**Lugoff Community Wildfire Protection Summary**

The following summary was noted from the recent SC FireWise Community Wildfire Protection Assessment performed in the Lugoff Fire Protection District of Kershaw County:

* Lugoff Fire Protection District is assessed as a MODERATE wildfire risk area
* Wildfire is a coast-to-coast issue and is not limited to any geographical area
* 95% of all wildfires in SC are caused by people and their activities

**The following risk considerations were noted in the assessment:**

1. Home spacing is an issue in many areas of the District with homes very close to one another
2. Fire truck access to homes are also an issue in the District from limited driveway access
3. Some roads and subdivisions have identified dead ends limiting fire truck turn-around
4. Many areas in the District contain deep sand deposits
5. Some chimneys on homes do not contain spark arrestors
6. Highly flammable natural vegetation in District
7. Exterior sides of homes are not fire resistant (vinyl, wood siding)
8. Wood/Vinyl fencing extending into yards are also against homes with flammable siding
9. Mulch and pine straw being used around homes
10. Porches and decks missing underpinning to prevent leaves/straw from accumulating
11. Flammable shrubs and trees against homes such as Cypress, Pampas Grass, Cedar, and Juniper
12. Some homes have limited-to-no ***Defensible Space*** away from wood line (30 feet min.)
13. Fuel load types identified: Pine straw, dead hardwood leaves, and dead logs (storm damage)
14. Fire wood stored near homes close to siding
15. Low humidity days with increased wind speed are common for the area-increased fire danger
16. Specific Risk areas identified by District region
17. Wildfire Risk Maps were included in the Assessment for District Staff
18. 95% of the District’s population live within the Wildland-Urban Interface risk area
19. An Action Plan was included in the Assessment for the District

**Action Items noted in the assessment:**

1. Early detection and accurate reporting of fires by calling 911 or Forestry
2. Quick, effective initial attack by fire department
3. *Helibucket* dip areas were identified in the District
4. Community planning and preparation for wildfire-outreach-use media
5. Continue the Red Flag Alert Program with the SC Forestry Commission
6. Re-evaluate District every 2-3 years

Respectfully submitted,

Dennis K. Ray/Chief