



FIRE ADAPTED NEVADA

Developing Fire Adapted Communities





Fire Adapted Nevada (FAN) is a multi agency partnership involving federal, state, county and local agencies, non profit organizations and private entities. FAN's goal is to support communities as they become fire adapted.

We consider residents partners and active participants in creating Fire Adapted Communities (FAC's)

Prevention vs. Preparedness: Smokey vs. The Lorax.



For decades, communities have looked to two iconic voices to understand our relationship with fire and forests.

- **Smokey Bear** reminds us that *our actions can prevent wildfires*. His message is rooted in responsibility—campfire safety, debris burning rules, and making choices that keep unplanned fire from starting in the first place. Smokey stands for **Prevention**.
- **The Lorax** speaks for the forest and the communities within it. His message is about **Preparedness**—recognizing that wildfires *will* happen, and we must be ready. That means creating defensible space, hardening homes, building resilient landscapes, planning evacuation routes, and understanding how fire behaves.

- Together, these characters frame the full picture of fire adaptation:

Two legends walk into a forest.....

ONLY YOU CAN PREVENT FOREST FIRES!

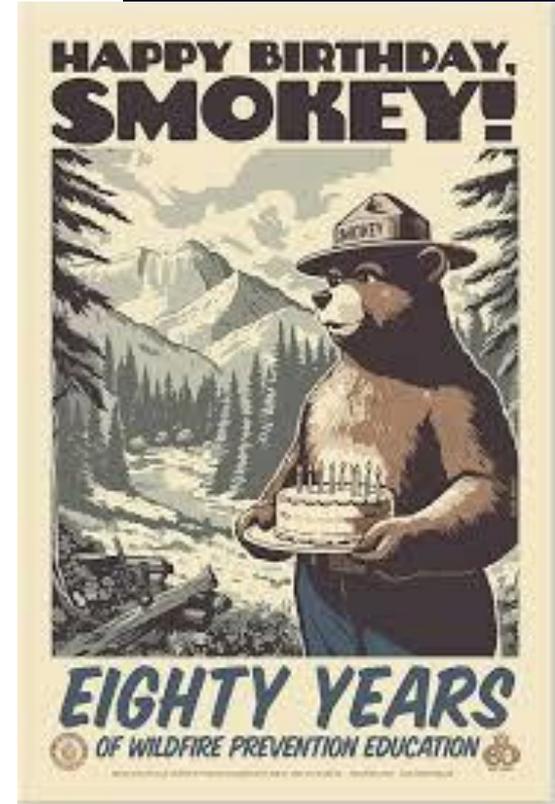
Smokey has been incredibly effective—maybe a little *too* effective.

“The ‘Smokey Bear Effect’ taught generations to suppress all fire... which led to unnatural fuel buildup and the conditions we face today.

So today, we need more than prevention.

We need stewardship. Restoration. Shared responsibility.

Which brings us to another voice in forest health...

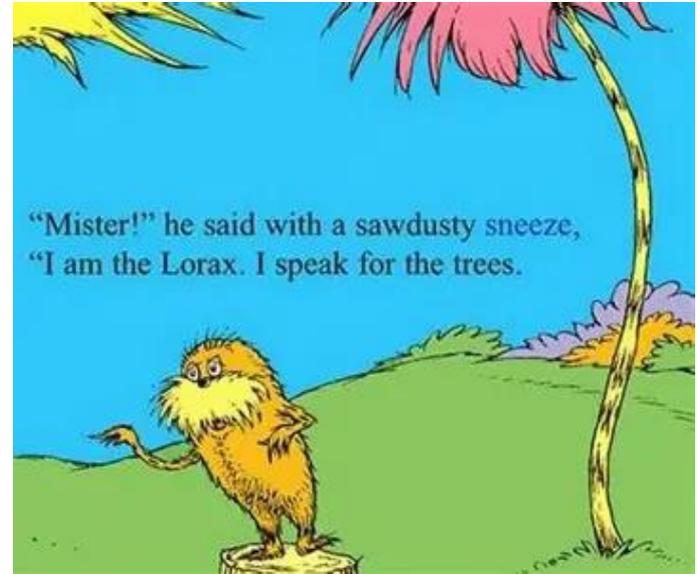


If **Smokey** reminds us to prevent disaster,
the **Lorax** reminds us to care for the landscape *before* it reaches that point

- Restore ecosystems, thin overcrowded stands.
- Support healthy fire and prescribed fire.
- Protect watersheds, wildlife habitat, and communities.
- Stewardship = long-term wildfire risk reduction

- Support thinning the ones that are too close to your home.

- Healthy forests need space, and so do you!





VS



RISK

What can burn.
What we can lose.

THREAT

How likely a fire
is to start.

THREAT = likelihood. RISK = potential loss.
They are not the same thing.

A dynamic duo saving forests and communities one message at a time.



Smokey warns us about what *not* to do.

The Lorax encourages us toward what we *can* do.

Fire Adapted Nevada is the bridge between these messages.
We take Smokey's prevention, add the Lorax's stewardship, and turn it into real action—across communities, agencies, and landscapes



Reasons for Extreme Fire

- High temperatures (climate change)
- Record high winter precipitation
- Years of prolonged drought
- Fire season 105 days longer
- Low Relative Humidity (1%)
- Zephyr winds
- Development within the WUI (environmental change)





Lessons Learned

- Most damage/loss is caused by hazards in 0-5 foot zone

An illustration depicting a wildfire scene. In the foreground, a man in a dark shirt and pants is running away from the viewer towards the right. In the background, a dark-colored car is parked on a road. The background is filled with stylized, wavy flames in shades of orange and yellow, with silhouettes of evergreen trees visible behind the fire.

Wildfire Preparedness

A wildfire at full speed can grow an acre a second—and sometimes triple that. Wind-driven flames can move at 60 mph, overtaking roads that looked safe only moments earlier. At those speeds, escape or defense becomes impossible

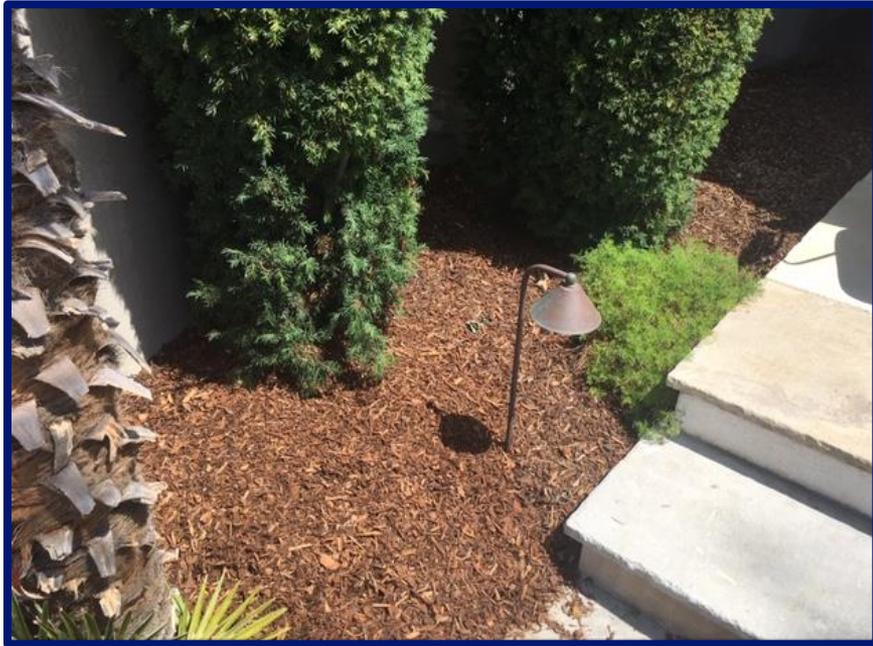
Wildfire Resiliency

Bark mulch hazards



Wildfire Resiliency

Not Prepared for Wildfire



Prepared for Wildfire



COMMON MYTHS

“My home has a metal roof and steel beams.
Steel beams don’t burn”.



COMMON MYTHS

“Homes with stucco siding and metal roofs are safe from wildfire”.



COMMON MYTHS

“I live on a golf course; my home is safe from a wildfire.”





COMMON MYTHS

“I don’t have brush near my home”

“I don’t live in a high fire hazard area”.



How FAN Supports Communities



FIRE ADAPTED NEVADA

We have extensive experience tailoring plans to address the specific hazards that property owners face, including those in suburban, rural, and agricultural settings.

- Agency Interface
- Technical Assistance
- Education/Outreach Materials
- Project Management
- Community Events and Education
- Proposal Preparation
- Grant Opportunities
- Problem Solving
- Ideas and Innovation
- County Wildfire Protection Plans and updates (CWPP)

The FAN team is comprised of the best interdisciplinary teams, including experts in wildfire subject matter, defensible space, resilient landscapes and mitigation.



How to become a Fire Adapted/FirewiseUSA® Community

FAN partners help connect communities with the resources to become more fire adapted. We work across the State of Nevada on community wildfire mitigation efforts and education and preparedness.



- FAN attends community meetings and events and provide outreach and educational presentations.
- FAN assists communities in the Firewise USA® application process.

- HOW?
- [NFPA - Firewise USA®](#)

- NDF FAN Coordinator Kelli Nevills



Firewise USA: Sites of Excellence

Challenges, best practices, and recommendations for Firewise USA sites

National Fire Protection Association
May 19, 2022

What's the difference between a Fire Adapted Community and FirewiseUSA Community

- A fire adapted community is a concept
- A FirewiseUSA® is a Program that acknowledges formally created FAC's.

**THANKS
FOR LISTENING.**

