

GLENWILD COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

WILDFIRE RISKS AND POSSIBLE MITIGATION STEPS

As we all know, there is significant wildfire risk across the Mountain West, including right here in Summit County. Below is a summary of steps your HOA Board has taken, along with future actions under consideration.

A Starting Point

Some three years we engaged Alpine Forestry, wildfire risk contractors, to study our community's wildfire risks, and provide recommended mitigation actions. While the study is very lengthy, two "headlines" are that our most significant relative fire risks come from the Swaner Preserve Hillside stretching from Bitner Road to Glenwild, and from the thick, wooded area on the border between The Ranches, The Preserve, and Glenwild. Owners can review the entire study by meeting with John Coyle in the Lifestyle Center. [Here](#) is the "Storybook" provided by Alpine, which provides numerous suggestions as to how individual homeowners can harden their property against wildfire risk (such as minimizing plantings near the house; installing a ring of stones of three feet in diameter around the circumference; remove any firewood piles which may be close to the house; etc.).

Insurance Risks

Most of us are experiencing increased homeowners' premiums. Some new constructions have encountered difficulty simply securing coverage. In certain parts of the Mountain West, including to some degree right here in Summit County, insurance underwriters have made the decision to discontinue coverage entirely. Experts anticipate that, with the volume of wildfires, this challenge will only increase.

Actions Thus Far

A summary of steps taken thus far include:

- Education of owners on risks and their responsibilities. Thanks to those Owners who reacted quickly to the reminder to clear their property from dead shrubs and vegetation.
- Approved the "Thoughtful Thinning" rule providing guidance on how best to thin certain trees and plantings.
- Met with the Park City Fire Department to secure their input on our risks.
- Met with representatives of area HOAs, from The Colony, The Preserve and The Ranches, to exchange ideas and best practices and, in the case of the latter

two, to discuss ways we can coordinate efforts given our proximity to each other.

- Met with Craig Crocket, the insurance broker who writes the policy for the HOA, to better understand the insurance risks and trends.
- Began initial steps on a firebreak path off the Snow Berry Trail (although work remains). We are working with a contractor to identify the highest priority HOA common areas which should be addressed.
- Engaged Mike Quinones, owner of Wildwood Risk Consultants, and engaged him to guide our future efforts.
- Met with the CEO of Swaner to initiate discussion of ways we can work together on wildfire risk mitigation.

Next Steps/Actions Under Consideration

- Working with Mike Quinones, develop an action plan setting forth the priorities for next steps. **We anticipate that the HOA may be incurring significant costs over the future years, and we will keep Owners apprised of such amounts and efforts.**
- Learn more about grant money that may be available to assist in these undertakings and what it takes to qualify.
- Expand discussions with The Ranches and The Preserve, hopefully to result in coordinated efforts.
- Schedule a “Wildfire Fair” in the spring of 2025 to further educate owners. We hope to have outside speakers including Mike Quinones, homeowner insurance experts and others. More on this is early 2025.

Owners with questions can reach out to John Coyle.

WE NEED YOUR HELP!

Overall, there is going to be a significant amount of work on these various potential initiatives, which will span into the coming few years. We need the help of those willing to assist - - please let us know if you are interested in joining our team.

Those who may be interested in volunteering in these efforts should contact Larry Alleva (larryalleva@gmail.com) or JohnCoyle.

Glenwild HOA Wildfire Risk Subcommittee

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