



Napa County Fire Department Wildfire Preparedness Month



Protecting Napa County Through Community Wildfire Resilience

Napa Communities Firewise Foundation | Director of Wildfire Preparedness | Napa County Board of Supervisors

May 5, 2026 | **Wildfire Preparedness Month**

Napa County's investment in community wildfire preparedness is protecting lives, homes, and the land we steward together.

WHO WE ARE

NAPAFIREWISE

Serving Napa since 2001

Napa Communities Firewise Foundation, a 501(c)(3), is Napa County's dedicated wildfire resilience organization—connecting, coordinating, and amplifying community-led wildfire preparedness across the county.

The County's investment in Napa Firewise is a force multiplier—every county dollar unlocks community action, grants, and volunteer power.

Community Connector

We link Fire Safe Councils, NFPA Firewise USA communities, public and private investments, and local agencies into one unified network.

Force Multiplier

County investments are leveraged into state, federal, and other grants, multiplying local dollars many times over.

Land Stewards

Rooted in Napa's landscape —our work serves to protect our community, neighborhoods, hillsides, local ecology, and agriculture that define this county.

CFSC WILDFIRE COUNTY COORDINATOR PROGRAM

ABOUT THE CFSC PROGRAM

- California Fire Safe Council (CFSC) CAL FIRE program placing a County Coordinator in 48 of California's 58 counties
- *\$151,500 investment* per county for 14 months
- Part of a statewide \$11M investment in community-level wildfire resilience
- The County Coordinator program serves as a mechanism to build capacity among mitigation groups to:
 - develop strong partnerships with CalFire and other state/local mitigation practitioners
 - scale up mitigation preparedness and outreach in each funded county
 - build collaborative networks within and across counties
- Napa County's wildfire county coordinator is hosted by Napa Communities Firewise Foundation

COORDINATOR PROGRAM DELIVERABLES

- Develop a plan in concert with Cal Fire unit or contracted entity, to integrate the County Coordinators with their local Cal Fire units and develop shared, locally appropriate resources
- Contribute to state-wide data collection about wildfire mitigation groups like FSCs and Firewise communities
- Attend the Defensible Space Assessor Training hosted by Cal Fire
- Host county-level training on the Cal Fire CWPP toolkit to provide awareness and encourage its use and adoption
- Develop a preliminary plan evaluating steps/actions needed to initiate a county-level CWPP, using best practices outlined in the Cal Fire CWPP toolkit, and submit a report to CFSC
- Present project scope of work, deliverables, and impact to the county's Board of Supervisors to ensure that county leadership is informed of program impact and can effectively keep the County Coordinator tied into the county's priorities and plans

Statewide impact through Wildfire County Coordinator Program (Cumulative):

\$104M leveraged / 970K residents educated / 100+ new FSCs & NFPA Firewise communities established

WILDFIRE COUNTY COORDINATOR | *In Napa County*

NAPAFIREWISE CORE SERVICES MODEL

1. Provide core services for existing 25 FSCs: financial accounting/reporting, grant management, communications, education & training, events; and new FSC support and setup
2. Develop, renew and support CWPPs
3. Work with FSCs to achieve Firewise recognition and oversee annually to maintain good standing
4. Connect with agencies/partners on resilience initiatives; Napa PBA, Wildfire Resilience Coordinating Group
5. Engage youth Napa Parks Youth Summer Camp, NC Farm Bureau Ag Day, interactive youth focused activities at community events like Earth Day
6. Provide information and interactive wildfire preparedness activities at community events
7. Develop and host in-person workshops and field tours of fuel reduction projects

WHAT THIS MEANS FOR NAPA

- Coordinating across county lines because wildfire knows no borders
- Ongoing engagement in communities to promote continued resilience work and dispel a sense of complacency
- Partnership and collaboration with Napa County, NC Fire/CalFire, agencies, and partner organizations toward unified and coordinated resilience efforts and investments
- Bringing wildfire preparedness to life through person events—*ex: American Canyon Grazing Tour, core Hennessey Rector Grazing Workshop, Atlas Peak Grazing Tour, Firewise Gardening, and Berryessa Grazing (coming soon)*
- Engaging in new communities, and organizing and mobilizing a large volunteer base to ensure community-led efforts are coordinated and not fragmented, and working toward a unified goal —*strengthening Napa's resilience as a whole*
- County investments play a key role in launching programs and efforts across Napa – *but it is the County Coordinator program that in large part sustain them and keep communities engaged.*

FIRE SAFE COUNCIL HISTORY *in Napa County*

Volunteered, community-powered, unified. Fire Safe Councils, supported by Napa County, are the backbone of local wildfire.

2001 – 2005

Mount Veeder | Est. 2001

 25-Year Anniversary

Circle Oaks | Est. 2005

2006 – 2010

Berryessa Estates | Est. 2007

Berryessa Highlands | Est. 2009

Atlas Peak | Est. 2010

2011 – 2015

Soda Canyon | Est. 2012

Deer Park | Est. 2013

Gordon Valley | Est. 2014

Angwin | Est. 2015

2016 – 2020

Diamond Mountain | Est. 2018

Silverado | Est. 2019

Calistoga | Est. 2020

Hagen Oaks | Est. 2020

St. Helena | Est. 2020

2021 –2025 and beyond

Hennessey Rector | Est. 2021

Lake Hennessey | Est. 2021

Spring Mountain | Est. 2021

Coombsville Wildhorse | Est. 2022

Pope Valley | Est. 2022

Berryessa West | Est. 2022

Capell Valley | Est. 2024

Mt. George | Est. 2024

Carneros | Est. 2025

Knoxville Blue Ridge | Est. 2026

American Canyon | Est. 2026

Napa City East/West | Pending 2026

** FSCs not yet active: Berryessa South, Napa Valley, Skyline Jamison.*

FIRE SAFE COUNCILS | COMMUNITY IMPACT

From neighbor-to-neighbor education, to major fuel reduction projects, FSCs are where the work happens.

Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) Development

FSCs gather to understand their risks and identify projects with guidance from Napa Firewise, funding from Napa County

Fuel Reduction Projects

Sharing out about chipping days, organizing burn piling, broom pulls and more, FSCs identify projects and work toward mitigation.

NFPA Firewise Recognition Application & Annual Renewal

21 FSCs are currently in good standing with NFPA Firewise and additional applications in progress, renewed annually with NCFF support

Defensible Space & Home Hardening Education

Training with Fire Marshal's office on conducting educational assessments, sharing resources such as cost shares and resources

Community Engagement and Preparedness Events

Community clean ups, fundraisers, picnics, potlucks and pancake breakfasts; FSCs build their community and educate throughout the year

Landowner Access Agreements (LOAs)

Canvassing and engaging with their neighbors to educate them about the value of a project and gaining the necessary LOAs to complete work

Outreach and Education

Newsletters, zoom meetings and in-person check ins, each FSC determines the format and cadence that works best for their community

Emergency Preparedness & Evacuation Planning

Neighborhood captains, monthly radio check ins, identification of community members requiring assistance in event of evacuation

Napa Communities Firewise Foundation supports the development and work of Napa County Fire Safe Councils through grants from Napa County, California Fire Safe Council (CFSC) Wildfire County Coordinator Program and CalFire

COMMUNITY ROOTED IN ACTION

Pope Valley Community Meeting



Knoxville Blueridge FSC Kickoff Meeting



Berryessa FSCs + BOR Meeting



Circle Oaks CWPP Planning Meeting



Diamond Mountain FSC Annual Community Event



THIS IS WHAT PREPARED COMMUNITIES LOOK LIKE



JULY 2024

Toll Fire

Held to 40 acres —no structures lost

- Years of NCFF community fuel reduction projects and landowner engagement in the area created conditions that supported rapid containment

- CAL FIRE was able to stage and operate effectively because landscape had been prepared
- A testament to what organized, prepared communities make possible when fire arrives
- Landowner resilience assets available through Enhanced Resilience Site (ERS) program



AUGUST 2025

Long Fire

Contained under 5 acres —no loss occurred

- First responders arrived with prior knowledge of the property—a direct result of community level coordination

- Landowner who had engaged with NCFF and made needed investments in water access, fuel reduction, and site improvements supported response. NCFF shares these as with fire authority as part of the ERS program



AUGUST 2025

Pickett Fire/Dutch Henry

Rapid containment —multiple community assets used

- Fuel reduction efforts carried out through coordinated community partnerships contributed directly to containment
- Prepared communities evacuate faster and more fluidly

- Battalion Chiefs arrived pre-briefed—because community data had already been shared through coordinated planning efforts
- Firefighters used known community and landowner resource to drive operations
- Surrounding neighborhoods are continuing to build preparedness

25

Y E A R S

of Community Preparedness & Protection

Thank you, Mt Veeder.



CERTIFICATE OF RECOGNITION

This certificate is proudly presented to

Mount Veeder Fire Safe Council

In honor and celebration of

25 Years of Dedicated Service

to the safety and resilience of our community.

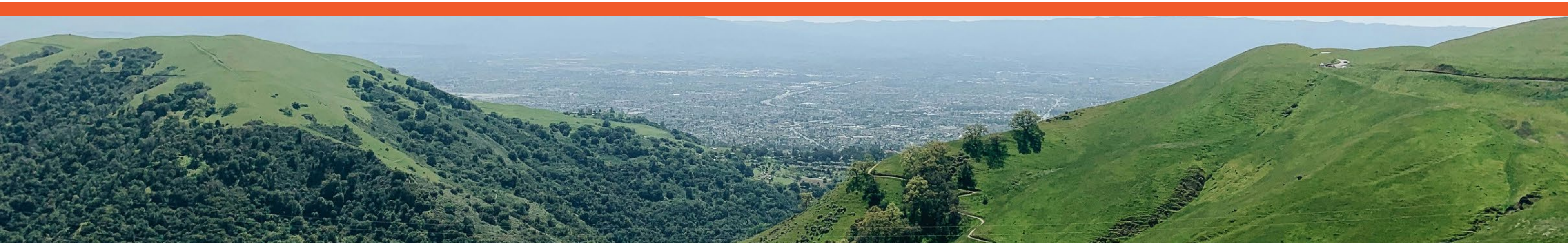
For unwavering commitment to wildfire preparedness, community education, and protecting the lives and landscapes of the Mt. Veeder region of Napa County .

Presented May 5, 2026

Thank You

Questions & Discussion napafirewise.org | wildfirepreparedness@napafirewise.org

Congratulations to Mount Veeder Fire Safe Council on 25 Years!





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