

Wildfire Community Preparedness Day May 5, 2018



**People
Projects
Purpose**



What is Wildfire Community Preparedness Day? Wildfire Community Preparedness Day is a national campaign that encourages people to come together on a single day to take action to reduce their wildfire risk. It is held in the United States and Canada on the first Saturday in May.

The idea for the day came from a survey of middle school students in Texas and Colorado about how they wanted to learn about wildfire. They wanted to be a part of something bigger, something that was making a difference by improving wildfire safety where they lived. When the program was piloted in 2013 in Colorado, not only students but also adults were eager to be a part of a day to raise awareness about wildfire safety involving hands-on risk reduction activities. Wildfire Community Preparedness Day is now celebrated across the nation and will happen this year on May 5.

Who supports this effort? The National Fire Protection Association (NFPA®), a nonprofit organization dedicated to saving lives and reducing loss from fire and electrical hazards, manages Wildfire Community Preparedness Day. State Farm provides generous financial support for 150 project awards in an annual contest. Many national organizations help promote Wildfire Community Preparedness Day, including FEMA, US Fire Administration, NOAA, the Fire Adapted Communities Learning Network, Fire Safe Councils, the National Association of Granges, the National Association of State Foresters, and the American Red Cross.

Encourage local participation! You can help promote wildfire safety by encouraging residents to work together on a project or event on May 5. Participation helps create a sense of community, where neighbors begin to look out for and care about each other. Wildfire Community Preparedness Day projects can also help strengthen relationships among residents, the local fire department, land management agencies, community leaders and elected officials.

Celebrating your community's work on Wildfire Community Preparedness Day: Use our free sample proclamation to announce and celebrate your community's work to reduce wildfire risks. [Encourage residents to describe their project on NFPA's project map, which shows all of the activity across the nation.](#) Use free tools including fillable poster templates, a sample press release, a project safety tip sheet and more to help promote local activities. These resources can all be found at www.wildfireprepd.org

Email us at wildfireprepd@nfpa.org for more information.