

Home Ignition Zone ASSESSMENT

Get recommendations from a firefighter on how to improve your home's survivability during a wildfire.

In 2020, Crooked Lake District will be working to become a nationally recognized Firewise USA site. Firewise USA is a national program designed to help fire-prone neighborhoods improve wildfire readiness. It encourages property owner groups to take action before a wildfire occurs. The focus is on personal responsibility and the development of local solutions. A Firewise USA site is a collaborative effort among the lake district, local fire department, US Forest Service, and the WI DNR. The Crooked Lake Firewise USA site will include all the property in the Lake District and about sixty additional properties that are in close proximity to the Lake District. Grindle Lake has also been accepted into the Firewise USA program.

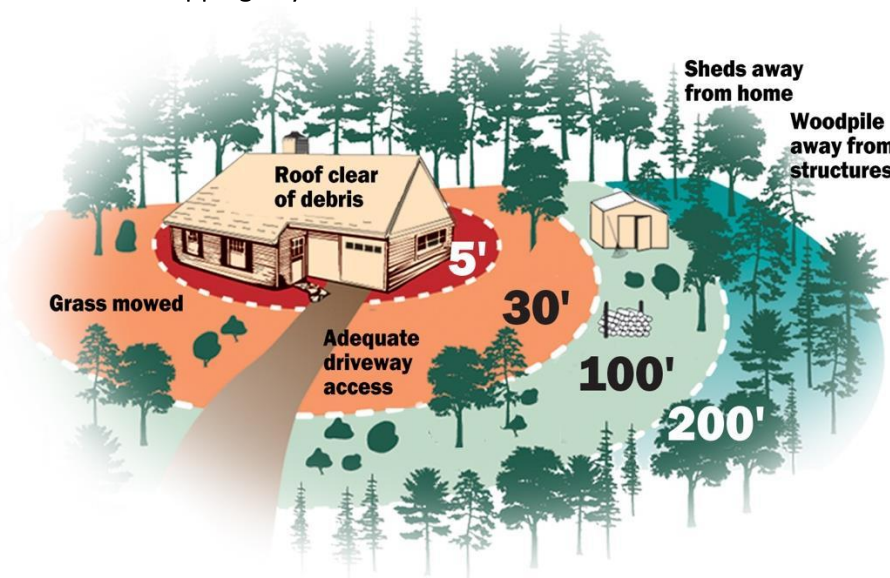
Why is the Crooked Lake District working to become a Firewise USA site?

- The Town of Riverview is designated as a high-risk community for wildfire because of the flammable vegetation in the area, the housing density and the known historic wildfire occurrence.
- The Crooked Lake area has some of the highest wildfire risk in the Town of Riverview.
- The July 2019 storm has increased the wildfire risk in the area for years to come.

The lake district has taken the first steps to begin the process. We would love for you to be involved.

1. Laura Hayes, Wildland Urban Interface Specialist with the WI DNR, will be at our annual meeting on May 23rd. She will provide us with information on the Firewise USA program, explain the steps involved in becoming a nationally recognized Firewise USA site, and offer to provide home ignition zone assessments. Come to the meeting to find out more.
2. Sign up for a free, no obligation, home ignition zone assessment to learn more about your property's wildfire risk. You can sign up through your lake association or at the annual meeting.
3. Become a part of the Crooked Lake Firewise USA work group. Help us conduct a community risk assessment, create an action plan and create projects that will benefit the lake association.
4. Work on your property to reduce your wildfire risk.

There are many benefits to becoming a Firewise USA site. Lake district members will learn about wildfire prevention, home ignition zones, fuels mitigation, wildfire safety and wildfire preparedness. The lake district can also apply for grant funds to do projects such as roadside chipping, Firewise workshops, common area clean up, community work days and more. For example, your lake district has applied for and has been awarded a grant for 2020 that will pay for a roadside chipping day in a select area of Crooked Lake.



We are excited to share more about the Firewise USA program with you at our meeting on May 23rd.

Your Firewise USA work group,
Matt Connell Crooked Lake District
Curt Hoffman Crooked Lake Fire Depart.
Patrick Krage US Forest Service
Jackson Beck Forester, WI DNR Forester
Laura Hayes Wildland Urban Interface
Specialist, WI DNR