Firewise Committee will continue with its program of education and coordination of Firewise activities. This includes various informational postings in the mailroom.
- The Ranch Firewise Committee will participate in the annual RPOA Homeowners Meeting with an informational table and a presentation on Firewise to the homeowners.
- The annual Spring and Fall Clean-up Days will be observed, encouraging homeowners to continue to do necessary activities to harden their homes and yards. A contractor will be hired for each event to conduct tree cutting, pruning, chipping, and chip removal.

- The Ranch Firewise Committee will continue to encourage homeowners to complete a Firewise Homeowner Assessment if they haven't previously.
- Homeowners for the final two homes with wood shingle roofs will continue to be encouraged to follow through and replace their roofs with fire-resistant shingles.
- The Ranch will be an active member of the regional Wildfire Adapted Partnership with two Neighborhood Ambassadors, attendance at the quarterly meetings, and other events.

2027:

- The Ranch Firewise Committee will continue with its program of education and coordination of Firewise activities. This includes various informational postings
- The Ranch Firewise Committee will participate in the annual RPOA Homeowners Meeting with an informational table and a presentation on Firewise precautions for the homeowners.
- The annual Spring and Fall Clean-up Days will be observed, encouraging homeowners to continue to do necessary activities to harden their homes and yards. A contractor will be hired for each event to conduct tree cutting, pruning, chipping, and chip removal.
- The Ranch Firewise Committee will continue to encourage homeowners to complete a Firewise Homeowner Assessment if they haven't previously.
- The Ranch will be an active member of the regional Wildfire Adapted Partnership with two Neighborhood Ambassadors, attendance at the quarterly meetings, and other events.