

Welcome & Schedule



12:30pm

Doors open – Vendor Tables

1:00pm

Welcome & Housekeeping

1:15pm

Speaker – Daniel Swain Ph.D.

2:00pm

Speaker - Joel Laucher

2:45pm

Speaker – Cindy Schmidt, Ph.D.

3:30pm

Firewise Program Updates- Q & A

4:15 pm

Closing Remarks - Thank you!

Housekeeping & Partner Tables



Housekeeping, Safety, Hybrid Etiquette

AED, Fire Extinguishers, Restrooms

Two ways out of the Chambers

Evacuation Meet at Parking lot by circle

Thank You to Our Partners!

**Please Take a Moment to Go to Their Tables
in the Courtyard**

Daniel Swain, Ph.D.

Daniel Swain, Ph.D., is a climate scientist with the University of California Agriculture and Natural Resources (UC ANR) focused on the dynamics and impacts of extreme events—including droughts, floods, storms, and wildfires on a warming planet.

Dr. Swain is an alumnus of the University of California, Davis (B.S., Atmospheric Science) and of Stanford University (Ph.D., Earth System Science), and completed his postdoctoral work at UCLA.

He also authors the widely-read Weather West blog (weatherwest.com), which provides real-time perspectives on California weather and climate and can be found on Twitter (@Weather_West), Bluesky (@WeatherWest) and YouTube (@WeatherWest).



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Joel Laucher

Joel Laucher works for United Policyholders, a nonprofit that helps consumers with an array of insurance issues.

He will discuss the basics everyone should know about the current, very challenging, homeowner's insurance marketplace, including how to shop for coverage and how to possibly reduce your premium.

Laucher previously worked for the California Department of Insurance.

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Cindy Schmidt, Ph.D.

Cindy Schmidt, Ph.D., retired from NASA in 2025 and is currently volunteering for the American Red Cross of Silicon Valley.

At NASA, Schmidt was an Associate Program Manager for Ecological Conservation and used geospatial data and technology for natural resource management, wildfire management, and human health risk assessment.

She also started the Indigenous Peoples Capacity Building program in 2016.

Schmidt is especially enthusiastic about teaching people how to use and interpret satellite imagery for a variety of applications, including disaster assessments.

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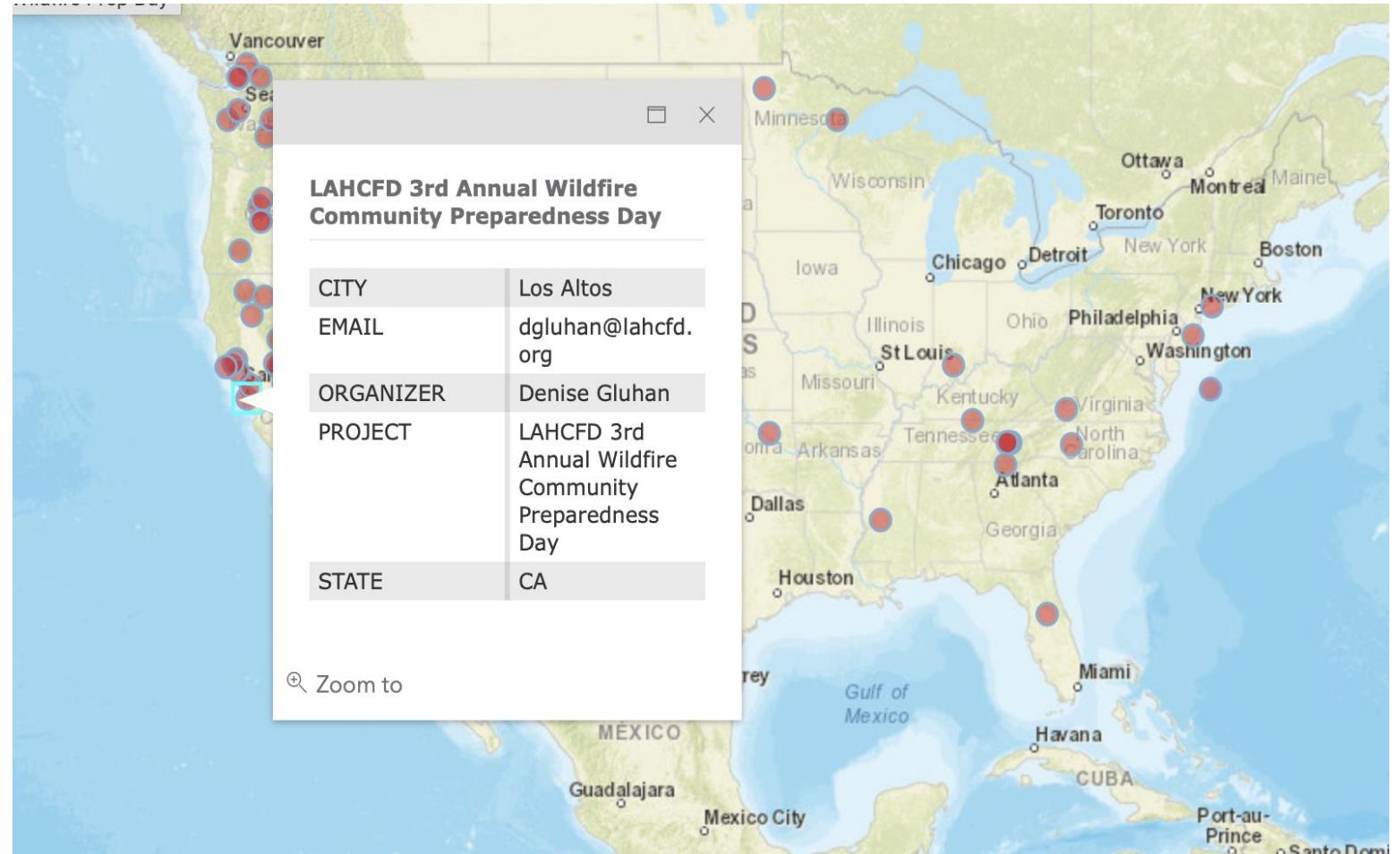
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FIREWISE USA Wildfire Community Preparedness Day Map



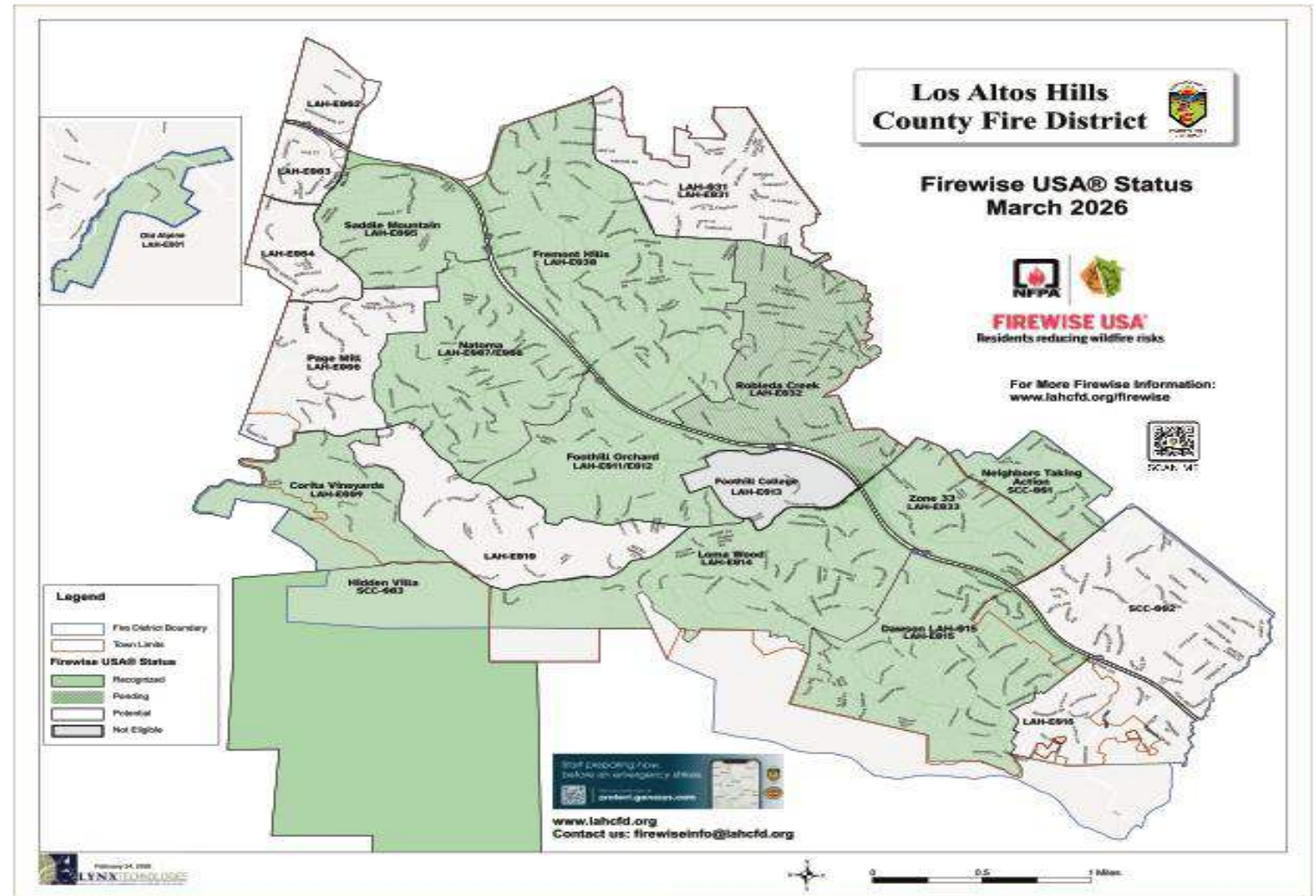
FIREWISE USA LEADERSHIP INTRODUCTIONS

Please provide a brief introduction & include the following information:

Your name:

What Firewise USA Community:

Introduce Members of Your Leadership Team:



Organizing Firewise USA Neighborhoods 2022-2026

2022
Saddle Mountain

2023
Zone 33

2024
Dawson-015
Fremont Hills
Loma Wood
Natoma
Hidden Villa

2025
Neighbors Taking Action
Corita Vinyards
Old Alpine
Foothill Orchard

2026
Robleda Creek
(in process)

Firewise USA Updates



**Eleven Recognized Firewise
Communities**
One in Process



Firewise Office Hours
1st Wednesday 1:30pm
2nd Tuesday at 7pm



**New NFPA Mapping Tool at Annual
Renewal**



372 Home Ignition Zone (HIZ)
Completed in 2025
“Hosted” HIZ Assessments

Three Year Plans- Top Goals

Top Goals Collected
From the Eleven
Communities
Firewise USA
3-year plans

Education & Outreach Top
Goal:
Recruitment

Home Hardening Top Goal:
Remove Combustibles in
the 0' to 5' or Zero Zone

Defensible Space Top
Goal:
Encourage Removal of
Dead Vegetation

Evacuation Planning Top
Goal:
Evacuation Route Planning

Firewise USA Summary Community 3-Year Plan Categories with Top Three Goals Listed

Defensible Space

1. Encourage removal of dead vegetation and trees on properties
2. Encourage use of resources available- chipping, HIZ & rebates
3. Encourage removal of highly flammable plants or trees on properties

Home Hardening

1. Evacuation Route identification & planning
2. Plan and evacuation drill
3. Installation of recommended 4” reflective addresses

Education outreach

1. Recruitment to increase residential participation
2. Offer & encourage attendance at training events
3. Produce newsletter, articles, & utilize social media

Evacuation Planning

1. Clear combustibles for 0’ to 5’ around homes including decks & gutters
2. Encourage neighbors to sign-up for HIZ
3. Creation of community list of affordable resources & vendors

Firewise USA Annual Renewal Updates

Annual Three Categories Renewal Data:

- **Resident Time Spent**
- **In Risk Reduction On Their Property**
- **Resident Dollars Spent Reducing Risk on Their Property**
- **Total Cubic Yards of Vegetation Removed on Properties**

Resident Time Spent In Risk Reduction On Their Property

2024 Total Hours

10,943

2025 Total Hours

13,382

Two Year Totals

24,775

Resident Dollars Spent Reducing Risk on Their Property

2024 Total Dollars

—————
\$1,123,709.52

2025 Total Dollars

—————
\$2,692,144.76

Two Year Total

—————
\$3,815,854.28

Total Cubic Yards of Vegetation Removed on Properties

2024

9367 cu yds

2025

40,419.19 cu yds

Two Year Total

49,786.19 cu yds

UPCOMING CLASSES



LOS ALTOS HILLS
COUNTY FIRE
DISTRICT

FREE CLASSES TO REDUCE FIRE DANGER AT HOME



6/13

Fire Smart Landscaping

June 13, 10:00AM – 12:00PM,

Learn to landscape with native plants while maintaining defensible space.

Presented by Nikki Hanson of CA Sisters Landscaping and Fire Captain Paige Russell (ret.)

7/25

Home Hardening and Zone 0

July 25, 10:00AM – 12:00PM, Los Altos Hills Town Hall

Learn home hardening and Zone 0 strategies to reduce wildfire risk.

Presented by Fire Captain Paige Russell (ret.)

Register at lahcfd.org/classes

Join a Firewise Community

By participating in Firewise USA®, residents are being proactive in safeguarding their homes, strengthening neighborhood connections, and creating a fire-adapted community.



Home Ignition Zone (HIZ) Assessment & Rebate Program

Research shows that a home's vulnerability depends on its condition and everything within 100 feet of its foundation, the area known as the Home Ignition Zone (HIZ). The District offers a HIZ Assessment & Rebate Program to help residents create defensible space and harden their homes.



LOS ALTOS HILLS
COUNTY FIRE
DISTRICT

For local District events and programs, fire safety and emergency preparedness information, visit Los Altos Hills County Fire District at www.lahcfd.org, call (650) 949-1044 or email education@lahcfd.org.

UPCOMING CLASSES

Be Ready Be Prepared: Animal Preparedness

August 22, 2026



Sign up at lahcfd.org/classes



Be Ready Be Prepared: Fire Extinguishers and Holiday Safety

November 7, 2026



Sign up at lahcfd.org/classes



HIZ POSTCARD MAILERS

LOS ALTOS HILLS COUNTY FIRE DISTRICT RESIDENTS:

You are eligible to participate in the Home Ignition Zone (HIZ) Assessment and Rebate Program.

PARTICIPANTS RECEIVE:

- Onsite evaluation of your property to identify wildfire ignition risks
- Personalized HIZ report with recommendations to mitigate fire risk
- Up to \$3,000 in matching funds for completing rebate-eligible defensible space improvements

REGISTER ONLINE:

lahcfd.org/hiz



PLEASE NOTE: Improvements must be within the 100-ft defensible space zone and completed by a licensed contractor to be eligible for the rebate. Tree removal and some exclusions do not qualify for a rebate. Please read the Program Advisory on the registration page for further details.



BLUE DASHED BOUNDARY: REBATE-ELIGIBLE ZONE

HIZ Assessment and Rebate Program brought to you by:



Home Ignition Zone (HIZ) Assessment and Rebate Program

The Los Altos Hills County Fire District (LAHCFD) is pleased to partner with the Santa Clara County FireSafe Council to offer the HIZ Assessment and Rebate Program to District residents. Residents will receive a personalized HIZ report and may qualify for up to \$3,000 in matching funds upon completing rebate-eligible defensible space improvements on their property. HIZ Assessment recommendations must be within the 100-ft defensible space zone and completed by a licensed contractor to be eligible for the rebate.

LAHCFD encourages all residents to participate in the program to build safer neighborhoods and reduce risk and loss resulting from wildfires, and LAHCFD is here to support your efforts.

Make your community safer and gain peace of mind knowing you and your neighbors are ready for the next wildfire. Become a NFPA Firewise USA® recognized site today.

For more information, email hiz@lahcfd.org



Los Altos Hills County Fire District
PO Box 1766
Los Altos, CA 94023

PRSR STD
US POSTAGE
PAID
HAYWARD, CA
PERMIT #3335

*Watch for our ad in the Home & Garden
May 27th issue of the Los Altos Town Crier!*

For more fire safety and emergency preparedness information, visit us at www.lahcfd.org or call (650) 949-1044.

WILDFIRE EVACUATION WORKSHOPS

Wildfire Emergency Preparedness Workbook



Evacuation Planning & Information

More Information Email: education@lahcfd.org

SIGN-UP: EARLY EMERGENCY ALERTS

SIGN UP FOR ALERTSCC

Santa Clara County's Official
Emergency Alert System.



Why Sign Up For AlertSCC?

- Stay ahead of emergencies and protect yourself and your loved ones.
- Receive vital alerts directly to your device, ensuring you're informed and prepared when it matters most.
- Your information in AlertSCC is confidential and secure, used only for alerting purposes.

How Are Alerts Received?

- AlertSCC is free for everyone and easy to set up.
- Alerts are sent directly to your mobile device, landline, and/or email.
- You can decide how you want to receive alerts and set up alerts for loved ones.

Types Of Alerts:



FIRE



EARTHQUAKE



SEVERE
WEATHER



PUBLIC
SAFETY



INSTRUCTIONS
DURING A DISASTER



QUESTIONS???

