



SAFETY TIPS FROM THE GRR FIRE DEPARTMENT

May is National Wildfire Awareness Month.

Nixon Gulch Cleanup Day on 4/30/22 was successful. Our thanks to the volunteers who participated this year: Richard Anderson, Tim and Donna Knecht, Ted and Patti Draude, Rick Davis, Blake Maxwell, Jim Greenbaum, Deb Harvey, Jerry Rascano, Dennis and Alicia Ochs, and John Andrews. Thanks to the GRRHOA for allowing Marlin Sprow and Matt Neu to work with the team and use the HOA's heavy equipment for brush removal. The slash pile of collected material will be burned by the GRRFD at a later date. This slash pile is not a community dump, so please refrain from dumping any material in it.

Consider getting a free Wildland Fire Risk Assessment from the GRR Fire Department. Contact Chief Sprow marlinsprow32@gmail.com, or email admin@grrfd.org to set up an appointment.

This is a time to clear winter debris from the lawn and gardens. Rake up leaves or evergreen needles from under trees, bushes, and around the home. It's also a good time to trim trees. Trimming the lowest branches of trees is one way to prevent fire spread from grass fires into the trees. Here are a couple of links you can follow for more information: <https://www.extension.uidaho.edu/publishing/pdf/bul/bul0644.pdf>, and <https://www.montana.edu/news/5742/taking-care-of-shade-trees>.

If you are thinking about landscaping projects, keep fire risk in mind. Check out the GRRFD website Getting Informed section for more information about wildland fire preparedness recommendations: <http://www.grrfd.org/get-informed/>.

Weeds become tinder for wildland fires later in the summer. May is the time to begin your control efforts. Russian thistle and Kochia form flammable tumbleweed later in the summer. Cheatgrass has been invading GRR for a number of years and becomes very flammable when it dries after going to seed. Review the GRRHOA Weed Management Plan on the GRRHOA Frontsteps website for details on how to control these and other weeds.

Please visit the GRR Fire Department website to learn more: <http://www.grrfd.org/>.