



**Starlight Pines Homeowners Association (SPHOA)**

2740 Arapaho Drive, Happy Jack, AZ 86024-8245  
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**FIREWISE AND HEALTHY FOREST PROGRAM FOR STARLIGHT PINES**

**LOT INSPECTION FORM**

Lot  
 Owner(s):  
 Situs Address:  
 Mailing Address:

Number  
 of  
 Structures  
 on the Lot

INITIAL INSPECTION DATE \_\_\_\_\_

NOTIFICATION DATE \_\_\_\_\_

RE-INSPECTION DATE \_\_\_\_\_

**Non-compliant items must be completed by September 17, 2020. After September 17, 2020, fines may apply.**

**If any of the six (6) items below are marked "NO," you must contact the Starlight Pines Office at 928-477-2602 and request a re-inspection after you have corrected the non-compliant items.**

Please contact a member of the Firewise Education Committee to walk your lot with you if you have any questions about the findings below.

**COMPLIANCE**

<p>1. <u>Dead and down trees and brush (dead limbs lying on the ground)</u> must be removed from your lot for fuel reduction purposes. One dead and down tree may be left for habitat if placed away from live trees and thirty (30) feet from structures and the area around it is cleared of any receptive fuels.</p> <p>Comments _____</p>	<p><b>YES</b>  <input type="checkbox"/></p>	<p><b>NO</b>  <input type="checkbox"/></p>
<p>2. <u>Firewood</u> must be stored a minimum of thirty (30) feet away from structures. Areas around firewood or any other flammable items must be cleared of any receptive fuels. No flammable materials may be stored under decks.</p> <p>Comments _____</p>	<p><b>YES</b>  <input type="checkbox"/></p>	<p><b>NO</b>  <input type="checkbox"/></p>
<p>3. All dead or drought-stricken <u>standing</u> trees must be cut and removed from the property. One dead, standing tree may be left for habitat if it is bark beetle free and 30 feet from structures.</p> <p>Comments _____</p>	<p><b>YES</b>  <input type="checkbox"/></p>	<p><b>NO</b>  <input type="checkbox"/></p>
<p>4. Eliminate <u>ladder fuels</u> by removing all branches of cedar, juniper, and pine trees to a height of six (6) feet from the ground or to a maximum of one-half (1/2) the height of smaller trees.</p> <p>Comments _____</p>	<p><b>YES</b>  <input type="checkbox"/></p>	<p><b>NO</b>  <input type="checkbox"/></p>
<p>5. <u>Thinning</u> for the 2019 inspection will <b>NOT</b> be required, due to the bark beetle outbreak. However, any thinned material must be removed from the property. See <u>thinning</u> criteria on back of this Lot Inspection Form or contact a Firewise Education Committee member if you have questions.</p> <p>Comments _____</p>	<p><b>YES</b>  <input type="checkbox"/></p>	<p><b>NO</b>  <input type="checkbox"/></p>
<p>6. <u>Raking</u> of property and trimming of tall dead grass should be done to remove a major source of fire fuel. At a minimum, a thirty (30) foot area <b>MUST</b> be raked and trimmed around all structures, including homes, garages, sheds, woodpiles, and propane tanks.</p> <p>Comments _____</p>	<p><b>YES</b>  <input type="checkbox"/></p>	<p><b>NO</b>  <input type="checkbox"/></p>

INSPECTED BY \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE # \_\_\_\_\_

INSPECTED BY \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE # \_\_\_\_\_

(See more information on the back.)

## Criteria

Mark June 2020 on your calendar. Your lot will be inspected for compliance near that date. Inspections will be an ongoing three (3) year rotation with June 2018, Lots 1 – 200; June 2019, Lots 201 – 400; and June 2020, Lots 401 – 612. It is important to keep your lot Firewise Compliant all the time, not just every few years. Ongoing yard maintenance is necessary to keep your property as safe as possible from fire. The guidelines below apply to vacant and occupied lots.

1. **DEAD AND DOWN TREES AND BRANCHES MUST BE REMOVED FROM YOUR PROPERTY.** One dead tree may be saved for a habitat but must be free from debris and away from structures.
2. **FIREWOOD AND ANY FLAMMABLE MATERIALS** must be stored a minimum of thirty (30) feet from structures, including propane tanks. No flammable materials, such as wood construction materials or flammable liquids, may be stored under decks.
3. **Dead and drought-stricken or bark-beetle-infested standing trees must be removed.** Many oaks appear dead, so look for live leaves, and if none, they must be removed.
4. **“LADDERING UP” of all trees**
  - Remove tree branches (ladder up) at least six (6) feet on all trees. On a small tree, ladder up half the height of the tree. This reduces fuel close to the ground.
  - On an uphill slope, ladder up even higher, twelve (12) to fourteen (14) feet on large trees. This helps prevent “crown fires.”
5. **THINNING** – Our climate can support 100-200 trees per acre. (This number is dependent on levels of moisture each year.) Count your trees – including oak, pinyon, juniper and cedar. You will be surprised how many you actually have. The majority of lots in Starlight Pines need some thinning. When deciding which trees to remove, use this strategy:
  - Pine trees are surface water feeders, acclimated to shallow and rocky soil. When too many trees are growing in a clump, there is not enough water for all of them. The skinny pines steal water from the larger pines but will never become big pines.
  - Look up to the top of each tree. Are the branches sparse or only on one side of the tree? Then that tree is too close to another – take it out. If the branches of one tree touch another, a crown fire is more likely to happen.
  - Remove “dog hair” thickets of small trees. This ensures that the larger trees nearby will thrive. Basically – pick out your best trees – the biggest and healthiest. Thin around those big trees to ensure their water supply is maximized.
  - Consider the **TOPOGRAPHY** of your lot. If your lot is on a slope, fire danger is greater. Fire can race uphill. Thin your trees so they are spaced farther apart on the slope than on the flat ground.
  - You should be able to look ***THROUGH*** the forest not just ***AT*** it.
6. **RAKING** and trimming of tall dead grass thirty (30) feet away from structures is mandatory. Structures include homes, under decks, garages, sheds, woodpiles, and propane tanks. Tall dead grass in these areas must be trimmed. Do not screen propane tanks.

If you have questions, contact the Starlight Pines Office at (928) 477-2602. A member of the Firewise Education Committee will contact you to walk your lot and give you specific recommendations.