



## ***Great Firewise News!***

Dear Fellow Apple Mountain Lake Property Owners:

We have been participating in the Virginia Department of Forestry's "Firewise" program since 2006. The purpose of Firewise is to help reduce the risk of wildfire in rural communities like ours, and we have made great progress over the years thanks to the efforts of our community.

We have obtained a Firewise grant to pay for a professional tree company to visit Apple Mountain Lake for several days starting Monday, September 13 (weather permitting) with a powerful chipper/shredder machine.

### **DO YOU HAVE ANY BRANCHES, BRUSH OR SMALL TREES THAT YOU WOULD LIKE TO HAVE CHIPPED AND REMOVED? If so, here are the details:**

- Bring the material (up to 6 inches in diameter) to the edge of your property (within 5 feet from the road) by **5:00 PM on Sunday, September 12th** with the cut or broken ends facing the road. **PLEASE DO NOT BRING ANY MATERIAL OUT AFTER THIS TIME AND DATE.**
- Please keep the branches long, if possible. It's faster for the crew to work with one long branch, versus one that has been cut into small pieces.
- PLEASE DO NOT INCLUDE stumps, vines, briars, weeds, plants, leaves or lumber.
- The crew will spray the mulch into unmaintained areas of your property or neighboring properties, or they may spray it into the back of their dump truck.
- If you would like mulch dumped on your lot, ask the crew when you see them out working on the mountain.
- It will take several days for them to visit all of our roads. Weather could delay work.

The crew will also cut and chip some low branches hanging over the roads, which present a hazard to tall emergency vehicles such as fire trucks.

Please send your questions about this project to [amlfirewise@gmail.com](mailto:amlfirewise@gmail.com).

**IMPORTANT:** Please email a brief summary to [amlfirewise@gmail.com](mailto:amlfirewise@gmail.com) of how much time you spend cutting or dragging branches, clearing brush, trees etc. For example: "John and Jane Homeowner, 1234 Granny Smith Rd, we each spent 2 hours on 7/23/21 gathering fallen branches to be chipped." If you ever pay for tree, branch or brush removal, please report it and include a copy of your receipt. **THIS INFO IS VITAL IN ORDER FOR US TO OBTAIN FUTURE FIREWISE GRANTS!**

Thank you for helping reduce wildfire risk in our community.

Sincerely, Your Apple Mountain Lake POA Board and Firewise Committee

*For wildfire safety information and tips, please visit **[www.firewise.org](http://www.firewise.org)***