



- ✓ The EMRWPT currently does not receive any outside funds but relies on donations from the neighborhood. If you would like to donate money to help pay for Wildfire Evacuation signs and office supplies, please contact EMRWPT.

## **WHAT YOU CAN DO AS A PROPERTY OWNER TO HELP YOUR PROPERTY AND OUR NEIGHBORHOOD SURVIVE MOST WILDFIRES:**

- Request a Wildfire Risk Site Visit for your residence/property, [dnrc.mt.gov/free-visit](https://dnrc.mt.gov/free-visit).**
- To help reduce the risk of wildfire to structures we highly recommend that decks and porches have skirting installed (such as 1/8th inch metal screening) around the deck or under joists on elevated decks. In addition, many residences and outbuildings would benefit from reducing flammable fuels (such as bushes, mulch and grass) from the 0 to 5ft home ignition zone from the structure. Learn About the Home Ignition Zone at <https://www.nfpa.org/news-blogs-and-articles/blogs/2025/01/06/what-is-the-wildfire-home-ignition-zone>
- Firewise® USA Volunteer Hourly Work Sheet: PLEASE record the hours you worked removing natural vegetation from around your residence & other buildings as well as Firewise landscaping within 100ft of your residence/property on the attached Volunteer Hourly Work Sheet, from November 1, 2025, to November 1, 2026, This includes hours you have worked or contracted out. We get credit for all hours worked & costs to keep our Firewise® USA Community certification annually. Please return this worksheet to EMRWPT, either by email or USPS mail, by November 1, 2026. Removing natural vegetation from around your residence and property increases its wildfire survivability. Here is the link to the Firewise Volunteer Hourly Worksheet, <https://www.elkmeadows.org/gallery/2024EMRFirewiseVolunteerHourlyWorksheet043024Color.pdf>.**
- Sign-up for Smart911, [www.smart911.com](http://www.smart911.com).** Sign up here to receive Missoula County emergency alerts and evacuation information.
- Thin vegetation on your property along the roads**, at least 20ft from the road edge.
- Burn or chip natural fuels on your property.** Aim for 18 ft crown (tree canopy) spacing 30 ft around the home, and 10-12 ft spacing 100 ft from the home. Remove fuels under tree canopies that can act as “ladder fuels”
- Install a Reflective Address Sign**, if you have a decorative one consider adding a reflective one too.
- Clear areas around fire hydrants close by to ensure proper access and response.**
- Review your property continually for Wildfire Home Ignition Zone Preparedness:** To help you review your property the Missoula County Fire Protection Association created a Top 10 Wildfire Preparedness Tips on YouTube, here’s the YouTube link <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ooSo9Xkpmss&t=103s>

For more information on the above subjects and more, please go to the Elk Meadows Ranchettes website, <https://www.elkmeadows.org/EMRWPT/>. There you will find FAQ, links, forms and other resources (such as contractors, forms, letters that do mitigation work remove fuel) which you can download. Be patient, sometimes we are in the process of updating this site.

If you are interested in joining the Elk Meadows Ranchettes Wildfire Preparedness Team, please let us know; we’d be happy to have you. For questions or to join EMRWPT, email EMRWPT.

Thank you!

### **Elk Meadows Ranchettes Wildfire Preparedness Team (EMRWPT)**

Risa Lange-Navarro, EMRHA Neighborhood Ambassador (NA)

Tony Navarro, Rickie Van Berkum, Charlie Janson, EMRHA Community Members

Ryan Sedgley, Hazard Fuels Mitigation Program Mgr.-Frenchtown Rural Fire District

D Frisby, Fire Chief-Frenchtown Rural Fire District

Bob Henderson, Fire Prevention Technician-Ninemile Ranger District/ Lolo National Forest (LNF)

Jack Kuney, Fire Adaptive Communities Coordinator-Missoula Unit/Southwest land Office (SWLO)/MT Dept of Natural Resources & Conservation (MT DNRC), primary MT-DNRC contact

Joe Rediske, Fire Operations Specialist-Missoula Unit/Southwest land Office (SWLO)/MT Dept of Natural Resources & Conservation (MT DNRC)

Olivia Anderson, Wildfire Mitigation Specialist, Wildfire Mitigation Program, Missoula County Office of Emergency Management

Jerry Serabia, Assistant Program Manager, Wildfire Mitigation Program, Missoula County Office of Emergency Management