

Wildfire Risk Reduction Workshop for Small Forest Landowners Recap



Over 65 attendees (25% of them WCFFA members) attended a cooperative production of a Wildfire Risk Reduction Workshop for Small Forest Landowners on May 18, 2019.



Ashley Blazina & Tom Smith of the Washington State Department of Natural Resources made presentations on The Big Picture: What are communities around Washington doing to prepare? and a local perspective addressing why should we be worried about wildfire in Whatcom County, what is the risk, how do we determine risk levels, & what types of fire suppression resources are available.



Aubrey Stargell, a Forester/Arborist, talked about the importance of forest and tree health as well as regulations, tools and options for reducing wildfire risk. District 14 Fire Chief Jerry DeBruin led a lively question and answer session. And Jenny Coe of the Whatcom Conservation District talked about how to prepare your property for wildfires as well as resources and tools for homeowners.



Phil Cloward, Tom Westergreen, David New, Don Assink and Dan Koehler set up the WCFFA membership and information table. They also hung the brand new Washington Farm Forestry Association banner at the Wildfire Workshop promoting our Chapter's commitment to education and stewardship of private forest resources.

Many other members including *Helen & Paul Armtzen, Herb Barker, Liz & Mark Wiegand, Lisa Tiemersma, Bonnie Westergreen and Carol Assink* also helped set up and organize the day of the event. Thanks everyone for all your efforts in helping to make this Workshop, held at the beautiful facilities of the East Whatcom Regional Resource Center, a success.



The Wildfire Workshop was open to the public. The Workshop along with snacks and beverages and informative handouts was presented free of charge to attendees. Thanks to all the presenters on a job well done and a great cooperative effort.