



Ruby Ranch

# Fire Adapted Community Newsletter

## April 2025: ACTION ITEMS FOR SPRING

---

### IMMEDIATE ATTENTION

Summit County's NEW Alert System Requires New Account Set-Up.

Summit County is going to a new platform for the reverse 9-1-1/emergency alert system. You will NOT receive emergency texts without creating a new account. The new system takes effect **May 1, 2025!**

Here are the steps to take:

1. Add 970-410-8234 to your contacts so your messages will not be blocked.
  2. [CLICK HERE](#) to create a new account!
- 

### WILDFIRE READY HOME PROJECT:

The Insurance Institute for Business and Homeowner Safety (IBHS) has partnered with Firewise™ and other organizations to create a Wildfire Ready Home Certification program for insurance companies. This certification is currently available only to California and Oregon homeowners. However, we can use their guidance to improve our home's chances of surviving a wildfire, improve home insurability, and to be ready for Wildfire Ready Home Certification to come to Colorado. It is an extensive, comprehensive checklist.

[CLICK HERE](#) for the IBHS Wildfire Ready Home Certification Checklist for Homeowners.

---

### REMINDERS:

Summit County Free Chipping Program comes to Ruby Ranch the week of July 7-11, 2025. Inappropriate or excessive piles not be picked up. [CLICK HERE](#) for County Details.

Our Firewise™ Certification renews YEARLY. Please take pictures of your projects (even if it is the same as last year) to compile into our yearly reapplication. "After" projection completion pictures are best, but "before and after" is better. Submit your pictures to:

[lkewis109@mac.com](mailto:lkewis109@mac.com) .

# HOME IGNITION ZONE PROJECTS

The conditions immediately around the house impact the ignitability of the home. The first 5 feet around the home is the 'home ignition zone.' Challenge yourself to have nothing that can catch fire touching your home. Here are examples, from the top down:

## ROOF:

- 0-5' includes anything touching the roof such as tree branches.
- Class A roof includes metal, membrane, ceramic tile, or asphalt tile roofs.
- Gutters should be metal/nonflammable and well maintained
- Valleys in roof need to be clean AND keep area around skylights clean

## EAVES/VENTS:

- Enclose your eaves and use ember resistant screens everywhere.
- [CLICK HERE](#) for information on non-combustible vents and screens.
- [And HERE](#) for the "Google Search page" on metal louvered dryer vents

## WINDOWS:

- Double pane tempered glass is best. Screens may also act as a barrier to embers.
- CLOSE YOUR WINDOWS BEFORE YOU EVACUATE.
- Glass skylights are better than plexiglass; framing around skylight is free of debris.

DOORS: Noncombustible doors: metal or fiberglass or at least solid door with metal threshold. Storm doors over the front door are also fire resistant. Glass doors should be double pane tempered glass.

## DECK:

- Under the deck should be pristine:
  - - nothing flammable
  - protected from an invasion of hot embers: 1/8 inch screens, entirely enclosed.
- The posts for your deck can start on fire - make sure at least 6" or more of the bottom part of post is protected from starting fire.
- Deck planking can start on fire. If embers get stuck between planking, it can take as little as 90 seconds for the flame to travel between the planks to the house and start your home on fire. Planks should be further apart to allow embers to fall through to a NON-flammable area under deck.
- The joists holding the planking can also catch on fire where the embers get stuck or fall through - best to have a metal cover over the joists.
- Remove flammable PATIO FURNITURE/CUSHIONS that is within 5' of home.
- HOT TUB: if it is within 5' of the home, it can also catch your home on fire, even when full.