



# FLORENCE RURAL FIRE DISTRICT NEWSLETTER

**SUMMER  
2024**

**FREE  
WILDFIRE  
HOME  
ASSESSMENT**

**4th OF JULY**

**VOLUNTEER**



One of the greatest highlights of summer is the magic of the Florence 4th of July Fireworks show.

The Florence Rural Fire District and Florence Firefighters have enjoyed sponsoring this annual show for many years. The Fire District also sponsors several raffles and give aways during the evening. This year, the [BTCHN KTCHN](#) food truck will be returning to serve up awesome meals, and the [Florence Community Church](#) will be serving a BBQ with complimentary hot dogs. [Baskin Robbins](#) will also be serving up cool desserts, and a DJ will be playing music through the evening.

**WHEN: JULY 4TH**

**WHERE: FLORENCE COMMUNITY PARK**

**TIME: FESTIVITIES START AT 6:00 PM,  
FIREWORKS AT 10:20 PM (at dusk)**

**HAPPY 4TH OF JULY!**

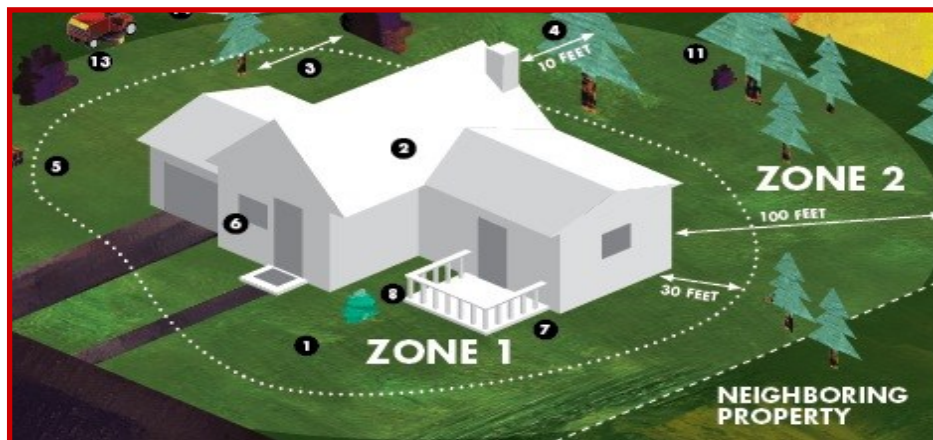


# FREE WILDFIRE HOME ASSESSMENTS



Each year in the United States, wildland fires consume hundreds of homes in the Wildland-Urban Interface. Studies show that as many as 80% of the homes lost to wildland fire could have been saved if their owners had only followed a few simple firesafe practices. Have you ever wondered if your home and property is prepared for a wildfire? If so, the Florence Rural Fire District is offering a **Free Wildfire Home Assessment**. Make sure your family knows what to do in case of a home or wildland fire. Members of the District will come to your home and do a FREE wildfire assessment. This report will point out possible hazards to your home and property and will make suggestions on how to mitigate these hazards. Then you can work at your time and schedule to make any necessary change you need to protect your home and family from wildfire. For more information and to schedule an assessment, go to: <https://sites.google.com/view/fireintheroot/home>.

There is no better time than now to prepare and educate your family.





# **VOLUNTEERISM TODAY**

**By: Peter Metzger, Assistant Fire Chief**

The Florence Rural Fire District was founded in 1947, serving the Florence area for over 77 years. Needless to say, times have changed in the Bitterroot Valley. Founded as a volunteer organization, Florence Fire has continued to adapt and grow with the ever changing demands of the community.

It is through the commitment and dedication of volunteers that this has been made possible. However, volunteerism is slowly fading away as the demands of life have become increasingly greater.

Volunteerism, from any organization does not come without sacrifice. There are countless hours spent responding to 911 emergencies as well as the required weekly trainings. These duties require a great deal of responsibility as each volunteer responds from their place of work or from the depths of sleep during the midnight hours.

Like any habit or routine, volunteerism is something that you can cultivate in your life. From the youngest of our cadets to the oldest of our members, these men and women have chosen to sacrifice their time, money and energy to respond and care for the increasing needs of our community.

This 4th of July, as we remember our past and the men and women who gave their all for our freedom, we here at Florence Volunteer Fire Department want to thank each member for their continued dedication to service and excellence, as well as the members of our community for their continued support.

To quote General Jimmy Doolittle, "There's nothing stronger than the heart of a volunteer." If I may add to this, the volunteer is only as strong as the community that backs them up. Having a better understanding of volunteerism and why our department is essential for our community, we ask that you would consider becoming a volunteer participant.

Always remember, the best way to give back to your community is to volunteer.



FLORENCE RURAL FIRE DISTRICT

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**VOLUNTEERS SERVING WITH PRIDE**



Visit: [nfpa.org/grilling](https://nfpa.org/grilling)

# GRILLING SAFETY

*Follow these simple tips for safe grilling:*



Propane and charcoal BBQ grills should only be used outdoors and placed well away from the home, deck railings and out from under eaves and overhanging branches.



Keep children and pets at least three feet away from the grill area.



Keep your grill clean by removing grease or fat buildup from the grills and in trays below the grill.



Never leave your grill unattended.



If you choose to use lighter fluid, use only fluid intended for charcoal grills. Never add charcoal starter fluid to coals or kindling that has already been ignited.