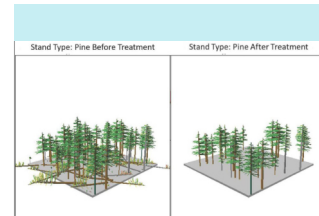


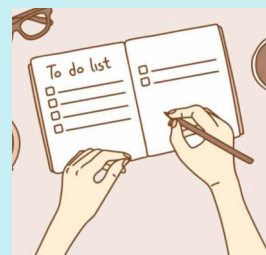
Sun Mountain Ranch Club Firewise Committee



The importance of thinning thick stands



Think about thinning in the spring



Start planning now

Think ahead to what Firewise goals to tackle next.

Thinning our trees

Many of us moved here because we love the pine trees

But if we really love the trees we have, it's important to protect their health. And one of the best ways to do that is by thinning out small trees that take resources from larger, more healthy trees. This also cuts down on the amount of fuel a wildfire has to burn and gives the remaining larger trees a chance to survive that fire.



Work with neighbors

Work with a neighbor to help each other accomplish Firewise goals.

1

DNR

Take advantage of the DNR's financial assistance program.

2

OKANOGAN CONSERVATION DISTRICT

okanogancd.org

3

HELP IS AVAILABLE

Okanogan Cons. Dist. is planning spring chipping events.

Science says thinned forests are healthy forests

Overgrown forests are one of the key contributing factors in the current wildfire crisis in the west.

Another key factor is drought. Much of our forest lands and heavily forested private properties are experiencing serious wildfires as a result of these two factors.

There are still many properties within Sun Mountain Ranch Club that are heavily treed.

Over 30 of our neighbors have taken advantage of a generous program offered by the DNR to have their trees thinned. The DNR's Financial Assistance Program for Wildfire Resilience and Forest Health, formerly referred to as the cost-share program, focuses on technical and financial assistance to implement forest health or wildfire mitigation treatments or to help landowners write forest management plans. Go to <https://www.dnr.wa.gov/cost-share> for more information.



“We loved the thickly wooded forest on our property. But we also realized some trees needed to go to improve their health and to help our Twin Lakes community be more fire resilient. After getting used to the new look, we are now ready to remove even more to further improve conditions.”

~ Don and Gail

If you're interested in seeing properties that have had trees thinned please e-mail smrcfirewise@gmail.com. This can give you an idea of what properties look like after being thinned to help you decide if you'd like to remove some trees on your property.

MORE SATISFIED NEIGHBORS

“We love living in the woods! We knew thinning was the right thing to do to protect our home and the community. But we were concerned the Firewise logging would be disruptive and degrade that woody feeling we cherish. We needn't have worried. Brothers Fire did a great job, cleaned up more than we could have hoped, and we still have a perfect forest environment. Plenty of trees remain, and now we and our neighbors are safer from wildfire.”

~ Jim and Patty

