

FIREWISE WORKSHOP #2
“OUTREACH & EDUCATION
STRATEGIES FOR COMMUNITIES”

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TILLICUM VILLAGE HOA

1. Introduction

2. Where is Tillicum Village?

Southeast Bend, 164 homes, 1/3 to 1/2 acre with 16 acres of common space.



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3. WHEN DID FIREWISE START?

Application submitted by Marie Phillis & accepted in 2018 after she established a Tillicum Village HOA Firewise Task Force and received a community assessment. Marie & Jim organized and supervised 2 years of Volunteer Days including a 2019 Firefree-recognized clean up day with a local high school group. Marie oversaw walk-arounds, monthly Task Force meetings & Firewise newsletters, attendance at HOA board meetings & county meetings, provided presentations at HOA annual meetings, maintained Firewise paperwork & many other matters Firewise. In fall 2019, Marie and I transitioned leadership.

4. WHAT IS THE CONTINUATION OF THE TILLICUM VILLAGE STORY?

I continued all of the above outreach efforts. In addition, I wrote & TV received two grants: a Deschutes County Fuels Reduction Grant to remove hazard trees, thin junipers in natural areas & limb up. This \$4000 grant was the catalyst for multiple walk-throughs with the Task Force as well as with key members of the HOA board, namely the president and the commons director. A complete task list was created that provided the FIVE PART ACTION PLAN. 1) Arbor Tree Service work (6 days), 2) Landscaper cleanup (2 days/week Jan-April), 3) Adult & Teen Challenge Work Crews (8 afternoons), 4) Task Force/HOA Board volunteers, and 5) Tillicum Village homeowner volunteers.

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MORE TILLICUM VILLAGE STORY

Unfortunately, the COVID-19 restrictions forced changes in our plans. The May 2nd Firefree Community Preparation Day & the second volunteer clean up day were replaced by other efforts. Small work groups cleaned and removed debris. In particular, I worked with 2-4 member Adult & Teen Challenge work crews to clean up the areas identified in our Fuels Reduction Grant plan, specifically removal of ornamental juniper bushes in the commons. Working with this local community group provided help to our HOA and offered great satisfaction to the men.

View of West Pond



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STILL MORE TILLICUM VILLAGE STORY

Homeowners cleaned up more than usual this year, partly prompted by a need to do something outside. They cleaned yards, decks, roofs, and limbed up trees in their yards. Dozens took truck & yard cartloads to the Knott Landfill. Some helped rake paths & open areas including West Pond, pruning overgrown Oregon grape plants in many natural areas throughout and more.

Debris Removal: *Tree Service-24 trees & 60 cubic yards, Landscaper- 216 cu yds, Work Teams Removal-168 cu yds, Community-3.5 cu yds/household=574 cu yds. Total debris removed = 1018 cubic yards + 20 trees.*

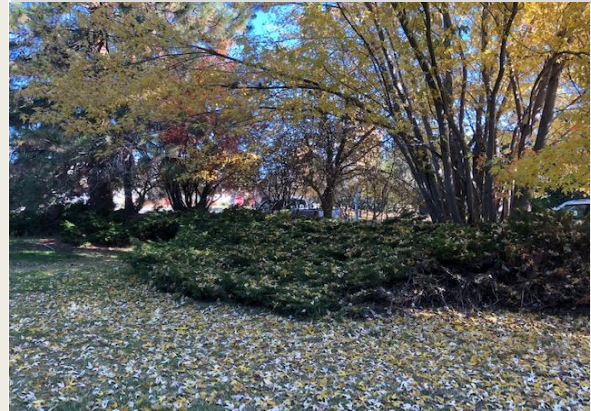


Juniper bushes BEFORE



Juniper bushes AFTER

2020 Tillicum Village Clean Up



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5. WHAT ARE THE TILLICUM VILLAGE NEEDS? Based on our Firewise Community Assessment: **#1** Remove ornamental juniper/arborvitae bushes (in both common spaces and homeowner yards), **#2** Continue to educate the community, **#3** Address houses & individual issues.

6. WHAT TYPES OF OUTREACH ARE USED NOW? *Recent feature article in the Bend Bulletin to follow our “Celebratory Walk-Around” which brought our Firewise Task Force together—respecting our social distancing—to walk around the common spaces to review and appreciate what the collective work accomplished.*

Firewise Newsletter that goes out with HOA newsletter—emailed and mailed. Firewise Community signs at 2 major intersections. Since COVID-19, many walk-arounds resulted in helpful and informative conversations with homeowners. Knowing that debris pickups were occurring on certain days, some residents rose to the challenge and increased their piles of debris. This person-to-person connecting was also a very positive as a way to help educate.

7. WHAT TIME IS INVESTED? Time invested by Task Force Chair & committee members, 40 volunteers each community volunteer clean up day, meeting attendance, grant writing, Chair working behind the scenes with other HOA board members

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8. WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS OF OUR ACTIONS? *handouts*The top benefit is a much better Firewise community. Some residents are taking responsibility for removing their own ornamental juniper bushes.

9. What are the changes in the neighborhood? Strong work in 2018 and 2019 followed by 2020'S AMAZING work. HOA efforts, Task Force efforts, volunteer efforts, homeowner efforts, cubic yards removed, etc. The Firewise cleanup also improved the aesthetics of the village—more like a nicely kept park.

10. What are our next steps? Create resident packets in addition to regular handouts; Add more members to the Firewise Task Force; Address shingle roofs; Create a Tillicum Village Home Assessment form—learn how to engage homeowners and be helpful and not oppositional.

11. What are our future needs? Home Assessment form; Funding to help address other trees and limbing up; Ideas for newsletter; Grant ideas to help residents with shingle homes; Possible HOA information nights.

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References:

Tillicum Village Website

Tillicum Village Newsletter

Bend Bulletin News Article,