





2017 Chip & Haul-April 1!

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2016 GRANT ACTIVITY

In 2016 Walker Firewise finished up two grants. Using funds from one grant, 47.22 acres were treated at an average cost of \$1,140.72 per acre, exceeding the grant goals of 42 acres at \$1,425.00 each. In addition, this grant paid the costs of two Chip & Haul events, one in 2015 and one in 2016 for a total cost of \$24,863.74.

The second grant treated 9.13 acres at an average cost of \$1,633.95 per acre. In all - homeowner reimbursements from these two grants amounted to \$94,854.00.

In December 2016, Walker was awarded a new grant valued at \$33,750.00 in reimbursable funds. Unfortunately, there is no money in this grant for Chip & Haul, only new forest fire fuel reduction on previously untreated land. If you have not previously had a Wildfire Risk Assessment, this is a good time to do so. It's free! See contact information below.

To date, Walker Firewise has brought \$341,605.00 into our community saving homeowners in Walker over \$290,913.00 in costs with over 281 acres treated.

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Plan to visit the Yavapaifirewise.org booth at the annual Earth Day

Celebration.

Yavapai County Courthouse

Cortez Street side

Saturday April 22, 2017

10:00 am-3:00 pm

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CHIP AND HAUL FOR 2017

WHEN: April 1 thru May 19, 2017 (or when the grinder has finished grinding).

WHERE: Walker Firehouse parking/dumpster area. WEST END.

WHAT: Forest Vegetation only! Trees, logs, limbs, branches, brush, needles, leaves, Empty all bags and/or containers.

NOT: Stumps, roots, rocks, dirt, treated lumber, garbage, trash, metal, cinder blocks, pipes, or plastic bags, etc.

DO: Pile it high. Please try to place your stuff in top of the pile rather than next to it. Keep paths open to dumpsters.

SAFTEY: Wear protection—eye, ear, head, hand; Protect your back; Know your limits; stray hydrated; be mindful of others in your immediate area.

COSTS

Chip & Haul has become a Walker tradition. In the past the costs have been paid for by grants. Not this year; this year the entire cost of Chip & Haul is paid for by donations. Walker Fire and Walker Community Action Alliance have teamed up this year to continue this tradition. You can help by donating. Please send a donation to any of the following:

<u>www.walkerfire.org</u> or mail to: Walker Fire Protection Association, P.O. Box 10174, Prescott, AZ 86304

www.walkercaa.org or mail to: Walker Community Action Alliance, 5353 S.
Walker Rd., Prescott, AZ 86303

We wish to thank all who have helped make this event possible through donations made to Walker Fire Protection Association and the donations gathered at the Sunday Saturday Ice Cream Socials, the Walker Community Action Alliance "on-line" fund drive, Walker Calendar sales and the annual Walker Chili Fest.

For additional information about Chip and Haul, look for the FAQ <u>here.</u>

PAWUIC HAS A NEW NAME

PAWUIC is Prescott Area Wildland Urban Interface Commission. While that is still the official name, it is now known as Yavapaifirewise.org, which just happens to be where you can find it on the web. You can also visit Yavapaifirewise.org on face-

book (https://www.facebook.com/PrescottAreaWildfireExpo) for the

latest news.

Yavapaifirewise.org is comprised of federal, state, county and city agency representatives working together with volunteers, businesses, and community leaders. The purpose is to mitigate the threat of wildfire and to promote forest health in the greater Pres-

cott area and Yavapai County. Members from Prescott National Forest, Bureau of Land Management, Arizona Department of Arizona Forestry & Fire Management, Prescott Yavapai Tribe, Yavapai County Emergency Management, Central Arizona Fire & Medical Authority, Prescott Fire Department, many other smaller fire departments, homeowner associations, Firewise/USA Communities and private citizens meet monthly to report and coordinate their activities to reduce the wildfire danger in the area.

Meetings are held on the first Thursday each month in the Freeman Building at the Prescott Rodeo Grounds. Meetings begin at 8 a.m. and everybody is welcome to attend.

Yavapaifirewise.org is your source for:

- Information and education on how to reduce wildland fire danger by means of an annual Wildfire EXPO, meetings, training, newspaper articles, Firewise Communities, and its regional information web site.
- A source of grant funding for area fire departments, homeowner associations and Firewise Communities to reduce fuels and mitigate other fire dangers.
- Training scholarships for area firefighters at the Arizona Wildfire Academy.
- Supporting efforts for economically and environmentally sound ways to utilize the biomass generated from fuels reduction and forest health projects.

Plan to visit the Yavapaifirewise.org booth at the annual "Wildfire EXPO" on April 22, 2017. Find the Wildfire Expo on South Cortez Street in downtown Prescott. Meet with USDA Prescott Forest Service representatives, State Forestry and Management personnel, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), various tree service companies and other vendors. See antique fire trucks, state of the art fire equipment, and visit with Walker Fire personnel. Festivities begin at 10:00 AM and end at 3:00 PM.

Frequently Asked Questions:

1. How can I get help to mitigate my property?

Contact a member of the WCAA Walker Firewise committee at walkerfirewise@gmail.com, or phone (928)443-9748, or fax at (928)445-0590. Wildfire Risk Assessments are free. As grants are won, financial assistance may become available.

2. How much financial assistance can I expect from grants?

It all depends on the type and the terms of the grant. Grants usually require some degree of matching funds, usually between 50% to 10%. Naturally, those that pay the most have the greatest competition and are the most difficult to get. Almost all grants are "reimbursable" which means the money has to be spent before it is reimbursed.

3. Once I have had my home mitigated, how long before I am reimbursed?

It depends on the grantor. Federal grants administered by the Department of Forestry and Fire Management have proven to take the longest. There is no guaranteed time interval but experience reveals anywhere from sixty to ninety days with as much as 120 days not unheard of.

4. I have a large parcel. Do I qualify for mitigation assistance?

Yes. Proposals do come along that seek to treat large parcels. Often these offers require that the parcel be adjoining Forest Service land, but that is not always the case. A plan must be written and agreed on by the local Prescott National Forest representative. Best bet—contact us so we can get started on a plan for the next proposal.

5. My Insurance company has cancelled (or threatened to cancel) my homeowner policy unless I be come Firewise. What must I do?

The first step is to get your home and property assessed for wildfire risk. Contact us for a free Wildfire Risk Assessment. Often you can reduce your risk by taking simple, inexpensive steps to alleviate the insurance company's concern.

6. I have raked all of the pine needles from my lot. What do I do with the bags?

First of all, It is not wise nor necessary to rake your entire lot. It is recommended that needles be removed at least 5 feet from flammable surfaces. On the rest of your lot, leave at least 1 inch to help control erosion and add nutrients into the soil as the needles decompose. Click link for more.

http://www.walkercaa.org/Documents/Firewise%20Taskforce/Forest%20I%20&%20D%20Bulletin-Pine%20Needle%20Raking%202-%2714%20(Final).pdf

Never, ever place needles or any other forest vegetation into the dumpsters located at the Walker firehouse unless different ones are brought in specifically for that purpose! You may dispose of needles, leaf litter and pine cones by emptying bags onto the slash pile during Chip & Haul events.