



**LITTLE COLORADO RIVER PLATEAU**  
RESOURCE CONSERVATION  
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## **Press Release – FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### ***NARC&DC and ICC Work to Reduce Wildland/Urban Fire Risks***

**Holbrook, AZ, August 2, 2013** — The Little Colorado River Plateau RC&D is combining forces with the National Association of Resource Conservation & Development Councils (NARC&DC), and the International Code Council (ICC) to combat the growing tragedy of destructive forest fire in the Wildland/Urban Interface (WUI). The two national organizations are working with the Little Colorado River Plateau RC&D and local, state and regional officials to give localities located along the edges of the forest the tools needed to save lives and property from deadly forest fire. The effort, funded through a Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Fire Prevention and Safety Grant, aims to establish training and workshops that help reduce the risk of uncontrolled wildfire through the Wildfire Safe, Sound & Code Smart program.

The Little Colorado River Plateau RC&D will host a workshop, entitled “Rim Country Wildfire” on September 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> in Show Low, AZ, with an Opening Dinner & Session Thursday evening, September 5<sup>th</sup> at Licanos Conference Center, 573 W. Deuce of Clubs and continuing all day Friday, September 6<sup>th</sup> at the Show Low City Hall, 180 N. Ninth Street.

Wildfire Safe, Sound & Code Smart seeks to improve a community’s ability to combat wildland fire through development of fire prevention and building codes that better fit the changing nature of human habitation along the edge of the forest as people leave the cities for life in the country. The residents in these areas will benefit from local WUI code update and review (and adoption, where necessary), enforcement and wildfire public education resulting from this program.

The Little Colorado River Plateau RC&D NARC&DC and the ICC will work to increase awareness and prevention efforts among homeowners and businesses at increased risk of WUI fires. The WUI code adoption process includes planning, designing, building and retrofitting homes, as well as properly maintaining them and the surrounding property, which will help further protect entire communities from wildfire. The ultimate goal is summed up in the statement, “Learn Not To Burn.”

More information on how you can play an important role in the implementation of the project will be released in the coming weeks. Please log on to <http://www.littlecolorado.net/WUI.htm> for registration and additional information.

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The Little Colorado River Plateau RC&D is a non-profit organization that works to protect natural resources and develop rural economies. RC&D Councils are grassroots organizations comprised of community members and local government representatives. They deliver resource conservation and community development assistance throughout rural America, including soil and water quality projects, job creation programs, and renewable energy assistance.