



Insurance group provides fire safe grant

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To help homeowners learn about how to make their property more fire safe, State Farm Insurance gave \$31,000 to an organization dedicated to teaching residents how to do it.

The money went to the Nevada Fire Safe Council and will be used to raise community awareness about forest fuel reduction and the importance of creating defensible space around homes.

Creating defensible space can involve tree removal or limbing, cleaning pine needles off a roof, moving wood piles or gas tanks, and planting fire-resistant vegetation around a home.

"We believe it is important for us to be a good corporate citizen, helping citizens in a way that helps us by reducing the threat of wildfire," said Gus Miranda, State Farm spokesman. "It's just a good thing to do."

The donation comes on the heels of a \$15,000 grant State Farm awarded the council in 2003. It was used to help form fire safe council chapters throughout the state.

"State Farm has enabled us to make a real difference in many threatened communities," said Elwood Miller, executive director of the Nevada Fire Safe Council. "Their support has been a catalyst that has helped communities come together."

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