



Friends of Banner Mountain



FIREWISE USA™
Residents reducing wildfire risks

WELCOME!

Please Sign In.

Meeting Begins at 5:00pm and Ends at 6:30pm



**Friends of
Banner Mountain**



PROGRAM AGENDA 5:00pm - 6:30pm

- 5:00pm George Olive, Board Vice President
Friends of Banner Mountain

- 5:30pm Jeff Peach, Leader
Banner Mountain Firewise Community

- 6:00pm Joann Fites-Kaufman, Board President
Wildfire Ready Coalition of Nevada County

- 6:30pm Meeting Closed



Friends of Banner Mountain



**George Olive, Board Vice President
Friends of Banner Mountain**

Housekeeping:

- Welcome!
- Restrooms and exits
- This presentation is posted to our Friends of Banner Mountain website at <https://www.bannermountain.org/>



**George Olive, Board Vice President
Friends of Banner Mountain**

Friends of Banner Mountain

- Mission accomplished!
- Over the last 5 years community concerns, and projects, became increasingly wildfire preparation and education focused.
- Organizations already exist in this space to meet this community need.
- Understand when you're needed and when to gracefully turn the reins over to another.



Friends of Banner Mountain



**George Olive, Board Vice President
Friends of Banner Mountain**

The Dissolution of a Nonprofit Organization

- Conduct realistic Board conversations on the state of the nonprofit.
- Develop an action plan.
- Alert stakeholders.
- Conduct a final financial audit.
- Identify a nonprofit with a similar mission (Wildfire Ready Coalition of Nevada County (Coalition) selected) to receive remaining funds.
- Develop a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with the Coalition.



Friends of Banner Mountain



**George Olive, Board Vice President
Friends of Banner Mountain**

MOA with the Coalition

The MOA between the Friends of Banner Mountain and the Coalition will ensure assistance will be available to create new Firewise Communities within the former Banner Mountain Firewise Community boundary. This assistance may include:

- Education, training, mentoring, and outreach support
- Supplies and/or services to engage neighbors
- Administrative and technical support to obtain Firewise USA recognition

Funds **shall not** be used for lobbying, political campaign activities, or any purpose inconsistent with IRC §501(c)(3) requirements.



Friends of Banner Mountain



**George Olive, Board Vice President
Friends of Banner Mountain**

Our Goals for 2026

- Continue to provide helpful information to our members through:
 - Friends of Banner Mountain website
 - Facebook presence
 - E-subscriber service
- Address tasks on the dissolution action plan
- Provide information and access to MOA services of the Coalition
- Dissolve Friends of Banner Mountain no later than December 31, 2026



***Banner Mountain
Firewise Community***



**Jeff Peach, Firewise Leader
Banner Mountain Firewise Community**

The Ripple Effect

- Banner Mountain Firewise Community (BMFC) receives significant support from the FBM. This includes subscription communication tools, funds for printing materials and encouragement of volunteer community projects. This support now has an expiration date.
- The BMFC, at approximately 1600 parcels, has been difficult to manage due to its sheer size and unique needs among individual neighborhoods. The inability to secure sufficient volunteer support could no longer be ignored.
- It is far more efficient and effective to manage smaller, local, neighborhood communities. This "neighbor helping neighbor" approach encourages more volunteer involvement as neighbors directly benefit from projects that focus on their own streets.



**Banner Mountain
Firewise Community**



**Jeff Peach, Firewise Leader
Banner Mountain Firewise Community**

What's Next

- The Banner Mountain Firewise Community's national recognition expires in November of 2026. **This recognition will not be renewed.**
- That creates an opportunity for multiple interested neighborhoods to create their own, neighborhood focused, firewise communities. It is hoped this approach will re-energize this valuable program on our mountain and encourage more *active engagement*. **Requires new neighborhood leaders to step forward.** Contact FBM with questions!
- FBM is providing funds, through an MOA with the Coalition, to assist our neighbors with starting a firewise community. The National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) allows firewise communities as small as 8 dwellings.



Wildfire-Ready Coalition of Nevada County

Jo Ann Fites-Kaufman

Board President/Volunteer Executive Director

<https://wildfirereadync.org/>
contact@wildfirereadync.org

About the Wildfire-Ready Coalition

Mission: Reduce the risk of catastrophic wildfire in Nevada County

Who We Are

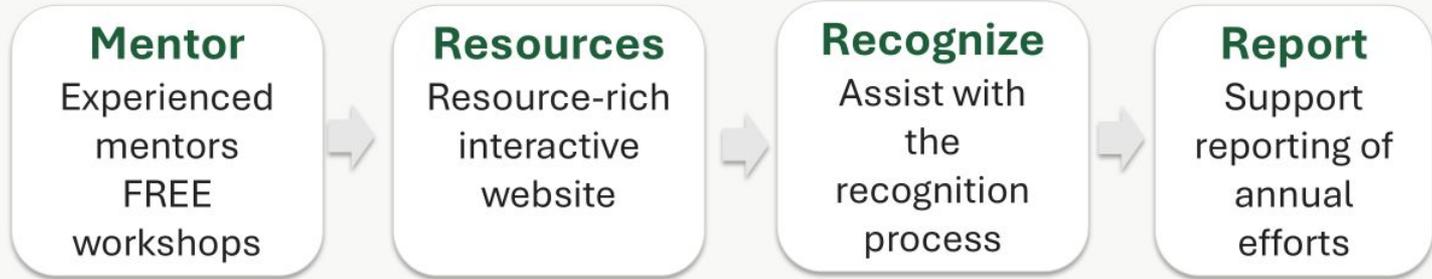
Local 501(c)(3) non-profit, volunteer-driven organization
Dedicated to reducing the risk of catastrophic wildfire in Nevada County

What We Do

Support and empower residents, visitors, and communities—especially Firewise Communities

- mentoring,
- education &
- fire safety projects

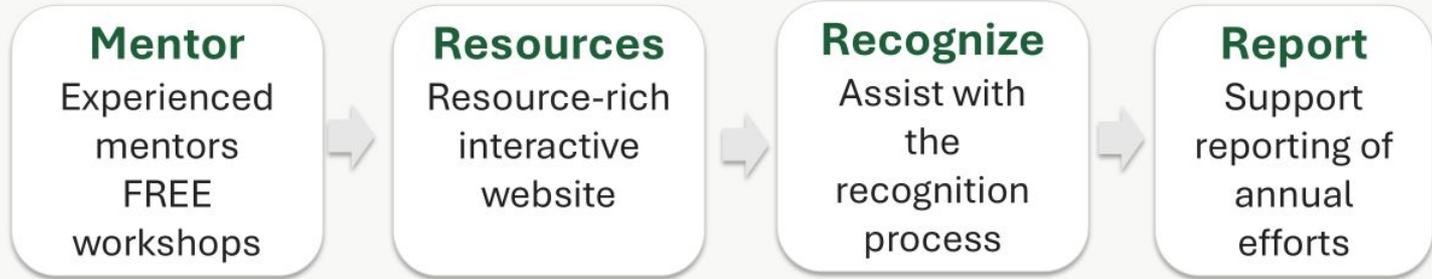
How We Do It



Recognition steps we help you complete:

- Gather 3 or more committee members
- Map community boundaries
- Community risk assessment
- Create your action plan
- Report defensible space and home hardening Apply for recognition
- Engage your neighbors

How We Do It



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Typical New Community Recognition Timeline



Recognition requirements: one community event each year • collect & report volunteer hours • provide recognition certificate to members

Wildfire-Ready Coalition

Helped form >16 FWC in past year

contact@wildfirereadync.org





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Residents reducing wildfire risks

THANK YOU FOR COMING!

<https://www.bannermountain.org/>