

Edelweiss Firewise Committee Meeting

Monday, September 14, 2026

Virtual Meeting starts at **6:00 PM** @ Google Meet

MEETING AGENDA (updated 8/21/26)

6:00 PM Welcome!

- Getting everyone online with Google Meet
- Any quick announcements (personal or Edelweiss) before we begin?

6:05 PM Doug's chair updates:

- Changes/additions to our agenda tonight?
- Sharon last seen in the Galapagos or a North Cascades MB Trail
- Doug "transitioning" meetings all complete in the past few months. Thank you!

6:20 PM EMC Board Meeting, 12 August. Sharon had forwarded her last letter to the Board. Discussed the positive impacts of the Fire Adaptive Methow/OCD Drive with Sam Israel on May 19, and the Okanogan Fire District 6 Drive Assistant Chief "Rusty".

- Fire Adaptive Methow/OCD tour commented on:
 - Hazard trees and immediate removal by Pitkin
 - EMC meadows/infrastructure lots including Lower Meadow additional FWing needed and continuing volunteer efforts, Upper Meadow (conifer takeover, whitetop invasive weeds, bitterbrush, old piles), too many chip piles).
- FD6 tour commented on:
 - Hazard Trees and immediate removal by Pitkin
 - FD6 trucks/capabilities and Aero Methow accessing the Edelweiss HOA. FD6 is impressed with recent FWing done by property owners and EMC Firewise Committee; and new road signage (loops, dead ends, exit routes). Narrower road's shrubs need to be cut down, to allow safe maneuvering of trucks.

6:35 PM Current Projects – BRIEF updates/status/discussion/assistance needed:

- Fall Chipping/Yard Waste communications with OCD began in early August. Applying highlights, lessons learned, potential costs as we look towards the last half of 2026. OCD has articulated that EMC Chipping will occur 14/15 October and EMC Yard Waste dumpsters in the 12-19 October timeframe. They have not articulated grant funding availability. This information was forwarded to Pitkin on 25 August for the September Newsletter. **Doug/Becky**
- Spring Yard Waste Dumpsters with WasteWise results, highlights, lessons learned, and any costs. **Becky**
- Firewise USA annual renewal due 20 November. **Becky**

- EMC Welcome Packet Revisions. **Betsy, working with Nicki**
- Revise FW Architectural Guidelines with ACC. Waiting for new county building code changes, fall 2026 (maybe?). **Bill & Jason**
- EMC Firewise Guidelines on website, updating/revisions. **Kathy, Betsy and Larry**
- Fire Adapted Methow (FAM). **Kathy & Bill**
- Dial-My-Calls, Exit/Evacuation signage project updates, Roads & FW committees. **Larry**
- Neighborhood Coordinator updates. Annual NC meeting was held on May 21st. **Debbie**
- DNR Cost Share project(s) updates; new funding announced for 2026/27? **Jason**
- Trails Committee updates. **Doug**
 - Upper and Lower Meadow efforts and opportunities

7:00 PM Projects to spend FW budget, July – October 2026: Doug:

- Attached, to discuss, prioritize and determine next steps (leads, timelines)
- 2027 Budget submittal

7:25 PM Closure to our FW meeting:

- Doug will write and submit July to September to the EMC Board in preparation for September 29 EMC Board meeting. Target submission is 23rd of September.
- Doug/Becky will write and submit Chipping/Yard Waste information for the October Newsletter as it is updated by OCD. Target submission is 23rd of September.
- November and January/February meetings; committee work continues for 2027.
- Next meeting, October and/or November ____, 2026.
- Jodie, have any questions for the meeting notes before we close this meeting?

7:30 PM Adjournment. Thank YOU all!

2026 Firewise Budget

Budget to address two chipping/yard waste events and FW efforts: \$24,800

Spring Expenses (Dumpsters - \$1205, Hazard Trees - \$2701): \$3906

OCD picked up the cost of 3 days (100%) chipping ~\$11,000

OCD picked up the cost of 2 of the 4 (50%) dumpsters ~\$1205

OCD addressed additional support to Methow communities due to the Dec 2025 storm

Fall anticipated expenses (2 Dumpsters -\$1200, 2 days Chipping \$7000: ~\$8200

Available 2026 funds as of 21 Aug: ~\$12,600

Possible expenditures based on conversation with Sharon.

Use or lose funding

Do not use FW funds to cover capital expenses!

Continue to address OCD/FD6 identified issues

Hingepoint LLC FW estimates:

Lower Meadow Bitterbrush partial removal ~\$4,000

Lower Meadow Pool FW Zone 1 and 2 brush brush/understory ~\$1,800

Upper Meadow (Upper East) Limbing of trees ~\$650

Upper Meadow (Upper West) Limbing of trees ~\$650

Upper Meadow Conifer Encroachment Removal ~\$8,500

2027 Budget (31 July) Submission

2027 Budget submission/request: \$28,600

Do not use FW funds to cover capital expenses!

Assume no OCD coverage

2 chipping events total \$19,000

2 yard waste events total \$4,000

FW EMC Community projects \$3,000

FW EMC Hazard trees \$2600