



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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FOREST GROVE HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION DESIGNATED FIRST NFPA FIREWISE USA COMMUNITY IN MONTEREY FIRE DEPARTMENT SERVICE AREA

Pacific Grove, Calif. – Monterey Fire Department is pleased to announce the first Firewise community in Pacific Grove and the City of Monterey Fire Department’s Service Area. The National Fire Protection Association’s (NFPA) Firewise USA is a voluntary program that provides a framework to help neighbors get organized, find direction, and take action to increase the ignition resistance of their homes and community.

Forest Grove Homeowners Association (HOA) spent months working on the application for NFPA Firewise USA recognition. The application consisted of creating a Firewise committee, determining the boundaries of their community, obtaining a wildfire risk assessment from Monterey Fire Department, detailing educational and mitigation work done in the community, and creating a multi-year action plan to identify and prioritize actions to reduce ignition risk to homes.

“We are impressed by the hard work and time Forest Grove HOA Firewise members put into obtaining this recognition. Monterey Fire Department hopes other communities will see their preparedness success and also work toward obtaining Firewise status,” said Fire Chief Andrew Miller.

(more)

NFPA Firewise USA recognition is annual, and to renew this recognition, Forest Grove HOA will need to complete educational and risk reduction actions identified in their 3-year plan.

Homeowners Associations in the Monterey Fire Department's Service Area (Monterey, Pacific Grove, Carmel-by-the-Sea, and Sand City) interested in achieving Firewise status can visit the NFPA website at <https://www.nfpa.org/education-and-research/wildfire/firewise-usa> or contact the Monterey Fire Department's Fire Prevention Bureau at fireprevention@monterey.gov.

The City of Pacific Grove contracts with the City of Monterey Fire Department for fire and medical services.



Pictured from left to right: (front row – Forest Grove HOA Firewise committee members) Margaret Henderson, Kathryn Melhem, Nancy Bowen (back row – Monterey Fire Department) Acting Division Chief Matt Harris, Fire Chief Andrew Miller, Fire Captain JD Sheldon

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