



For more information, contact:

(NAME/TITLE)

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**(Your Town/City/Organization) participates in national Wildfire Community Preparedness Day
*Local communities join effort to reduce wildfire risk across the country on May 6, 2017***

DATE XX, 2017 – Residents living in high-risk wildfire areas who want to take action steps to increase their safety but are unsure about how to start can now find the information, and the inspiration, they need to organize and accomplish wildfire risk reduction projects in their community. (Your Town/Your Organization) is teaming up with the [National Fire Protection Association](#) (NFPA) and [State Farm](#) for the fourth annual [Wildfire Community Preparedness Day](#) event on May 6, 2017, which helps communities prepare for and work together to reduce their risk of wildfire damage.

Preparedness Day is a call to action that gives people of all ages a chance to plan and participate in a risk reduction or wildfire preparedness activity that makes their community a safer place to live.

“Continued drought, hotter temperatures and (OTHER) are major contributors to the increased wildfire activity we are experiencing in (Your State),” says (Your Name, Title) of (Your Town/Your Organization). “That’s why (Your Town/Your Organization) has organized our (Your Project Name/Other Participation) and are committed to working together with NFPA and State Farm to make our community safer from the threat of wildfire. We believe Preparedness Day is a great way to raise awareness of this important issue.”

(Your Town/Organization) will be hosting (or sponsoring, etc.) a number of activities (List any additional events you know about) during Preparedness Day to promote wildfire awareness and safety. The activities include:

- Activity #1
- Activity #2
- Activity #3

Through these educational, individual and group activities, residents (of Your Town/Organization) can learn more about the importance of wildfire preparedness and planning, and the power of prevention.

Projects undertaken on Preparedness Day can range from a short time commitment up to an entire day and can be undertaken by individuals or groups. Below are actions residents can take to reduce the risk of home and property becoming fuel for a wildfire:

- Rake and remove pine needles and dry leaves within a minimum of 3 to 5 feet of a home's foundation. As time permits – continue up to a 30-foot distance around the home. Dispose of collected debris in appropriate trash receptacles.
- Collect downed tree limbs and broken branches and take them to a disposal site.
- Distribute wildfire safety information, like the free [Firewise Toolkit](#), to neighbors or staff a table at a grocery or hardware store (other high-traffic locations work, too) and distribute free Firewise and emergency preparedness materials that can be ordered from the Firewise catalog or from [READY.gov](#).
- Join forces with neighbors and pool your resources to pay for a chipper service to remove slash.
- Help an elderly relative or neighbor enter emergency numbers and the names of close relatives into their cell phones; and in large font post their phone number and street address above their landline so it can easily be seen when providing information to an emergency dispatcher.

Find additional [project ideas](#) and learn more about the national Wildfire Community Preparedness Day event on May 6 by visiting www.wildfireprepd.org.