

Photo From: BMFPD Auxiliary

## **Foster Community-Wide Action**

Firewise teaches residents the basics of wildfire behavior to help them understand how homes ignite and what they can do to protect their homes. The Firewise Communities/USA® recognition program works by asking neighbors to join together to agree on a plan of action and to begin to take steps toward safer homes and common areas well before a fire threatens the area. Individual properties may use Firewise principles effectively, but since many homes are close to other homes and properties, neighbor-to-neighbor action is more effective for reducing home ignition risk in the community.

It is up to all of us as homeowners in the Wildland Urban Interface to prevent home ignitions during wildfires. Our success at this will require us to work with our neighbors. Poor mitigation by your neighbors will adversely affect your own property in a wildfire. "We must all hang together, or most assuredly we shall all hang separately." attrib. Benjamin Franklin, 1776.