



SAFETY TIPS FROM THE GRR FIRE DEPARTMENT

May is National Wildfire Awareness Month. Our fire department assisted other agencies in a wildland fire on 5/1/23 near Highway 287.

Nixon Gulch Cleanup Day will take place on Tuesday, 5/9/23 from 8 am until Noon. We will stage at Smokey the Bear. Marlin Sprow and Matt Neu will use the HOA's heavy equipment for brush removal. Please contact us at admin@grrfd.org if you plan to lend a hand. 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 good time to clear winter debris from the lawn and gardens and to trim trees. Trim the lowest branches of trees 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>.

Keep fire risk in mind if you plan any landscaping projects. 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.

Visit the Fire Adapted Montana Website for more information about what you can do to lower your wildland fire risk: <https://www.fireadaptedmontana.org>.