Sharing the Responsibility in the WUI
The reality is that there will never be enough firefighters, engines, or trucks to defend every home in a major wildfire.  

It’s up to you to take responsibility for protecting your family, your home, and your community.
You own the Fuels
You own the Fire
You own the Consequences

Austrado Proverb
Wildfire Mitigation & Preparedness

Is an investment in preserving your lifestyle, your dreams, your memories, and your future!
Wildland Fire Fighting in the WUI is a Partnership

Your Property Mitigation Impacts Wildland Fire Fighting Safety, Strategy and Tactics
When a wildfire strikes...

What are Firefighters thinking about?

Oh Poop!!

What are Firefighters thinking about?
FIRE SIZE UP & INTELLIGENCE

• Pre Arrival
  – Civilian & Firefighter Safety
  – Values at Risk
  – Fire behavior potential
    • Fuels, Weather, Topography
  – Resource Availability

• Current Status (What is happening?)
  – Smoke Indicators
  – Radio Traffic
  – First Units on Scene
Typical Problems for the Initial Attack Incident Commander

• Rapidly expanding situation

• Access for Apparatus, Evacuation and Traffic Control

• Acquiring the right resources in time to be effective

• Assigning resources to the right place at the right time in order to be effective

• Span of Control
Integration of Air Resources into the Plan
Determine Structure Protection Strategy

**Offensive Mode**
- Perimeter Control/Attack the Fire

**Defensive**
- Placing Resources at homes in front of the fire if and where possible
- Pre-treatment of properties if and where possible
- Defensive Firing Operations
- Re-engage the fire in neighborhoods after the flame front passes
Structure Protection Considerations

• Crew Safety
• Engine Safety
• Can We Be Effective?
Before the Fire...

What are Your Responsibilities?
Prepare Yourself
Prepare Your Family
Prepare Your Home
Prepare your Property
Prepare Your Community
Landowners’ / Homeowners’ Responsibilities

• Create & maintain defensible space
• Reduce other fuel hazards on property
• Create and maintain safe property access and fire engine staging
• Make your home ember resistant

Be Prepared For Fire!!
Landowners’ / Homeowners’ Responsibilities

- Have a plan for evacuation
- Be prepared to evacuate
- Be situationally aware of the seasonal and daily fire potential
- Be financially prepared
- Talk to your neighbors

Be Prepared For Fire!!
Your Mitigation & Preparation Can:

• Save the lives of you, your family, your neighbors and firefighters

• Protect your property, the property of your neighbors and of your community

• Preserve your environment, lifestyle, property values, and allow you to insure your home
Your Mitigation & Preparation Can:

• Create a safer environment for firefighters to effectively do their job

• Positively impact strategic suppression decision processes

• Add options to the tactical palette for suppression resources
Be Prepared For Fire!!
Do No Harm!

Don’t let your lack of action contribute to someone’s bad day!
Thank You For Caring & Taking Action!