



NRP Defensible Space Action Team

Tuesday, October 13, 2026

2:30pm - 4:00pm

La Pine Rural Fire Protection District
51550 Huntington Rd, La Pine, OR 97739

MEETING OBJECTIVES:

The Defensible Space Action Team is a part of the NRP's broader efforts to create a more wildfire-adapted and resilient community. The team works in partnership with other organizations to educate and assist homeowners with creating and maintaining defensible space. Defensible space is the area around a home that is strategically managed to reduce the risk of it catching fire during a wildfire.

By promoting defensible space, the Defensible Space Action Team helps to create safer neighborhoods for residents and provides a safer environment for firefighters responding to a wildfire.

NOTES

Tony Delcollo - Vandervert Acres
Cecilia - Deschutes County Natural Resources, Project Wildfire, Noxious Weeds
Ben Crowley - Wild River
Linda Beard - Sunriver Homeowners
Mike Applegate - Sunriver Homeowners
Jim and Glenna Larsen - Upper Deschutes River Communities
Jona Ensley - Cascade District, Wildland Fire Service
Jodi Shiffman - Oregon Living with Fire
Heather Miller - Oregon Fire Marshal
Brooks Eilertson - Newberry Estates
Les Adams - Project Wildfire Neighborhood Coalition
Chief Holsey - La Pine Fire
Deputy Jon Ebner - DCSO
Lauren Street - Deschutes County Natural Resources Supervisor
Monte Dammerell - Action Team Leader
Kathy DeBone - Newberry Regional Partnership

UPDATES

Robert Newey - Deputy Fire Staff – Fuels Program Manager - (via email) Prescribed fire season is beginning across the Deschutes NF.

Go to www.centraloregonfire.org > Prescribed Burning (hot button) for more information on specific Rx fire projects.

Tentatively planning to burn this week on the Bend Fort Rock RD east of Sunriver/LaPine and tentative plans for the following weeks on the Crescent Ranger District.

Jona Ensley -Wildland Fire Service, BLM: Fuel Break work continues at Wagon Trail Ranch, Fire ban continues in the La Pine Basin, Deschutes and Klamath County, until October 31, 2026.

Check centraloregonfire.org for Public use Restrictions

Jodie Shiffman - Oregon Living with Fire: Josie will facilitate the LBALP panel at the Resilience Summit in Sunriver on October 21. She has sandwich boards for whoever wants them .

Check out the redesigned and more user friendly website! Grant assistance is available for neighborhoods trying to become FireWise or are already FireWise. They can connect you to grant programs and help you write your grant.

Contact Dr Jen Fenton, Co-Coordinator, Oregon Living With Fire:
Serving Deschutes, Crook, Jefferson, and Klamath County
jenniferfenton5@yahoo.com

<https://www.oregonlivingwithfire.org/wildfirefunding/>

Heather Miller, Fire Risk Reduction Specialist, Community Wildfire Risk Reduction Unit:

Coming up on Friday, October 16 is the Wildfire Home Defense Strategies Workshop. There are 14 locals registered so far.

OSFM is busy designing new grant programs. Sign up for the newsletter to stay informed and up to date. Oregon State Fire Marshal Monthly Newsletter <https://www.oregon.gov/osfm/about-us/pages/gated-wye.aspx>

Starting to plan the spring Wildfire Preparedness Fair in South County. This year Chief For La Pine, Holsey would like to do a breakfast to be held at Station 101 or the La Pine Senior Center.

Tony Delcollo - Vandervert Acres: Their FireWise application is pending. They received a grant for \$5,000 and were able to order dumpsters for branches and small trees. A chipper truck was hired. They also removed bitter brush from the roadsides 10 feet to 20 feet from the road. Overall the project was a big success with buy in from additional neighbors!

Tony will send us before and after images and the graphic for the banner they used on the

dumpsters.

Brooks Eilertson and Danielle Porkorney - Newberry Estates

FireWise application is pending. Brooks picked up some sandwich boards from Jodie for their projects.

Jim and Glenna Larson - Upper Deschutes River Communities:

So far they have funded 57 projects at \$28,500 for the Reimbursable grant program and 30 completed projects at \$34,500 for the Senior Disabled Program.

They are thinking of hitting it hard next year, with more funding, but will have a cash flow issue since their grant is reimbursable.

Deputy Jon Ebner - DCSO: Cleanup project during August and September was a big success with the DCSO volunteer inmate crew and transient cleanup.

(This does not include the 5 Community Cleanups conducted in 2026)

- Transient/Homeless: 326 hours, 23 volunteers, valued at \$11,782
- Inmate Volunteers: 132 hours, 11 volunteers, valued at \$4,770
- DCSO Volunteers: 108 hours, 5 volunteers, valued at \$3,903
- NRP: 20 hours, 2 volunteers, valued at \$722.80

Total: 586 hours, 41 volunteers, valued at \$21,178.04

Dumpster rentals, tipping fees and 2 RV removals: \$3,622

195 total cubic yards of trash.

Linda Beard, Sunriver Homeowners:

20% of homeowners are year-round, while 80% of homeowners are absentee. Patti doing a great job.

Chief Holsey, La Pine Fire: Wildfire Prevention Coordinator will be listed in the coming days. Hopes to have a good pool of candidates within 30 days.

La Pine Fire assisted with a lands cleanup in La Pine near State Rec on USFS land late in September.

WiRe Status, Updates and Next Steps - Lauren

Out of 2,300 assessments, 60% have been completed with a trash of 12. The assessment should be completed by the end of October. The public has been positive about the project. It was helpful the letters went out ahead of time. Next steps include the survey, a postcard reminder and a community event to share the report.

Lauren introduced Cecilia, new Project Wildfire Lead at Deschutes County. Cecilia is excited to be here, has been working on WiRe assessments and has technical and GIS experience.

FIREWISE NEIGHBORHOODS THIS YEAR

- Vandervert Acres - PENDING (Tony)
- Sunrise Neighborhood - APPROVED (Les)
- Newberry Estates - PENDING (Brooks and Danielle)
- Lazy River South - WILL APPLY (Kathy and Lauren)
- Pine Meadows Tracts / Dawn Road - Holiday Drive Area (Les and Jackie)

Action Items, Reminders & Wrap Up

- Wildfire Home Protection Strategies - 10/16/26
- Healthy Forests, Healthy Communities - 10/20/26
- Oregon Resilience Summit - Oct 21-23
- Next Meeting: November 10, 2026