



# News You Can Use

December 2022

Visit our website at  
[www.psfuelreduction.org](http://www.psfuelreduction.org)



**Message from Executive Director Elsa Steffanson:** Seasons Greetings! We have made it through another fire season! Your hard work and support have made our programs and projects possible. Our board has had some changes and expansions which are very exciting. In the past year we have been joined by an Events Director, IT Director, new Finance Director and an active Advisory Council. Working in the community and with homeowners, we are happy to announce the Neighbor Helping Neighbor program is up and running and we have had a successful brush pit season! Around our community we continue to engage in forest restoration and fuel mitigation projects with our many partners. To that end: the Hardscrabble Mesa Mastication project was completed this year. We donated \$30k to the project. Next year is a big forest restoration and watershed protection project called Pico Pino Pine Creek Canyon project, which is a \$6m project, with the Forest Service asking for \$1.2m in community funding. Keep an eye out for new community events and fundraisers as we all get together to support our community and create defensible space around our homes and towns. There is hope our communities step up in a major way!



As 2022 draws to a close and you are thinking about a worthy cause to make a tax-deductible donation, please consider Pine Strawberry Fuel Reduction. And did you know that you can set up a monthly automatic donation at [www.psfuelreduction.org](http://www.psfuelreduction.org), click on Donate in the upper right. So even if you can only do \$5 or \$10 month, it's an easy way to support our vital efforts to keep our communities safe. You can "set it and forget it" or change or cancel at any time.

Thank you for your consideration and support. → **RETIREES:** Do you have an IRA Required Minimum Distribution? Retirees can give up to \$100,000 to a charity tax-free from an IRA and have it count as your required minimum distribution for the year. It's easy...make a direct transfer from your IRA to Pine Strawberry Fuel Reduction. Please discuss this with your financial or tax advisor prior to making your donation.



Hiking, biking and equestrian trails in the Pine Strawberry area are filled with spectacular scenic views and peaceful seclusion. A huge thank you to our volunteer trail crew who this year have completed reroutes on the Old Highline Trail and a southern portion of the Pine Strawberry Trail #15 to avoid some steep washes. We are currently working on another reroute on Trail 15 above the Mohawk Trail that will have some awesome views of Pine and the Rim. You don't have to have superhuman strength to assist on the crew. Tools, exercise, camaraderie and a sense of accomplishment are provided free.

## *Neighbor Helping Neighbor (NHN)*

New this year, PSFR's NHN program is here to support those in our community who are unable to Firewise their property. These neighbors have physical and financial limitations which prohibits them from keeping their properties clear of excess vegetation. A Firewise assessment will be completed to determine what Firewise work needs to be done to help make the property safe. After the assessment is completed, a NHN event is scheduled and volunteers solicited to help Firewise the property. Go to [www.psfuelreduction.org](http://www.psfuelreduction.org) to learn more and click "Get Involved" to volunteer.

**The Pine Brush Pit** provides local residents with an area to haul residential brush at no cost (donations appreciated.) Not only does this reduce the fire danger to our communities, the collected vegetation is chipped and hauled to the biomass power plant near Snowflake, providing electricity without burning fossil fuels or adding to climate impact. The pit is funded, maintained and staffed by Pine Strawberry Fuel Reduction and is typically open from March through November, weather permitting. While the Pine Brush Pit is now closed for the winter, many thanks to our volunteers helping at the Pit and those who have been diligently firewising their properties. Watch for the Brush Pit to reopen in the spring.



Pine/Strawberry Fuel Reduction, Inc. (PSFR) is a completely volunteer, community organization and is dependent entirely upon private donations and grants for its operation. The relative cost of funding fire prevention programs and activities is certainly small in comparison with all that we stand to lose here in the Rim Country. Community projects include enlarging fuel breaks, operation of the Pine Brush Pit and our new Neighbor Helping Neighbor firewising program. Fundraising events, such as the Pine Trail Run and the Fire on the Rim Mountain Bike Race, showcase our beautiful area. Volunteers from PSFR are building hiking/biking trails in the area and organize a number of community events to promote fire safety awareness and fuel reduction goals. To learn more and volunteer, go to [www.psfuelreduction.org](http://www.psfuelreduction.org) and click on "Get Involved" in the upper right.



Reduce the risk of catastrophic fire in and around the Rim Country communities of Pine and Strawberry.



Donate

← Easy ways to Donate or Volunteer →  
Just scan with Your phone



VOLUNTEER

THANK YOU!!



PO Box 67  
Pine, AZ 85544



Wishing you and your family a safe, healthy and happy holiday season.

And best wishes for a wonderful 2023...from the PSFR Board of Directors: *Elsa, Greg, Joan, Mario, R.C., Scott and Sherra*



**WHAT'S HAPPENING IN 2023?!!?**

- May 5 — Cinco De Mayo Community Dinner at the PSFR Red Barn
- May 6 — Pine Trail Run and National Wildfire Prevention Event
- May 27 — PSFR Community Yard Sale
- Sept 22 — Spaghetti Community Dinner at the PSFR Red Barn
- Sept. 23 — Fire on the Rim Mountain Bike Race & Festival
- Oct. 21 — PSFR Community Yard Sale

