

Chapter 7: Education & Community Outreach

Clackamas County Fire Prevention Cooperative

The Clackamas County Fire Prevention Cooperative is a consortium of structural and wildland fire agencies, as well as other public interest groups with a vested interest in fire prevention. The Clackamas County Fire Co-op addresses both structural and wildland fire prevention, and has incorporated the CWPP educational and outreach effort into its program.

Clackamas County Fire Prevention Co-op Objectives

- I. To unite those agencies engaged in fire prevention, safety, and public education in the Clackamas County area.
- II. To promote an interagency exchange of ideas, programs, and resources in the area of fire prevention, safety, and public education.
- III. To promote, coordinate, and actively support interagency participation in fire prevention activities.
- IV. To act as a point of contact for the exchange of professional information among its members and the public.
- V. To promote a reduction in the number of human-caused fires and preventable injuries within the jurisdiction of the Co-op through a program of public education.

Fire Prevention Cooperative CWPP Accomplishments

The Clackamas CWPP provided the catalyst for a great deal of wildfire prevention and outreach activities throughout the County. The Co-op has been successful in obtaining grant funds to implement the four highest priority actions identified in the Clackamas CWPP Action Plan:

1. The Co-op meets every other month to discuss pertinent educational issues regarding Fire Safety.
2. The Co-op staffs an informational table at the Clackamas County Fair on Senior Day.
3. The Co-op works with agencies for Team Teaching in the Spring (usually pairing an ODF and a structural representative to teach campfire and structural fire safety).
4. The Co-op offers scholarships to public education events/conferences for agencies that might not ordinarily be able to send someone to a public education conference.

Education & Community Outreach Actions

The Education & Community Outreach Action plan has been updated since 2012 to reflect accomplishments and ensure that the action plan remains relevant to current issues (Table 1-1.2017 CWPP Action Plan). The high priority risk assessment actions to be addressed by the wildfire planning team will be to:

- 1) Develop Firewise toolkit for CAR's.
- 2) Create incentives for fuels reduction.
- 3) Update and distribute the Burn Permitting and Fire Restrictions Brochure.
- 4) Continue to improve address signage throughout the County.

Firewise USA Communities

ODF received Title III funding to promote the Firewise USA™ Program, with the goal of creating certified communities in high priority Communities at Risk. Using a five-step process, communities develop an action plan that guides their residential risk reduction activities, while engaging and encouraging their neighbors to become active participants in building a safer place to live.

The five steps to become a Firewise Community are as follows:

- Obtain a wildfire risk assessment as a written document from your state forestry agency or fire department.
- Form a board or committee, and create an action plan based on the assessment.
- Conduct a “Firewise Day” event.
- Invest a minimum of \$2 per house in local Firewise actions for the year.
- Submit an application to your state Firewise liaison.

To maintain the recognition status over time, participating sites continue to conduct annual Firewise Day events and document their local investments.

The National Fire Protection Agency’s Firewise Communities/USA Recognition Program encourages and acknowledges citizen action to reduce wildfire risk. ODF received Title III funding to promote the Firewise Communities/USA Program, with the goal of creating certified communities in high priority Communities at Risk.

Several proactive communities in Clackamas County are aware of the risk of wildfire and are taking steps to mitigate this risk by participating in the National Firewise Recognition Program. There are currently six communities actively participating in the Firewise Community program including Barrington Heights, Savanna Oaks, Hunter Heights, Zig Zag Village, Beaver Lake and Government Camp. Other communities that have participated in the program in recent years include Elk Prairie, Beaver Lake, Big Rock, and Hallbacka.

Table 7-1. 2017 Clackamas Fire Prevention Co-op Activities

Current Activities	Lead Agency	Effectiveness	Cause Type
All Year			
Chimney Brush Program	Estacada, Sandy, Hoodland	High	General
CERT Program in Highschools	Silverton, Estacada	High	General
Address Sign Program	TVF&R, ODF, Silverton, Hoodland	High	General
Fuels Reduction Cost Share	ODF	High	Debris Burning
JFIN Fire Safe Children and Families Programs	All Fire Co-op Members	High	Juveniles
Free smoke alarm program in high risk areas.	SFMO, TVF&R	High	General
Senior Fire and Fall Prevention and Train-the-Trainer Safety Program	SFMO, TVF&R	High	General
Burn Permitting	All Fire Co-op Members	High	Debris Burning
Raids on Smoke shops /Retail Stores	All Fire Co-op Members	High	Smoking
Education Events with Grade School	All Fire Co-op Members	High	Juveniles
Safety Fairs, Community Preparedness	All Fire Co-op Members	High	General
Sparky's Hazard House	All Fire Co-op Members	High	General
Firewise Hand Outs	Fire Co-op	Moderate	Smoking
Defensible Space Presentations	Fire Co-op	Moderate	General
Wood Cutter Program	Molalla, ODF, Hoodland	Moderate	Equipment Use
SFMO has Juvenile arson outreach materials: Measure 11	SFMO	Moderate	Juveniles
Respond to burn complaints	Fire Co-op	Low	Recreation
Spring			
Tree School	ODF	High	General
K-12 Team Teaching North & South	All Fire Co-op Members	High	General
Spark Arrester	All Fire Co-op Members	High	Equipment Use
Station Tours and Pub Ed Requests	Fire Co-op	Moderate	Juveniles
PNW Sportsman Show	USFS	Moderate	Recreation
Molalla Sportsman Show	ODF	Moderate	Recreation
Annual ODF operators dinner industrial fire prevention.	ODF	Moderate	Equipment Use
Articles in local papers	Fire Co-op	Moderate	General
School Arson Prevention Program	Fire Co-op	Moderate	Arson
Summer			
Daily & Weekly Patrol, Post Signs	ODF	High	Debris Burning, Equipment Use
RUCP Articles in news paper	ODF	High	Equipment Use
Fly-in Cruise-in	ODF	Moderate	General
Fall			
PTA and Grades K-2,	All Fire Co-op Members	High	Juveniles
World Forestry Center	USFS, ODF	High	General
Score One For Safety (PGE Park)	USFS, ODF	High	General
Annually			
JFIN School Arson	All Fire Co-op Members	High	Arson
Hazard House at Estacada Fire Station	Estacada	High	Juveniles
OSP, CCSO Safety Curriculum	Molalla	Moderate	Recreation
Molalla Town Hall Meeting	Molalla, ODF	Moderate	General
After an Incident			
Work with media after an incident to promote fire prevention.	All Fire Co-op Members	High	General