

Orchard Springs Firewise Community Bylaws

January 3, 2025

Article I. Orchard Spring Firewise Community (OSFWC)

Section 1. About

The building of this community started in 2021, we were certified by Firewise USA on September 22, 2022, and recertified every year through 2024. To stay certified we need to make progress on home and property hardening and grow our community each year. See Map in Appendix A of our region bounded by Highway 174, Rollins Lake, and Chattering Pines Road. This specific region was approved by fire personnel for size, terrain, and shared evacuation routes.

Article II. Purpose

Section 1. Goal

Save lives, homes, and money by protecting assets and the natural values of the region from wildfire.

Section 2. Mission

Organize this Firewise Community centered around Orchard Springs Road, and to work with our community neighbors, and members on projects designed to achieve our common community goals.

Article III. Membership

Section 1. Board Members & Meetings

- I. The board is made up of at least 3 volunteer members, from the Orchard Springs Firewise Community region, preferably, at least one person from each section.
- II. The board typically includes a resident leader, resident co-leader, and treasurer, where these and other board members share all board tasks.
- III. The board meets quarterly in person, and/or remotely, to manage documentation, plan activities and communications including annual community education meetings and special projects.
- IV. Decisions are made by discussion and a simple majority of those present at the meeting in which the vote takes place.
- V. If the number of people on the board drops below 3 people, the community will be polled by email and phone calls for additional board members.
- VI. This community will disband if there are not enough people on board to drive the activities to maintain the Firewise certification.
- VII. Board members receive no compensation for their work.

Section 2. Board Tasks

- I. Periodic email communications for meetings, projects, and call for volunteers and work logs.
- II. Interact with agencies, and create and submit 3-Year Action Plan, and update every 3 years.
- III. Compile volunteer work log data into a summary to reapply for recertification every November.
- IV. Apply for grants for projects and collect donations to support community activities.
- V. The treasurer and resident leader will co-manage a non-profit bank account to hold the funds for community activities, and events under the following Employer Identification Number: 33-1489848.
 - a. The account will be opened at Tri Counties Bank, 709 Sutton Way, Grass Valley, CA 95945
 - b. If either co-manager of this bank account is unable to continue responsibilities for this account, then another board member can take the place of this member, determined in the next board meeting by simple majority vote.
 - c. If all board members are unable to continue responsibilities for this account, then the community can be polled for new board members to join, and then co-managers for this account can be determined in the next board meeting by simple majority vote.
 - d. If this community disbands then the bank account will be closed with all remaining funds going to the Peardale Chicago Park Fire Protection District, 18934 Colfax Highway, Grass Valley, CA 95945.

Section 4. Membership Tasks

- I. Attend one educational meeting or participate in one community work project annually.
- II. Work on home and property hardening, little by little, every year, to withstand wildfire.
- III. Return one volunteer work log with hours spent doing home, property, and community projects, including equipment, labor, and material costs, and send it to the board, by October. The work log can be sent by one of three methods:
 - a. Print, fill out, take a photo, and text to (530) 346-6799
 - b. Fill out online document, attach, and send by email to OrchardSpringsFWC@gmail.com
 - c. Print, fill out, and mail to Orchard Springs Firewise Community PO Box 491, Colfax, CA 95713

Appendix A.

