

Sanctuary Sentinel

June 2025

*Special Edition
Fire Mitigation*

SIGN UP BY JUNE 20

SMFR Fire Risk Reduction Report

Presentation at Sanctuary on the Park May 17, 2025

The community started its Spring cleanup day with an informative presentation by Brandi Miller, a Risk Reduction Specialist from South Metro Fire Rescue (SMFR). Last year some members from Sanctuary on the Park participated in a risk assessment of the neighborhood common areas followed later in the summer with individual home assessments of 16 homes. Many who participated indicated they have implemented the recommendations. Brandi would encourage any of the 16 home owners who had the risk assessment last year to let us know what measures you have implemented. This helps provide validation to SMFR that residents are taking the recommendations seriously and helps garner continued support to keep these services available to our community.

Brandi provided guidance on hardening homes, the three zones of defensible space; the importance of preparedness; having an emergency to go kit, an evacuation plan which you practice in advance; signing up for alerts; insurance and the ISO 1 rating of SMFR, the highest accreditation possible which can positively affect insurance rates. Brandi also announced a new SMFR workbook and reference guide that is downloadable: <https://www.southmetrocr.org/smfr-wildfire-preparedness-guide>. It is a valuable resource for homeowners and includes many of the points she made and much more.

There will be an opportunity for individual home assessments again this year. Due to high demand and limited staff, two homes will be selected from those who sign up and anyone interested in learning how to harden their home is welcome to attend the assessment of the two homes so they can do their own home assessment and take action. There were 6 home owners who signed up at the event. Others will have an opportunity to add their names.

In addition to the discussion of reducing fire risk, Brandi mentioned disposing of hazardous waste responsibly, including lithium batteries. See link below. She cautioned about fire blankets not being regulated and not protective, that fire extinguishers can expire and should only be used when the fire is small and you know how to use it. It is better to get out than try to put it out.

And, worth noting is a concern for SMFR to have a reduction in funding which could increase response times for all emergencies, as well as maintaining staff and equipment to maintain their ISO - 1 rating. There is likely to be a vote on funding in the next election.

Michelle Seubert, CCSP manager, was asked about the gate off Jordan Road; the park is aware of issues and is working to harden the area; she also indicated the park is willing to install dog leash signage and a doggie waste bag dispenser and trash can at the Jordan entrance. She was aware of the kids on motorized bikes entering the park. They have been stopped. Only bikes that can be pedaled are allowed inside the park.

Resources you can access:

<https://www.southmetrocr.org/wildfires>

www.SouthMetroCRR.org

<https://www.southmetrocr.org/south-metro-wildfire-community-preparedness-newsletter>

<https://www.southmetrocr.org/smfr-wildfire-preparedness-guide>

<https://engagesouthmetro.org/>

<https://www.southmetrocr.org/hazardous-materials>

**If you would like to attend the home risk presentation,
please email Martie Grubenhoff at martieg1215@comcast.net by June 20th.**

When we all work together we keep each other and our homes safe!