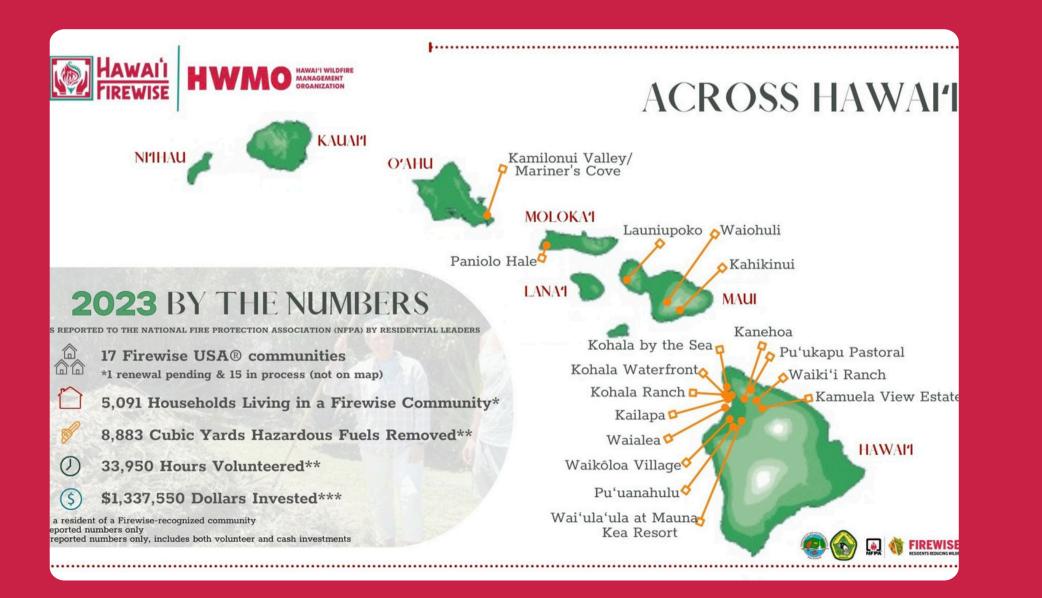


HAWAI'I-FIREWISE

Supporting fire-prone neighborhoods across Hawai'i in their risk-reduction efforts



ABOUT THE PROGRAM

- HWMO's flagship program for neighborhoodlevel action
- Program went statewide in **2014** (10 sites)
- In partnership with NFPA and State Div. of Forestry & Wildlife (with support from FD's)

phases

- Hosts a <u>Firewise Network</u>
- Access to resources, financial assistance,
 - experts

• First site in 2004 (Kohala by the Sea)

PARTICIPATION

<u>18 nationally recognized</u> communities across the state, 23 in the application process (since Aug 2023), dozens more in the community-building

HWMO SUPPORT

Community hazard assessments

hawaiiwildfire.org/firewise-program

Firewise is a framework to help residents get organized, find direction, and take action to increase the ignition resistance of their homes and communities.









Steps to achieving national recognition



Organize it!



Plan it!





Do it!



Tell us about it

- Create a board or committee of volunteers, including residents and partners
- Collaborate with local wildfire expert to complete a community wildfire risk assessment

- Develop a three-year action plan based on the site's risk reduction priorities
- Updated every 3 years in the portal

- Host a minimum of one wildfire riskreduction or educational/outreach event
- Meet the minimum wildfire risk reduction investment (the equivalent value of one volunteer hour per house)
- Create a Firewise USA® Portal account and submit an application to your state Firewise USA liaison
- http://portal.firewise.org

Firewise USA

Hawaii Chapter



HWMO & DLNR-DOFAW support HI's Firewise communities

- Coordinate hazard assessments for new sites • Provide assistance with new and renewal <u>NFPA applications</u> Provide program updates and <u>share resources</u> on a regular
- basis
- Provided <u>tailored support</u> to Firewise committees • <u>Connect</u> our sites to national, state, county, and other local
- efforts

When funding is available

- Offer workshops/trainings (technical and community-building) • Facilitate learning groups around topical areas of interest • Offer financial assistance/reimbursements for community
- mitigation efforts



Perks of joining your Firewise Committee

- Community-building (new friends) :)
- Help determine community risk-reduction priorities
- Support neighborhood-level mitigation and educational projects
- Be part of the Hawai'i-Firewise Network and Big Island-Firewise 'Ohana (regular meetings and a
 - Google Group listserv for learning and sharing)
- Be part of the group that decides how mitigation funds get spent

QUESTIONS? COMMENTS? LET US KNOW!





(808) 885-0900

admin@hawaiiwildfire.org

www.hawaiiwildfire.org