

Defensible Space Action Team Meeting Notes
Tuesday, August 12, 2025, 2:30 pm to 4:00 pm
La Pine Fire Station #101

This is the monthly meeting of the Defensible Space Action Team, an Action Team of the Newberry Regional Partnership.

OUR VISION: We envision a Resilient Newberry Country, where we develop information and resources to prepare for, prevent and respond to wildfire and other adverse events that threaten our community's health, safety, and well-being.

- Heather Miller
- Chief Holsey LP
- Austin Reimer
- Kevin Moriarty
- Brooks Eilertson
- Jerry Chinn
- Jim Larson
- Glenna Larson
- Monte Dammerall
- Chief Boos SR
- Kathy DeBone

• **Recap of the Project Wildfire Neighborhood Coalition Meeting - Kevin**

The PWNC is branching to and holding meetings in the community. La Pine was the 1st and had about 58 attendees. Corinne gave a history of Project Wildfire, Austin gave a presentation about how to become FireWise. Lisa Clark reported on the BLM Task Force. Made over 500 contacts.

How to continue to engage more FireWise participation.

**Get a list of Road Districts and HOA's from the county road department.*

**Devise an email to send out. Austin is happy to attend meetings.*

Heather, Austin, Monte to devise a letter

**Austin sent the slide deck of his presentation to UDRC and NRP. Kathy will post it on the website.*

• **Wildfire Home Protection Strategies Workshop & Assessment Training**

Workshop will be: *Saturday, October 4, 2025. This 4-hour training will include a 3 hour Wildfire Home Protection Strategies Workshop. The class is approved for continuing education credits for insurance agents & underwriters, but insurance companies do not recognize a training or specific program outside of FireWise to provide an incentive for homeowners. This is not a certification class.*

Assessment Training: *One hour workshop and will occur in March of 2026*

• **Defensible Space Packets**

Chief Holsey and Heather made up packets and distributed them far and wide in newberry Country. They included the flip guides and information on evacuation levels. The comment was made by Chief Boos that we should always be on level one readiness. It was suggested that packets be left at the County Community Development Dept and various rentals such as Bennington Properties in Sunriver.

The group discussed Wildfire Evacuation routes.

• R.3 Investigate Improvement to Wildfire Evacuation Routes and Signage.

Chief Boos clarified that in the event of an emergency, Fire fighters are busy dealing with the issue at hand. Deschutes County Emergency management handles alerts and evacuation. Kevin Moriarty has evacuation signs, posts and hardware to be used only in very specific and approved transportation routes. Evacuation routes are listed in the 2020 CWPP's. See links below for the Community Wildfire protection Plans.

[Three Rivers/Upper Deschutes River CWPP](#)

[Greater La Pine CWPP](#)

[Sunriver CWPP](#)

Heather shared information about alerts and sent a graphic. See attached.

Kevin pointed us to the [Deschutes County Emergency Management Dashboard](#).

FALL FUEL REDUCTION GRANT

Deschutes County has allocated \$125,000 for the fall of 2025 to fund fuel reduction projects aimed at reducing wildfire risk in Deschutes County communities. Preference will be given to communities or neighborhoods that are working towards or have already achieved recognition as a Firewise USA™ site and are proposing projects consistent with their Firewise action plan and community assessment.

<https://www.deschutes.org/forester/page/2025-fall-fuel-reduction-grant-program>

SPRING DUMPSTER BINS

Hope to serve 40- 45 communities in the Spring of 2026. No fiscal sponsor required. This is community driven.

NOXIOUS WEED PROGRAM

Financial Assistance for Noxious Weeds Control. Deschutes County offers financial assistance to private land owners who wish to control noxious weeds on their property. See Supporting Document Section Below. For more information contact Kevin.

**The department is going after yellow flag iris in DRRH 1-9. We discussed creating a letter for distribution in Three Rivers.*

GRANT UPDATES

- *Community Wildfire Defense Grant 3 - Kevin- Hope to hear in FALL*
- *Community Wildfire Defense Grant 4- Austin - Hope to hear in FALL*
- *EPA Thriving Community Grant - (Not awarded. We will apply for a smaller grant through the non-compete program)*

*BLM Community Assistance grant
BLM Good Neighbor Program - OWEB*

SEPTEMBER MEETING: Tuesday, Sept 9, 2025 2:30 pm - 4:00 pm at La Pine Fire #101