

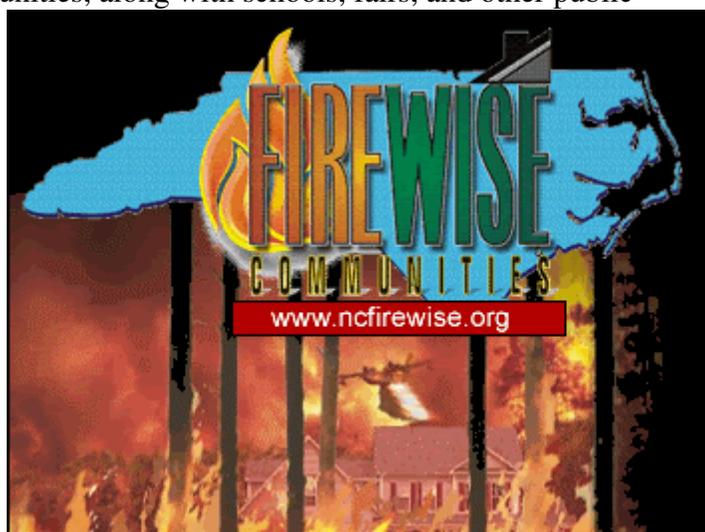
Asheville, North Carolina District Hazard Mitigation - 2001

The North Carolina Division of Forest Resources (DFR) created an innovative fire mitigation and prevention program in the Asheville area. Because of its natural appeal to vacationers and retirees, the Asheville area has grown tremendously in the last decade – and the wildland/urban interface hazards have also grown. To prevent and mitigate these hazards, the local DFR district created a novel fire prevention outreach program:

1. Purchased four mobile trailers
2. Set up the trailers as mobile fire prevention, WUI and Firewise education centers at county fairs, parades, and community programs throughout the Asheville District
3. Used the trailers as public education centers during hazard mitigation burns, providing a venue for the public to learn about the benefits of prescribed burning and Firewise, along with interface risks common in their communities
4. Set up the trailers in interface communities to provide information about the NC Firewise and Firewise Communities USA programs
5. Completed several hazard mitigation burns to reduce interface fire risks
6. Purchased and set up a RAWS station in a critical wildland/urban interface area in the Asheville District to expand fire weather knowledge



The mobility of these trailers allows DFR to take fire prevention education programs to the more than 1,400 at-risk communities, along with schools, fairs, and other public events in North Carolina. The trailers have expanded the Division's fire prevention program visibility and our ability to offer information and education to the public wherever it's needed. As a result, dozens of at-risk communities have become interested in the Firewise Communities USA program and have received hazard mitigation plans.



For more information contact:

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