

We help disaster affected communities across the American West Recover, Rebuild, and Reimagine. **Thank you for your support!**

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After The Fire USA Returns to Boulder County, Colorado to Meet with Marshal Fire Leaders



**This was our second deployment to this mega-fire disaster.
They are now nearly 6 months post disaster.**

The purpose of this trip was two-fold: Check in with leaders in person (critically important) and bring them national leaders in disaster to connect and partner for recovery and rebuilding.

We were so pleased to be joined by our long time partners from **Fannie Mae** and new partner **ToolBank USA**. Both of these organizations are empathetic, effective and terrific collaborative partners.

We were also joined by **United Policyholders**, a non-profit organization who are embedded in the community helping survivors navigate the huge challenges of insurance.

Onward together.

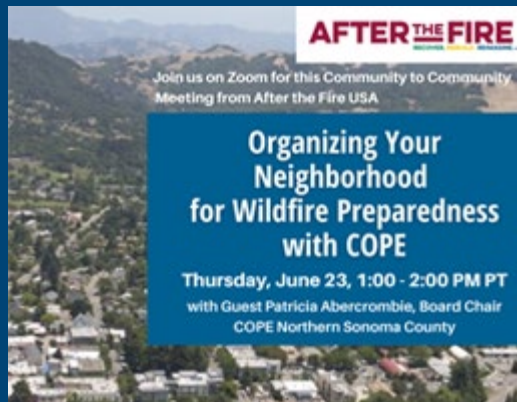


After The Fire USA staff members visit a North Bay Forest Improvement Program (NBFIP) landowner project.

After working primarily on the administrative side of this program, it is truly inspiring to see the forest improvements in person and realize the impact that a healthy forest will have not only on the individual property, but the surrounding community as well. We are continually grateful for our partnerships with individuals, communities, agencies, and government—it is truly what makes NBFIP such a successful program and helps our communities reduce wildfire risk.

Read more about NBFIP online.

Pictured: Occidental Arts and Ecology Center



Organizing Your Neighborhood for Wildfire Preparedness with COPE

For this meeting we welcome Priscilla Abercrombie, the Board Chair of **COPE Northern Sonoma County** who will share with us how she and her neighbors got started, and what steps to take if you are interested in doing this where you live.

Northern Sonoma County is no stranger to emergency. After nearby Lake County experienced tragic fires in 2015, and the Tubbs Fire (2017) and Camp Fire (2018) caused major destruction not far away soon after, the residents of Fitch Mountain realized they should work together to be prepared in case their area was affected by wildfire. Fitch Mountain is an area located in the Wildland Urban

(OAEC) employee Hannah Wilton, ATF staff Rosa Brandt and Kyle Burnett, and landowner Brock Dolman at OAEC.

Interface (WUI), an area at high risk for wildfire strikes. Neighbors were concerned that their environment had poor emergency access and multiple barriers to evacuation. **Read more...**

Please register for this event online.



Testimonial

Brock Colman, Co-Founder & Program Director, OACE

“The North Bay Forest Improvement Program provided the Occidental Arts & Ecology Center and Sowing Circle community the necessary financial, project development, and technical support to successfully complete 41 acres of forest stewardship projects. After The Fire and Gold Ridge RCD were key allies and essential partners, without which we could not have accomplished this significant amount of work on the land towards our goals of forest health, wildlife habitat, and



How To Disaster Take 5's

“Make a list of those things [that you might need]. And once you've done that, you're a long way to understanding how to support each other because you know who has what and where to go get it when you need it in a hurry.”

– Nancy Brown, PhD

“I want to build a culture of preparedness where conversations around preparedness, actually preparing, and taking the steps necessary is just part of what we do and not a weird thing on the side.”

– Alma Bowen



How To Disaster Podcast - End of Season 3

Jim White, Executive Director, Nonprofit Association of Oregon

“Not everybody has to create a new nonprofit to do something... This is not about the ego of one individual and their mission to help people. It's about how an organization can be structured to support these people who've been hurt.”

– Jim White

Nonprofits are often the first on the ground in times of disaster. And often, they are composed of everyday citizens who do not hesitate to help those affected by any

wildfire mitigation."

**Read more about the
OAEC...**

"The biggest thing that I thought of when I was coming back from the fire is... to make electronic files to put on a USB drive. That stuff, the FEMA check. Super important!"
– Josh Farrell

means available, and it has led to some of the most heartwarming stories in history.

**Watch Jennifer's
conversation with
Jim...**

**Watch more Take
5's...**

Check out this article by our CEO Jennifer Gray Thompson published in Blue Avocado on disaster and philanthropy.



**Disrupting the Space of Disaster Philanthropy:
A View from the Front Line**

by Jennifer Gray Thompson

"Nonprofits are, for better or worse, dependent upon the goodwill of others, especially funders. Philanthropy is a very strange business model, one not necessarily based in competence but rather on perception and current cultural winds. Nonprofits are often beholden to funders. As such, it is imperative that philanthropy lead the way in encouraging nonprofits to innovate, experiment, and collaborate.

From the nonprofit side, we all need to be vocal about how it is going and where we are failing—yes, that's right, failing. When we fail—and we will fail—we should not view these failures as moral dilemmas. Similarly, when we succeed, we cannot be stuck in the mire that prevents deviating from so-called success. Nothing—neither success nor failure—is permanent, and we must work together to come up with realistic ideas of how to implement new and collaborative solutions.

We can act today to save tomorrow in an admirable manner, putting our era into the history books as one that reflects courage and moral triumph in the face of fear and loss. We can set aside our love of inputs and collaborate creatively on outcomes.

Together, we must."

Read more of Jennifer's article...

(*Blue Avocado* is an online magazine fueled by a monthly newsletter designed to provide practical, tactical tips and tools to nonprofit leaders. A small but mighty team of committed social sector leaders produces the publication, enlisting content from a wide range of practitioners, funders, and experts.)



The After the Fire Wildfire Leadership Summit

September 20-22, 2022 in Sonoma, CA

Three days of networking, knowledge sharing and capacity building. The Summit will build from wildfire communities and then expand to include local, regional, and national partners, funders, and leaders. An invitation only event.

Registration begins July 1. **[Read more about the event...](#)**

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