



## Town of Green Mountain Falls

### Regular Fire Mitigation Advisory Committee Meeting Agenda

September 29, 2025, at 6:00 p.m.

[Join by MS Teams](#)

Meeting ID: 233 464 572 972

Passcode: Tv9co6bf

To make a **public comment** please **pre-register** by 4pm on the day of the meeting via email: [fmac@gmfc.us](mailto:fmac@gmfc.us)

#### REGULAR MEETING:

TIME*		ITEM	DESIRED OUTCOME
6:00	1.	CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL	
6:00	2.	ADDITIONS, DELETIONS, OR CORRECTION TO THE AGENDA	<b>Action Desired</b>
6:05	3.	PERSONS PRE-REGISTERED OR PRESENT NOT ON THE AGENDA: 3 MINUTES PER SPEAKER a. None	Info Only
6:10	4.	CONSENT AGENDA a. Minutes from Previous Meeting	<b>Action Desired</b>
6:15	5.	OLD BUSINESS a. Firewise Update (Paul Yingling) b. Chipper Days AAR (Lisa Huizenga & Kelly Hunter) c. Preventing Home Ignition AAR (Delores Davis) a. Tip of the Month – Winter is coming! (Paul Yingling) b. ASIP Assessments – +5 (Paul Yingling & Lisa Huizenga) c. GMF resident data base update (Paul Yingling) (293 / +52) d. Volunteer Database (Paul Yingling) (37/ +6) e. 2026 Budget Request (Paul Yingling) <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>T-shirt estimate (Kelly Hunter)</li></ul>	Info Only Info Only Info Only <b>Action</b> Info Only Info Only Info Only Info Only Info Only
7:00	6.	NEW BUSINESS a. Removal of trees on town owned land (Paul Yingling) b. Creek Week – October 4 (Nancy Dixon / Paul Yingling) c. Veteran's Day Program (Paul Yingling) d. Tean Rubicon - July 10-18, 2026 (Paul Yingling)	<b>Action</b> Info only <b>Action</b> Info only
7:05	7.	REPORTS: None	Info Only
7:10	8.	CORRESPONDENCE: COSWAP Grants	<b>Action</b>
7:15	9.	Next meeting – October 27  ADJOURN	Info Only

\*Please note: Times are approximate.

\*\*The Town shall provide reasonable accommodation for those with disabilities on a case by case basis. Please send accommodation requests to [clerk@gmfc.us](mailto:clerk@gmfc.us) by 4pm on the date of the meeting.

**Fire Mitigation Advisory Committee meeting minutes**  
**Monday, August 25, 2025**  
**Green Mountain Falls, CO Town Hall**  
**In person and TEAMS video**

**Committee Members Present**

Paul Yingling, chair  
David Douglas  
Lisa Huizenga  
Kelly Hunter  
Chris Noonan

**Trustee Members Present**

John Bell

**Recording Secretary**

Carolyn Bowers

**Staff members present**

None

**1. ROLL CALL AND CALL TO ORDER**

- a. Yingling called the meeting to order at 6 pm.

**2. ADDITIONS, DELETIONS, CORRECTIONS TO THE AGENDA**

- a. Douglas moved to adopt the agenda with no changes. Huizena seconded. Motion carried on voice vote.

**3. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

No commentors

**4. CONSENT AGENDA**

- a. Hunter moved to approve the July 29 minutes with amendments noted by Douglas. Noonan seconded. Motion passed on voice vote.
- b. Douglas moved the June 30 minutes as amended. Noonan seconded. Motion passed on voice vote.

**5. OLD BUSINESS**

- a. Dolores Davis, Historic Green Mountain Falls Foundation, shared details of HGMFF's second fire mitigation program. Noted landscaper Tom Welles will speak on how landscaping homes can reduce fire risk. Saturday, Sept. 13, Sallie Bush Community Center.



- b. Douglas moved to adopt flyers promoting HGMFF's landscape meeting and September Chipper Days as the monthly tip for August. Huizenga seconded Motion carried on voice vote.
- c. Huizenga outlined plans for Chipper Days, Sept. 6-7. So far there are 24 registrants. Registration is not required to drop off slash.
- d. Yingling reported 11 home fire risk assessments were done in August by Huizenga and himself. Douglas urged the committee to ask former FMAC member Dan Battin to perform assessments.
- e. Yingling said 17 more residents have signed up for the resident database.
- f. Yingling moved to continue coordinating mitigation projects with Mile High Youth Corps in 2026 with enhanced supervision. Douglas seconded. Motion carried. Ayes: Yingling, Douglas, Noonan, Huizenga. Nay: Hunter.
- g. A proposed project using mushrooms as a fire preventative is pending.

## **6. NEW BUSINESS**

- a. National Fire Protection Assn. FireWise program
  - 1. The committee discussed the first steps towards getting GMF declared a FireWise community by the NFPA.
  - 2. Douglas recommended organizing by "neighborhoods" consisting of around 8 homes apiece. Each neighborhood would be registered individually on the FireWise portal. Yingling will create a template for developing the neighborhood plan.
  - 3. Douglas also recommended asking the GMFCPPD to conduct a risk assessment of the area, which will be incorporated into a three-year plan. The assessment would be updated every five years.
- b. Yingling reminded committee members of the importance of reporting every hour they spend on FMAC activities.
- c. Due to the lack of an approved budget, the committee deferred action on ordering t-shirts.
- d. The committee discussed including tabletop evacuation exercises in its 2026 workplan.
- e. Yingling asked members to consider writing

## **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 7:08 pm.



**New Site:** A new site has been assigned to your region with the last 30 days. See details below.



**Firewise Site Stats**

In Good Standing

0

**Firewise Reports**

Select Report to View

▼

VIEW

**Green Mountain Falls** NEW! [View Dashboard](#)

**Site Status**

Green Mountain Falls, CO

**2025 - Pending**

START APPLICATION  
(/COMMUNITY/40176/APPLICATION/2025/OVERVIEW)

**Site Investment**

Total: Required:

\$0 of \$0

Per Dwelling

Unit: Required:

\$0 of \$0

**CREATE NEW SITE (/GROUP/ADD/COMMUNITY)**

*The Firewise USA program is co-sponsored by the USDA Forest Service, the US Department of the Interior, and the National Association of State Foresters.*

*Firewise.org was produced in cooperation with the USDA Forest Service. In accordance with Federal law and U.S. Department of Agriculture policy, NFPA is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability. To file a complaint alleging discrimination, write to: USDA - Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington DC 20250-9410, or call toll free voice (866) 632-9992, TDD (800)877-8339, or voice relay (866) 377-8642. USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.*

# GREEN MOUNTAIN FALLS FIREWISE ROADMAP

**FIRE  
WISE  
BY  
2030**

## 1 PHASE

### Get Organized

Create a neighborhood committee of at least **EIGHT neighbors** interested in working together on fire mitigation. Build a **roster** with names, addresses, phone numbers and emails. Forward the roster to the GMF Fire Mitigation Advisory Committee (FMAC) at [FMAC@gmfco.us](mailto:FMAC@gmfco.us)

### Make a Plan

FMAC will help your neighborhood committee to conduct a **community wildfire risk assessment**. Based on that assessment, FMAC will help your neighborhood committee to build a **three year action plan** that identifies and prioritizes actions to reduce ignition risk to homes. That plan will include both risk reduction work and community education.

## 3 PHASE

### Do the Work

Each year, neighbors complete educational and risk reduction actions identified in the plan. At a minimum, each neighborhood committee is required to invest the equivalent of **one volunteer hour per dwelling unit per year** in wildfire risk reduction actions. Most of us are already doing this much work and more. We just need to **document all that hard work!**

### Tell Our Story

FMAC will consolidate neighborhood results and apply for recognition as a **Firewise Community** through the National Fire Protection Association. We'll share our town's success story with insurance companies, realtors, media outlets and neighboring communities. Working together as neighbors, **GMF will be recognized as a leader** in fire mitigation!

**WE'RE ALL IN THIS  
TOGETHER!!**

## 2 PHASE

## 4 PHASE



**BAND  
TOGETHER**

# **FIREWISE USA® PROGRAM TOOLKIT**



**FIREWISE USA®**  
Residents Reducing Wildfire Risks



# BAND TOGETHER BEFORE WILDFIRE

## HELPING COMMUNITIES TAKE MEASURES TO IMPROVE WILDFIRE DAMAGE OUTCOMES

We can't stop natural disasters from occurring. Wildfire, however, is one natural disaster where increased safety to homes and communities can result from taking simple, scientifically proven steps beforehand.

Members of your community can substantially improve fire outcomes by working together to do things like removing downed tree branches, dry leaves, and pine needles. Volunteers can assist neighbors with extra support and participate in coordinated local efforts, like community woodchipper events.



**FIREWISE USA®**  
Residents Reducing Wildfire Risks

# BAND TOGETHER

## WITH FELLOW PARTICIPANTS



Thank you for joining the communities and residents already taking steps to reduce wildfire damage and loss. This toolkit provides key info and participation tips.

Today's wildfires are occurring with increasing frequency and magnitude, especially in high-risk areas. While these fires continue to happen, taking preventative measures can be a small way to help protect your home, neighborhood, and the safety of your family.



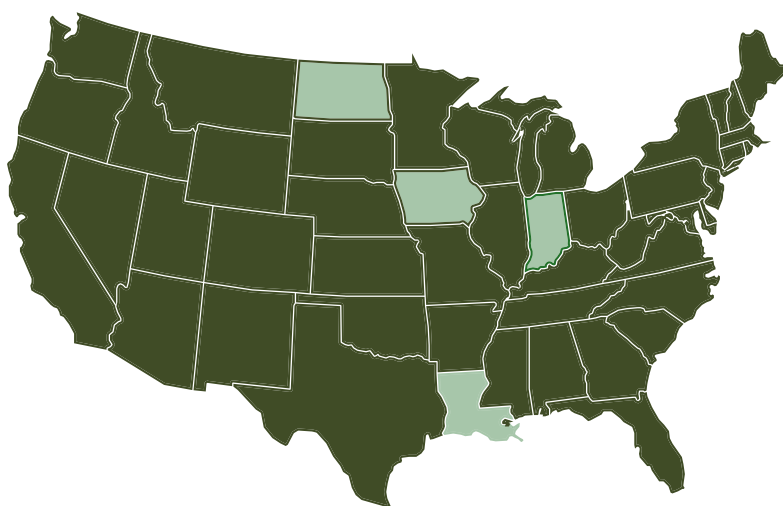
# CELEBRATING 20+ YEARS

*Firewise USA has been steadily gaining traction since 2002.*

## 42 STATES

1,536,365

# RESIDENTS LIVING IN FIREWISE COMMUNITIES



**LEARN MORE ABOUT FIREWISE USA®**

Make your home safer from wildfire, help your community to get started, and create a login to begin your application.









# CONTENTS

## **HOMEOWNERS ..... 6**

- Home Ignition Risks
- Homeowner Checklist
- Friends & Neighbors
- Fuel Threat Reduction

## **FIREWISE® RECOGNITION ..... 12**

- Form a Board or Committee
- Create a Plan
- Meet Annual Goals
- Document Your Success

## **CASE STUDY ..... 14**



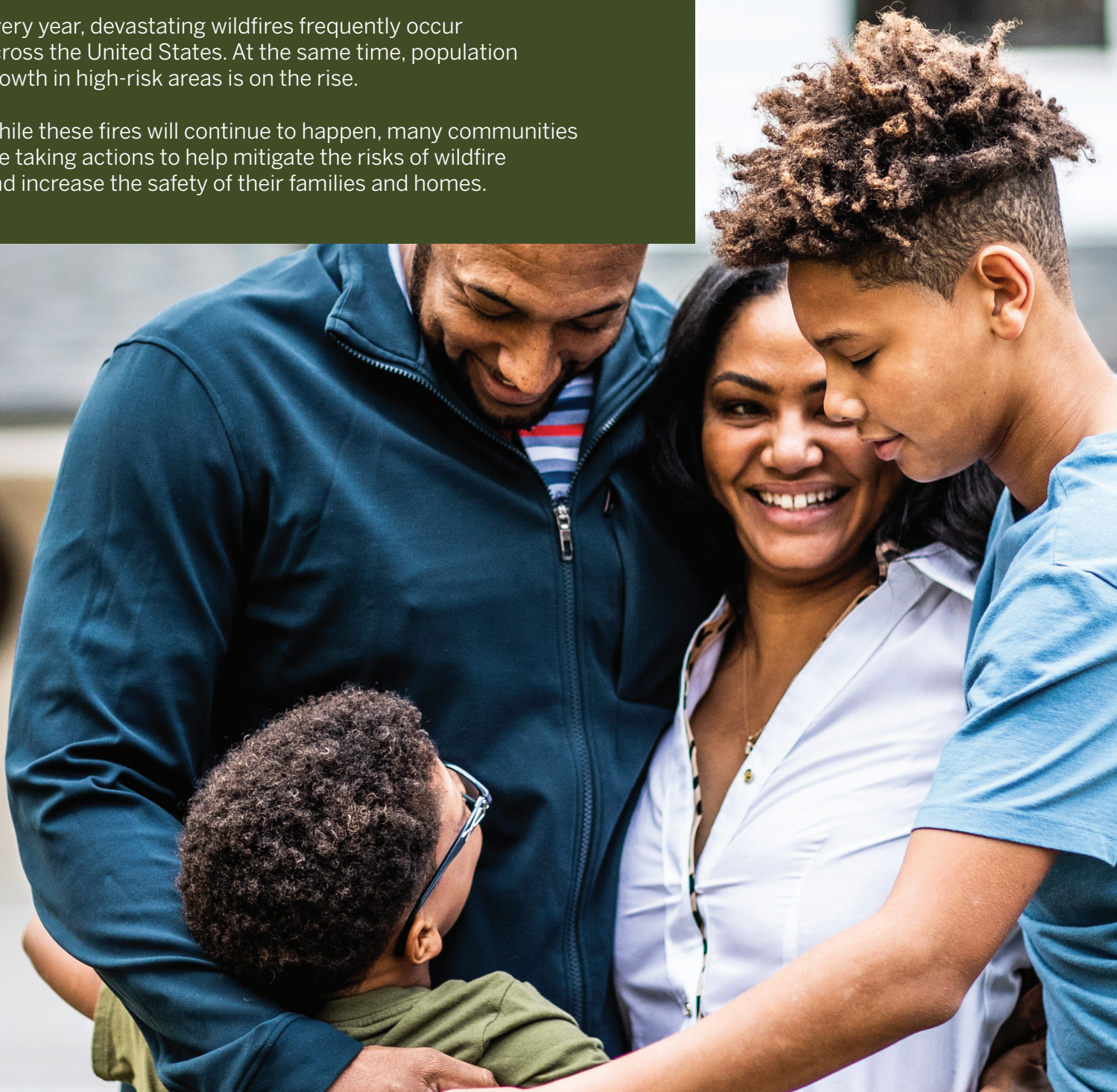
## SECTION 1

# HOME OWNERS

**THE FIREWISE USA® PROGRAM HELPS  
HOMEOWNERS LEARN HOW TO BEST  
ADDRESS WILDFIRE RISKS TO THEIR  
PROPERTY AND SURROUNDINGS.**

Every year, devastating wildfires frequently occur across the United States. At the same time, population growth in high-risk areas is on the rise.

While these fires will continue to happen, many communities are taking actions to help mitigate the risks of wildfire and increase the safety of their families and homes.





# REDUCE HOME IGNITION RISKS

## ASSESSING THE RISKS TO YOUR HOME

When considering your home's "ignition risk," it can be helpful to think about the area around your home, or "home ignition zone." This includes your home at the center and everything within 100 feet (or 30 meters).

## WHAT FACTORS AFFECT A HOME'S RISK FOR IGNITION?

A home's ignition risk is determined by its immediate surroundings and the materials used for its construction. The specific location isn't necessarily as influential as the landscape around it.

## HOME IGNITION ZONES CAN BE DIVIDED INTO 4 PARTS:

### "HOME ZONE"

The home itself and everything within 5 feet of the foundation.

Includes: Fences, decks, porches, and other attachments.

Recommended construction materials: Non-flammable or low flammable for new homes and retrofits — especially with roofs, siding, and windows.

Preventative measures: Remove flammables (debris, mulch, plantings) from roofs, eave lines, gutters, deck/porch surfaces, and within 5 feet of the home and any attachments.

### 5-30 FEET

Includes: Decks and fences, provides space for emergency fire suppression equipment.

Preventative measures: Keep lawns mowed and well-maintained; well-spaced plantings of low flammability species; swap mulch for rocks, gravel, or stone; remove large fuel packages like firewood piles from this area.

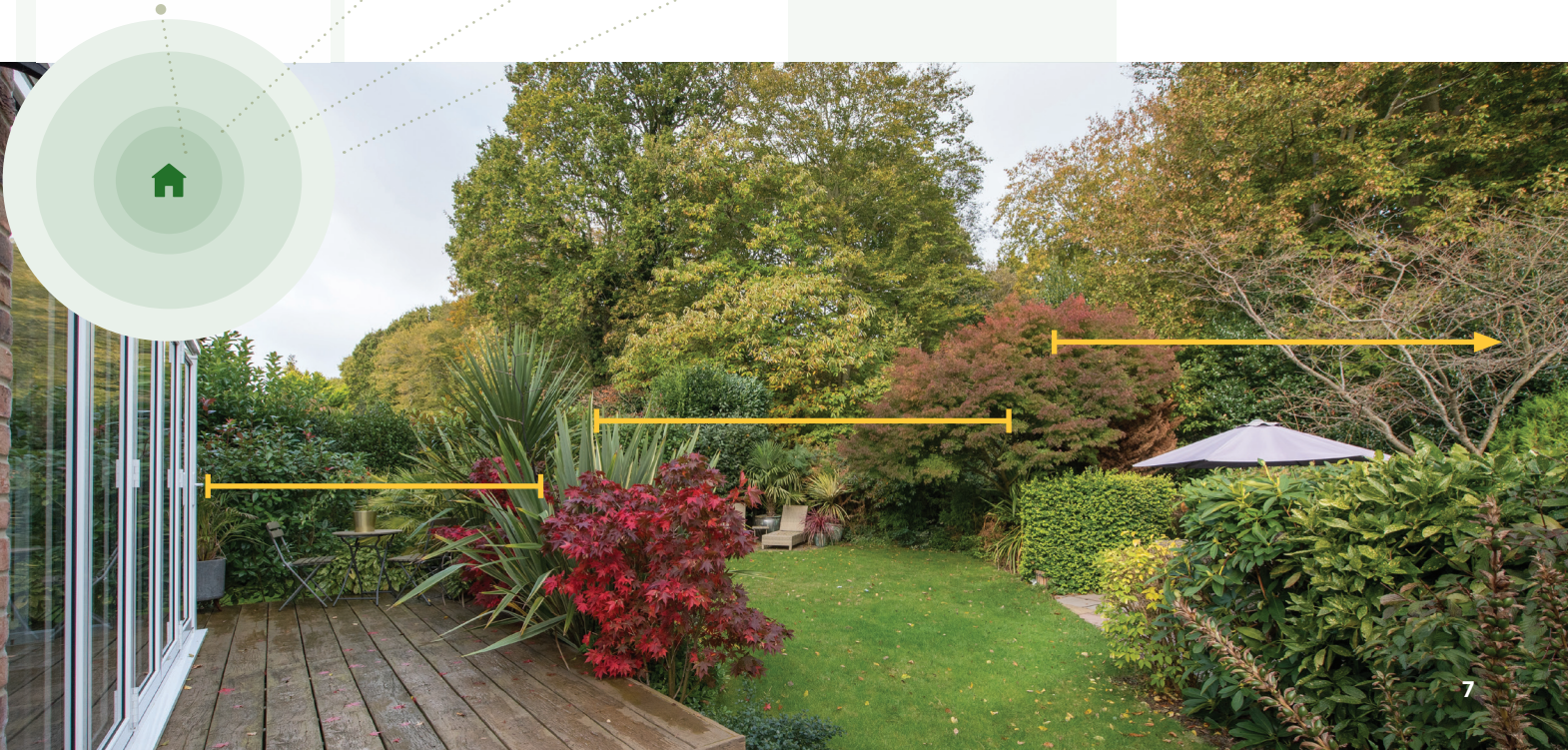
### 30-100 FEET

Preventative measures: Keep irrigated with low-growing and low-flammable plants; create separation between grasses, shrubs, and trees to avoid fire spreading into taller vegetation in a "fuel ladder" effect; space trees to prevent crowns from touching.

### 100+ FEET

Research shows that keeping high intensity fire 100 feet from a home will prevent the fire from igniting the home directly.

Preventative measures: Place low-growing plants and well-spaced trees; keep volume of vegetation (fuel) low.



## FIREWISE USA® PARTICIPANTS KNOW THE VALUE OF HELPING NEIGHBORS

Firewise USA® provides up to date take-action information to residents that helps them change the outcome of a wildfire in terms of home and neighborhood safety. Residents who participate in the process create an action plan that commits them to a sustained program of wildfire risk reduction that is both physically doable and cost-effective.

### CHECKLIST

Research shows taking simple, scientifically proven steps can help reduce the risk of your home and property becoming fuel for a wildfire. Band together with homeowners in your community to follow this list of actions throughout the year.

- ☐ **Clear** — ignitable material such as needles and leaves from roof, gutters, eaves, porches and decks.
- ☐ **Repair** — any loose or missing roof shingles/tiles and caulk any gaps or openings on roof edges.
- ☐ **Cover** — exterior attic vents and install metal wire mesh ( $\frac{1}{8}$  inch or smaller) to under-eave and soffit vents.
- ☐ **Relocate** — items kept under decks or porches; swap out vegetation in these areas for rock or gravel.
- ☐ **Replace** — mulch with hardscaping, including rock, gravel or stone.
- ☐ **Remove** — ignitable features within 30 feet of all structures including firewood piles, portable propane tanks and dry and dead vegetation.
- ☐ **Protect** — water dry grass and shrubs, trim brown vegetation and dispose of yard waste.
- ☐ **Prune** — low hanging branches (6-10 feet for taller trees,  $\frac{1}{3}$  of tree height for smaller trees); remove any tall grasses, vines and shrubs from under trees.
- ☐ **Contact** — neighbors and create a plan to address shared wildfire safety concerns together.

#### LEARN MORE ABOUT FIREWISE USA®

Make your home safer from wildfire, help your community to get started, and create a login to begin your application.





# FRIENDS AND NEIGHBORS BAND TOGETHER

## OVERLAPPING HOME IGNITION ZONES AND PUBLIC SPACES

Due to their size, it's very common for home ignition zones to overlap. Many communities also have commonly owned property, including natural or wooded areas that may pose a greater risk. This means that to be most effective, neighbors need to work together to achieve greater wildfire safety.

## TOGETHER, COMMUNITY RESIDENTS CAN WORK TO ACCOMPLISH THE FOLLOWING:

- Assist neighbors who may have difficulty with property upkeep
- Make sure your Homeowner Association (HOA) is "Firewise-friendly" by complying with local vegetation management rules and construction materials usage
- Ensure homes and neighborhoods have legible, clearly marked street names and numbers
- Know "two ways out" of the neighborhood for safe evacuation during a wildfire
- Create phone and text trees to alert residents about local fires
- Learn more about wildfire preparedness and recovery at [apci.org/wildfire](https://apci.org/wildfire)

WILDFIRES DESTROYED  
AN AVERAGE OF  
**7,115 STRUCTURES**  
ANNUALLY FROM 2011-2023





# REDUCE FUEL THREATS TOGETHER

## THREE BIGGEST WILDFIRE BEHAVIOR FACTORS:

1. Topography (lay of the land)
2. Weather (wind speed, relative humidity, and ambient temperature)
3. Fuel (vegetation and man-made structures)

## EXTREME WILDFIRE BEHAVIOR, FUEL QUANTITY, AND WEATHER CONDITIONS OFTEN COINCIDE:

- Extended drought
- High winds
- Low humidity
- High temperatures
- Excessive fuel buildup (live and dead vegetation material)

## FUEL IS THE ONLY ONE OF THESE FACTORS WITHIN OUR ABILITY TO CONTROL.

Fuel can be: **Dead leaves** and **pine needles** left on decks, in gutters and strewn across lawns can ignite from embers.

**Shrubs and low hanging tree limbs** that can be reached by fire moving along the ground.

**Homes with flammable features.** Unprotected attic vents, for example, allow firebrands entry into attics and to the flammable materials within. A burning home is a potential threat to surrounding homes and structures.







IN 2020 MORE THAN  
**58,000 FIRES**  
**BURNED MORE THAN**  
**10 MILLION ACRES**  
ACROSS THE U.S.



## SECTION 2

# FIREWISE® RECOGNITION

The national Firewise USA® recognition program helps communities get organized, find direction, and take action to reduce wildfire risks at the local level.

Next, you'll learn how the program works and where to get started.

This info is also available on our website.



# HOW TO BECOME A FIREWISE USA® SITE

**To earn recognition as a Firewise USA® site, a community must meet a set of voluntary criteria on an annual basis.**

## ORGANIZE IT

Create a volunteer board or committee to represent your community with a designated resident leader as the point of contact. This can be easily done with access to a Homeowners Association (HOA) or similar local group. Establish the boundaries of the site to contain a minimum of 8 dwelling units and a maximum of 2500. Then, use the program portal to register ([portal.firewise.org/user/login](https://portal.firewise.org/user/login)).

## PLAN IT

With a portal account, follow the guidelines to complete a community wildfire risk assessment. NFPA provides a free template and tutorial here, with additional videos on the website. The assessment needs to be updated at a minimum of every 5 years.

The risk assessment is the basis for creating a three-year action plan that identifies and prioritizes communitywide efforts to be taken each year. These may include overseeing local activities, events, investments, and homeowner education.

## DO IT

Complete the actions identified in the plan to satisfy annual participation. Examples might include hosting community education workshops, distributing materials by print (or digitally), and organizing a Firewise Day.

Document the volunteer hours throughout the year. Each site must invest the equivalent of one volunteer hour per dwelling unit, annually. So, a site with 100 homes would require 100 volunteer hours (or monetary equivalent for incurred costs).

## TELL US ABOUT IT

After meeting the criteria, the resident leader submits their community to attain “In Good Standing Status” and become a recognized Firewise USA® site. Each year, sites renew their status by reporting their activity.



CASE STUDY:  
FIREWISE USA®

# THE KEY TO REDUCING WILDFIRE LOSS: NFPA FIREWISE USA®



## WHEN FIRE PREVENTION GETS PERSONAL

Fifteen years ago, a friend of Bob Long's lost their home in a wildfire. Since then, Bob's made it his mission to help educate his neighbors and nearby communities about the dangers of wildfire, and he's done it through Firewise USA®—which helps band communities together to take preventative action against wildfires such as removing downed trees and dry vegetation, hardening homes, and creating the safe zone around your home.

## COMMUNITY THROUGH COMMUNICATION. CAMARADERIE THROUGH COLLABORATION.

After getting involved in his own community of 64 homes in Sherwood Forest, Long helped promote Firewise USA to neighboring communities. And what started as something small—printing and dropping off leaflets in mailboxes—grew into something much larger.

“As wildfires continued to affect national news, interest spread,” Long said, “and when people see their neighbors getting involved, they tend to follow suit.”

As interest grew, there was an opportunity to encourage those communities to work together. That led to the growth of the Nevada County Coalition of Firewise Communities (NCCFC)—an all volunteer grassroots organization that provides connection and integrated communication for Firewise USA recognized communities in Nevada County. Bob became the chair of the NCCFC in 2016 with 24 member-communities.

Today, the NCCFC is now home to 94 Firewise USA communities, with more waiting to join.

*“We didn't know what to do before Firewise. Half of my neighbors lived through the 49er fire in 1988, yet in 2018 we still had the same issues,” Long explained. “You'd still see junipers growing in the front yard, plants along houses, and we didn't know a thing about defensible space... Now, it is common to see a 'Zero Zone' around a home properly maintained.”*





## SAFER COMMUNITIES AND HAPPIER HOUSES

The shaded fuel breaks popular with Nevada County helped save homes during the Bear River fire; its embers grazed several Firewise USA communities, but ultimately left them unscathed.

*"It doesn't matter what you do, or how much you do, just do something. You form a committee, you come up with a small action plan—one that's doable—and you do it. Gradually, people see the changes being made. It will grow organically; people want to do the right thing."*

—Bob Long

## ORGANIC GROWTH THROUGH WORD-OF-MOUTH

Wildfires do happen though, even to those who are most prepared. A few years ago, a nearby community was affected by a wildfire. "They did everything right," Long recounted. "They had a 100-ft defensible space, but lived on a slope, etc."

Unfortunately, three of those homes burned down. But because of the Firewise USA precautions they took, the wildfire moved slowly enough for the fire department to arrive and create a barrier, which saved the rest of the neighborhood, according to Long. "And when those folks rebuilt their homes, they were rebuilding in a neighborhood—not a barren landscape."

So why should more communities participate in Firewise USA? "It's the right thing to do," Long said. "My home may burn, but I'll know I did everything I could to save it. And in the process, I could possibly save my neighbor's home, too."

And much like wildfires, all it takes is a spark for interest in fire protection to catch on. When asked how to recreate his county's Firewise USA success, Long's answer was simple: word of mouth.

“

*"There's still about 40 communities working to become recognized. They weren't interested at first, but now they're seeing the work we've done—like shaded fuel breaks and defensible space—and they want in."*

**Bob Long**

Former Chair, NCCFC



**VISIT [NFPA.ORG/FIREWISE](https://www.nfpa.org/firewise) TO LEARN MORE**



### **ABOUT FIREWISE®**

The national Firewise USA® recognition program provides a collaborative framework to help neighbors in a geographic area get organized, find direction, and take action to increase the ignition resistance of their homes and community and to reduce wildfire risks at the local level. Any community that meets a set of voluntary criteria on an annual basis and retains an “In Good Standing Status” may identify itself as being a Firewise® Site.

### **ABOUT NFPA®**

The National Fire Protection Association® (NFPA) is a global self-funded nonprofit organization, established in 1896, devoted to eliminating death, injury, property, and economic loss due to fire, electrical, and related hazards. NFPA launched Firewise USA in 2002, as the first program of its kind steadily gaining traction for over 20 years.

For complete program info,  
visit [nfpa.org/firewise](https://nfpa.org/firewise).



# GMF Fire Mitigation Tip: Winter is coming!

October 2025

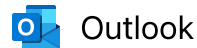
According to the National Fire Protection Association, heating equipment is a leading cause of home fire deaths and half of home heating equipment fires are reported during December, January, and February. Here are some safety tips for your furnace and boiler that can help keep your household safe:



1. Keep anything flammable at least three feet away from heating equipment. In addition to furnaces and boilers, this includes fireplaces, wood stoves, and space heaters.
2. Always have central heating equipment installed by competent professionals who follow local codes and manufacturer's instructions.
3. Have your furnace or boiler inspected and maintained annually by a qualified contractor. Make sure they check all the components, including, wires, connections, valves, and venting.
4. Make sure your heating system vents are not blocked by furniture, clothing, boxes, or any other items.



5. Change your furnace air filter regularly, which keeps debris out of the system (and helps it run more efficiently)
6. Keep children away from furnace and boiler equipment at all times.
7. Make sure your furnace exhaust system is properly sized and that your chimney, connector pipes, and flues are cleaned and inspected each year.
8. Have smoke alarms installed on each floor of your home and test them once a month. Replace the batteries regularly.
9. Install carbon monoxide detectors in addition to the smoke alarms. Know the symptoms of carbon monoxide poisoning, which can include a dull headache, weakness, dizziness, nausea or vomiting, shortness of breath, confusion, blurred vision, and loss of consciousness.



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**Re: Reminder and Request**

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**From** Paul Yingling <FMAC@gmfco.us>

**Date** Wed 9/17/2025 5:13 PM

**To** n00n3r@comcast.net <n00n3r@comcast.net>

**Cc** bowersc1@verizon.net <bowersc1@verizon.net>; lmhuizenga@gmail.com <lmhuizenga@gmail.com>; david@falconpartnersltd.com <david@falconpartnersltd.com>; kellygrn@comcast.net <kellygrn@comcast.net>; lamar@falconpartnersltd.com <lamar@falconpartnersltd.com>

Teammates,

I suggest we proceed with the regularly scheduled FMAC meeting on Sept. 29. I've invited a number of potential neighborhood ambassadors to join us, and I'd hate to switch times on them when we're finally making some traction.

Also, below are my notes from the budget meeting Lisa and I attended last night.

- Last night's meeting was Town Manager's DRAFT budget presentation to the Board and committee chairs. I emphasize DRAFT because the Board saw the document for the first time, and made no decisions on the final budget.
- The DRAFT budget included a \$2,000 operating budget for FMAC for 2026 and an \$83,000 capital improvement for a siren programmed for 2028. As a reminder, we requested \$24,903 for 2026, with \$20k being designated for fire mitigation operations, including but not limited to grant matching funds.
- PRTAC's Nancy Dixon and I both advocated for a budget line item for matching grant funds. This approach will allow us to respond to grant opportunities in a more timely manner.
- Trustee Morales asked me what programs FMAC would forego if we did not get our full operating budget. I replied that I was not prepared to provide a prioritized cut list without FMAC consideration. I also stated that we would want to protect high leverage, high impact operations (For example, spending \$1,000 of a Team Rubicon appreciation dinner supported approximately \$600k of fire mitigation operations.)
- I suggest we discuss budget priorities at our next meeting. Trustee Ives asked me the same prioritization question during our last budget cycle, and I expect the issue to come up again.
- The Board will continue budget deliberations in October. I encourage everyone to continue to emphasize the positive impacts that FMAC produces for our community, and to foster positive relationships with BoT and Town Staff. Every member of the Board expressed appreciation and support for fire mitigation.

As a reminder about our open meeting requirements, this email thread should not be a venue for deliberating the budget or other FMAC business. I'm happy to discuss any issues one on one, and to field individual emails about suggestions for additions to our September 29 agenda.

# Nuisance Tree Removal – Accountability Framework

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This document outlines the process, responsibilities, and accountability framework for the identification, assessment, and removal of hazardous or nuisance trees on town-owned land in the Town of Green Mountain Falls. The framework is designed to ensure transparency, clear decision-making, and defensible prioritization of actions, including the use of a standardized risk assessment matrix.

## Process Narrative

- 1. Tree Identification: Trees may be identified as hazardous or nuisance by a Resident (R), Public Works (PW), the Marshal (MAR), or the Fire Mitigation Advisory Committee (FMAC).
- 2. Reporting: All reports are submitted to the Town Clerk (TC), who logs the report and determines whether the tree is on public property, private property, or uncertain ownership.
- 3. Ownership Determination:
  - If private property: TC forwards to MAR for code enforcement.
  - If public property: TC forwards to PW for inspection.
  - If uncertain: MAR conducts an assessment. If the property owner disputes MAR's determination, the Town Manager (TM) orders a professional survey. The cost of the survey is assigned based on ownership outcome. If the tree is on private property, the property owner pays for the survey. If the town is on public property, the town pays for the survey.
- 4. Tree Condition Disputes (Private Property): If a property owner disputes whether a tree is hazardous under the Municipal Code, TM orders an arborist assessment. If the arborist finds a violation, the resident pays for the assessment. If not, the Town pays.
- 5. PW Inspection & Risk Assessment: For public property trees, PW inspects and applies the Risk Matrix. PW reports results to the FMAC Chair, identifying whether the tree is within PW's scope of work or beyond PW scope.
- 6. Within PW Scope: Trees that PW can manage are placed on a prioritized PW Action List, based on risk scores. FMAC assists PW with volunteer mobilization for bucking, limbing, chipping, and removal. Volunteers must hold Team Rubicon Sawyer 1 (or equivalent) certification for chainsaw operations.
- 7. Beyond PW Scope: PW reports these trees, with assessments, to FMAC. FMAC compiles a consolidated list of all beyond-scope hazardous trees with risk scores, priority rankings, and estimated costs. This list is forwarded annually to TM by August 1, along with a proposed budget.



- 8. Budget Preparation: TM includes a line item for public hazardous tree removal (beyond PW scope) in the annual budget submission to the Board of Trustees (BOT).
- 9. Funding Decision & Risk Acceptance: BOT determines how much funding to allocate for tree removal. Trees funded are removed by contract; trees not funded remain on record. BOT formally accepts the residual risk for hazardous public trees that are not mitigated due to funding limits.
- 10. Recordkeeping: TC maintains official records of reports, inspections, surveys, arborist assessments, budgets, BOT decisions, and risk acceptance.

## RACI Chart

Process Step	PW	MAR	FMAC	TM	TC	MGMF	BOT	R
Tree identified	I	I	I	I	I	I	I	R
Report submitted	I	I	I	I	A	I	I	R
Ownership determination	I	R/A	I	A (survey order)	C	I	I	I
Condition dispute (arborist)	I	C	I	A	C	I	I	R
PW inspection & risk scoring	R	I	C	C	I	I	I	I
PW scope decision	R	I	C	C	I	I	I	I
PW action list (within scope)	R	I	C	C	I	I	I	I
Volunteer mobilization	I	I	R	C	I	I	I	I
Beyond PW scope report	R	I	C	I	I	I	I	I
Consolidated list to TM	C	I	R/A	I	C	I	I	I
Budget preparation	I	I	C	R/A	C	I	I	I
Budget decision	I	I	C	C	I	I	A	I
Risk acceptance	I	I	C	C	I	I	A	I
Recordkeeping	I	I	I	I	R/A	I	I	I

- **Responsible:** The person or team who performs the task.
- **Accountable:** The individual ultimately answerable for the task's completion.
- **Consulted:** Those whose opinions are sought; typically subject matter experts.
- **Informed:** Individuals kept updated on progress and decisions.

### **Risk Assessment Matrix (Template)**

The following blank template is to be used by Public Works to assess each reported tree. Each criterion is scored 0–3, with Criterion 6 (Targets in Fall Line) weighted ×2. Total scores guide risk categorization: 0–8 (Low), 9–17 (Moderate), 18–27 (High).

<b>Criterion</b>	<b>Score (0–3)</b>	<b>Notes</b>
<b>1. Tree Diameter/Height</b>		
<b>2. Disease/Decay/Weakening</b>		
<b>3. Lean (&gt;10° from vertical)</b>		
<b>4. Cracks in trunk/branches</b>		
<b>5. Soil heaving/uplift</b>		
<b>6. Targets in fall line (×2)</b>		
<b>7. Complexity of fall line</b>		
<b>Total Weighted Score</b>		

# **2025 CREEK WEEK FALL COMMUNITY WORKDAY**

**Saturday, October 4  
9-11am**

**Meet at Green Box  
Farmstand**

**Bring your work gloves, water  
bottle and a smile!**

**Tools and equipment will be  
provided.**

**Help clean up Green Mountain  
Falls creeks and parks!**





Calling all GMF Veterans!



# Veterans Day Lunch

Tuesday, Nov. 11, 12-1:30 PM

Cantina Verde

\$ ???



Register using the QR code below  
or by emailing: [FMAC@gmfco.us](mailto:FMAC@gmfco.us)



Co-sponsored by the GMF Fire Mitigation Advisory Committee and the  
Historic Green Mountain Falls Foundation



**COLORADO**

**Strategic Wildfire  
Action Program**

Department of Natural Resources

## **COSWAP Workforce Development Grant 2025 Request for Applications**

### **Table of Contents**

Table of Contents .....	1
Program Information.....	2
Grant Timeline.....	2
Grant Overview .....	2
Eligibility.....	3
1. Applicants.....	3
2. Land Ownership Types .....	3
3. Strategic Focus Areas and Project Locations .....	3
4. Projects and Trainings .....	4
5. Expenses .....	5
COSWAP Workforce Development Grants Navigation Chart .....	6
COSWAP Workforce Development Grants .....	7
1. Wildfire mitigation work completed by a CYCA accredited conservation corps .....	7
2. Wildfire mitigation work completed by an independent conservation corps.....	8
3. Wildfire mitigation work completed by DOC SWIFT crews .....	8
4. Wildfire mitigation workforce training.....	9
Process .....	10
1. Application .....	10
2. Evaluation and Ranking .....	10
3. Award Process.....	10
4. Reimbursement Process .....	10
5. Reporting Requirements.....	10
Grant Agreement, Liability, Insurance, and Indemnification .....	11
Supplemental Information .....	11
Appendix A: Working with CYCA Accredited Conservation Corps and DOC SWIFT crews .....	12
Appendix B: COSWAP Ranking and Scoring Sheets .....	13
2025 Workforce Development Ranking Criteria - Mitigation Projects.....	13
2025 Workforce Development Ranking Criteria - Trainings.....	15

## Program Information

The Colorado Strategic Wildfire Action Program (COSWAP) is a permanent state-funded program designed to support wildfire risk reduction in Colorado to protect life, property, and infrastructure. COSWAP addresses the urgency of reducing wildfire risk through workforce development and landscape-scale fuels reduction projects.

If you have questions about the COSWAP program, please contact:

Courtney Young, Program Administrator

[courtney.young@state.co.us](mailto:courtney.young@state.co.us)

Roberta Anderson, Program Assistant

[roberta.anderson@state.co.us](mailto:roberta.anderson@state.co.us)

For more information and to access grant applications, visit the COSWAP website:

<https://dnr.colorado.gov/divisions/forestry/co-strategic-wildfire-action-program>.

## Grant Timeline

- September 8, 2025 - Application Release
- November 3, 2025 - Applications Due
- December 2025 - Grants Awarded and Contract Administration Begins
- December 31, 2027 - Project/Training Completion Deadline

## Grant Overview

COSWAP's Workforce Development Grant provides supported, entry-level, hands-on experience and training opportunities for individuals interested in wildfire mitigation and forestry. The Workforce Development grant is a **two-year grant that will be offered every other year**. We encourage applicants to submit proposals for projects that span the next two years so there will not be a gap in work completed before the next round of funding becomes available again.

The COSWAP workforce development program offers four separate grants:

1. Wildfire mitigation work completed by a [CYCA accredited conservation corps](#).
2. Wildfire mitigation work completed by an [independent conservation corps](#).  
According to The Corps Network, conservation corps are locally-based organizations that engage young adults (generally ages 16-30) and veterans in service projects that address recreation, conservation, disaster response, and community needs. Independent conservation corps must be located in Colorado. Please contact COSWAP staff if you have questions about whether an organization you are requesting to work with is a conservation corps.
3. Wildfire mitigation work completed by [DOC SWIFT crew](#).
4. Wildfire mitigation workforce training.

# Eligibility

## 1. Applicants

### Eligible applicants:

- Federal agencies
- State agencies (Projects on state trust land must be cleared by the State Land Board Conservation Services Manager, [mindy.gottsegen@state.co.us](mailto:mindy.gottsegen@state.co.us), before applying)
- Local governments including counties, municipalities, fire protection districts and other special districts
- Tribes
- Public utilities with infrastructure or land ownership in areas of high wildfire risk
- 501(c)(3) Non-profit organizations that promote fuel reduction projects, are engaged in prescribed fire, or natural resource management including wildfire councils and/or wildfire, watershed, or forest collaboratives

### Ineligible applicants:

- Individual property owners, homeowners associations, property owners associations, formal neighborhood associations, or road districts

## 2. Land Ownership Types

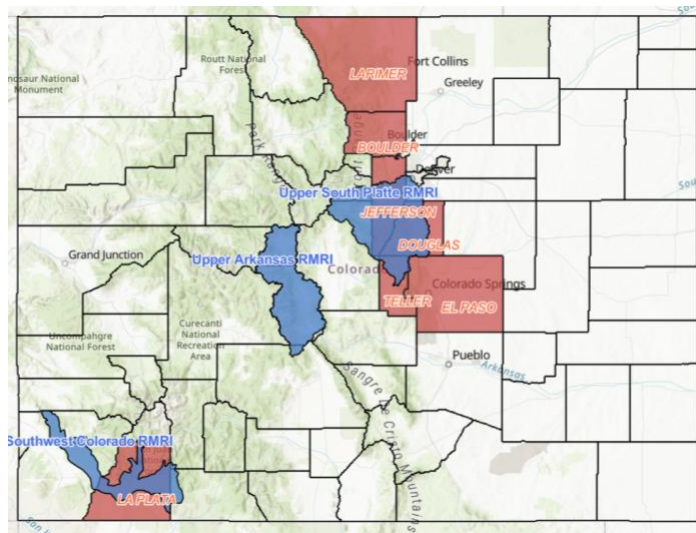
Funding can be used on **all land ownership types** throughout Colorado.

## 3. Strategic Focus Areas and Project Locations

### Conservation Corps

CYCA accredited or independent conservation corps projects must fall within COSWAP's **Strategic Focus Areas\***.

1. Boulder County
2. Douglas County
3. El Paso County
4. Jefferson County
5. La Plata County
6. Larimer County
7. Teller County
8. [Rocky Mountain Restoration Initiative](#) Focal Areas (in blue)
  - a. Southwest Colorado (Parts of Dolores, Montezuma, and La Plata Counties)
  - b. Upper Arkansas (Chaffee and Lake Counties)
  - c. Upper South Platte (Parts of Arapaho, Clear Creek, Douglas, Jefferson, Park and Teller Counties)



*\*Understanding that strategic wildfire mitigation may need to cross county boundaries, up to 50% of a project may be outside a Strategic Focus Area if the work is contiguous with the proposed treatment or an area already mitigated.*

### DOC SWIFT Crews

DOC SWIFT crews are only available within a 3 hour drive of the Four Mile Correctional Facility in Cañon City (E US Highway 50 & Evans Rd, Cañon City, CO 81212).

### Trainings

Awards made for wildfire mitigation workforce training are available **statewide**.



## 4. Projects and Trainings

**Eligible project activities include, but are not limited to:**

- The creation or maintenance of fuel breaks, based on the current [CSFS guidelines](#).
- Fuels reduction designed to protect communities, infrastructure, water supplies, and/or reduce potential fire intensity.
- Chipping, as appropriate for hand crews, based on the current [guidelines](#), speak to the workforce partner about chipper availability.
- Pile and broadcast burning, based on the [Division of Fire Prevention and Control \(DFPC\) guidelines](#). Select workforce crews have received [Type 2 Firefighter certifications](#); speak to the crew managers if looking for burning assistance. Pile and broadcast burn projects need to comply with local and state permitting requirements.

**Ineligible projects:**

- Defensible space projects.
- Projects in close proximity to powerlines and structures.
- Projects that span multiple private landowners will be considered on a case by case basis.

Applicants are able to apply for a project continuation from a previous COSWAP grant. However, applications will not be accepted that have the exact same map and scope of work as the previous application. Please include a map of what was previously completed with COSWAP funds and describe how the scope of work has evolved.

**Strategic project requirement:**

Proposed projects must be strategic to maximize the effectiveness of this program. Applicants will be required to describe the strategic nature of the project in the application narrative. Examples of strategic elements include:

- Projects that reduce hazardous fuels directly adjacent to communities and provide safe access routes to communities (fuelbreaks, ingress/egress\*, maintenance treatments).
  - *\*Roadside mitigation will be awarded on a case by case basis. Projects must follow the [Colorado State Forest Service \(CSFS\) standard](#) of at least a 150 ft wide treatment.*
- Projects adjacent to or within close proximity to lands that have been recently treated or are planned for treatment.
- Projects that are part of a larger landscape-scale treatment effort.
- Projects that protect critical infrastructure including evacuation routes, critical watersheds, healthcare facilities and emergency services.

**Additional consideration will be given to projects that contain elements listed below:**

- Projects identified in a local or county Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP), completed Wildfire Read Action Plans, FEMA Hazard Mitigation Plan, or identified through a collaborative group or process. Approved CWPPs can be found on the [CSFS website](#).
- Projects that result in the protection of water supplies.
- Projects that benefit communities of high social vulnerability.
- Collaborative planning efforts.
- Projects that leverage interagency resources or equipment.

**Eligible wildfire mitigation workforce trainings include:**

- S-130/S-190/L-180 Basic Firefighting and Wildland Fire Behavior
- S-212 Wildland Fire Chainsaw Operations
- Prescribed Fire Training Exchange (Trex)

## 5. Expenses

### Mitigation Projects: Cash Award Eligible Expenses

- Mitigation work completed by an independent conservation corps
- Project management expenses including personnel time (up to 10 hours a week), biomass expenses including chipper rental, porta-potties, camping fees, herbicide, etc.

### Mitigation Projects: Cash Award Ineligible Expenses

- Hiring a full-time Wildfire Mitigation Specialist or mitigation crew
- Purchasing equipment and supplies (equipment rental is eligible)
- Post treatment restoration including native seeds and pest control
- Hardware, software, technology, office supplies, printing, uniforms, etc.
- Programing and/or outreach
- Food and beverage
- Mileage, hotel and per diem for overnight travel

### Trainings: Eligible Expenses

- Personnel time to attend training
- Cost of the wildfire mitigation workforce training tuition
- Cost of the instructor to host the training (hours spent with students), instructor hours spent preparing for the training (up to 10 for S130/190 & S212)
- Equipment rental
- NWCG designated course materials- printed at a shop or ordered
- 2025 Federal mileage reimbursement (\$0.70), hotel and [GSA approved per diem](#) for overnight travel to a training

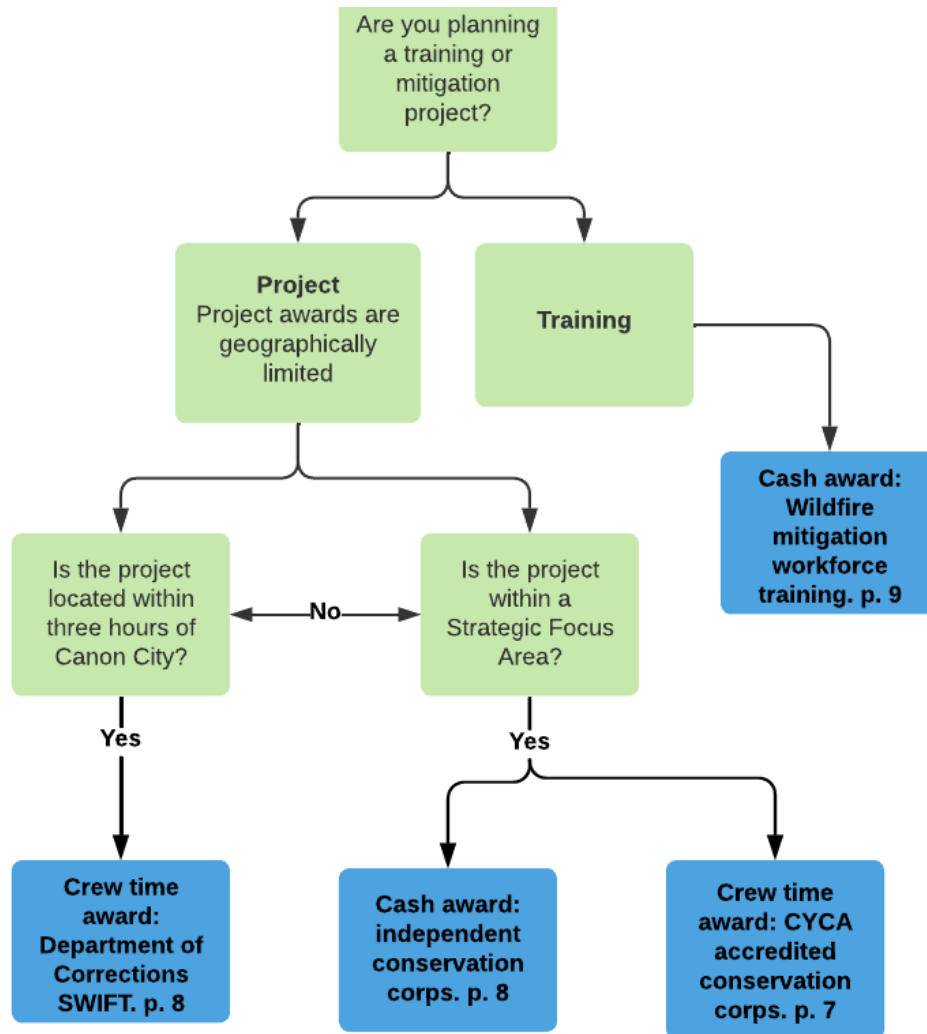
### Trainings: Ineligible Expenses:

- Supplies, equipment purchases and personal protection equipment
- Fully online training courses
- Hardware, software, technology, office supplies, uniforms, etc.
- Programming and/or outreach
- Food and beverage

Cash grant applications are required to provide at least 25% cash or in-kind match, except for Tribal entities who are exempt from the match requirement. Applicants can request an indirect fee up to 10% of the cash grant to cover administrative costs with no reporting requirements. Applicants must complete the budget provided in the application.

## COSWAP Workforce Development Grants Navigation Chart

Use the chart below to help determine which grant is most appropriate for your needs. Other eligibility requirements are listed on pages 3-5.



## COSWAP Workforce Development Grants

Below are the four grants that the COSWAP Workforce Development program offers.

*COSWAP cannot guarantee that work completed as a result of either crew time or cash awards will prevent or minimize the damage from future wildfires. COSWAP will not guarantee the effectiveness or outcomes of any approved project. COSWAP will review proposals and evaluate them based on ranking criteria. COSWAP reserves the right to suggest edits to and/or negotiate both the scope and budget of proposals to bring projects in line with COSWAP's programmatic goals.*

## **1. Wildfire mitigation work completed by a CYCA accredited conservation corps**

All applicants are required to reach out to their local corps before submitting their proposal. You can find a map showing where each corps is located, and the project development contact for that corps, on CYCA's website: <https://www.cyca.org/hire-a-corps/>.

The [Ancestral Lands Conservation Corps](#) is also now eligible for crew time awards.

### **Crew time award:**

Applicants can have wildfire mitigation work performed by a CYCA accredited conservation corps through a crew time award. A crew time award is contracted by weeks of service and can range from 6-25 weeks of work. A crew is typically (but not always) up to 8 members and completes 320 hours of work a week.

Applicants requesting CYCA accredited conservation corps must provide project management and oversight. Applicants must make a staff member or site supervisor available to meet with crews, identify the project boundaries, review the treatment prescription, supervise work onsite as needed to ensure corps work is satisfactory before moving forward, and to collect pre- and post-treatment information for reporting.

Please reference 'Appendix A: Working with CYCA Accredited Conservation Corps and DOC SWIFT crews', for more information on shared responsibilities and expectations for project managers.

### **Cash award:**

In addition to crew time awards, applications for CYCA accredited conservation corps can also request a cash grant for project management expenses. A list of eligible and ineligible expenses can be found on page 5.

### **What makes a good CYCA project?**

Successful projects with CYCA accredited conservation corps have a clear and achievable scope of work. Crew members value on-the-ground training and continued check-ins throughout the duration of the project. Although crews contain at least one member that can fell larger trees, projects with smaller trees and less complex treatments tend to be the most successful. Crews can be an excellent complement to a contractor or agency crew who is completing the more complex aspects of a project. A COSWAP award with CYCA has a dual focus of workforce development and wildfire mitigation, as CYCA embodies core values of providing education and career training opportunities.

***Disclaimer:*** Projects are awarded on a per week basis and cannot guarantee project completion. Projects are deemed complete when the weeks awarded are fulfilled.

## 2. Wildfire mitigation work completed by an independent conservation corps

### Cash award:

Applicants can have wildfire mitigation work performed by an independent corps utilizing a cash grant. The maximum grant award is \$200,000. A list of eligible and ineligible expenses can be found on page 5.

Applicants requesting independent conservation corps must provide project management and oversight. Applicants must make a staff member or site supervisor available to meet with crews, identify the project boundaries, review the treatment prescription, supervise work onsite as needed to ensure corps work is satisfactory before moving forward, and to collect pre- and post-treatment information for reporting.

## 3. Wildfire mitigation work completed by DOC SWIFT crews

All applicants are required to reach out to the Department of Corrections SWIFT Supervisor about the project and if it is appropriate for DOC SWIFT crews. Questions can be directed to Greg Hawkins at gregory.hawkins@state.co.us, or by phone at 719-338-8052 (cell).

### Crew time award:

Applicants can have wildfire mitigation work performed by the DOC SWIFT crew through a crew time award. DOC SWIFT crews are made up of incarcerated men with nonviolent sentences. A crew time award is contracted by weeks of service and can range from 6-25 weeks of work. A crew typically (but not always) consists of up to 20 men working Monday - Thursday or Tuesday - Friday.

Applicants requesting DOC SWIFT crews must provide project management and oversight. Applicants must make a staff member or site supervisor available to meet with crews, identify the project boundaries, review the treatment prescription, supervise work onsite as needed to ensure corps work is satisfactory before moving forward, and to collect pre- and post-treatment information for reporting.

Please reference 'Appendix A: Working with CYCA Accredited Conservation Corps and DOC SWIFT crews', for more information on shared responsibilities and expectations for project managers.

### Cash award:

In addition to crew time awards, applications for DOC SWIFT crews can also request a cash grant for project expenses. A list of eligible and ineligible expenses can be found on page 5.

### What makes a good DOC SWIFT project?

Projects utilizing DOC SWIFT are most successful when the project is located on larger tracts of land with limited landowners. Camping locations for DOC SWIFT need to be isolated away from the public.

Project managers working with DOC SWIFT need to be flexible with scheduling, crew size, and other project expectations. DOC SWIFT is likely to adjust work schedules throughout the year due to deployment to wildfires, personnel changes, and unforeseen circumstances. Awarded weeks are estimated for a single DOC crew. It is possible that a half crew, one and a half crew, or double crew works on a project for part or the entirety of the project. In this case, the number of calendar weeks spent on site may differ from the awarded weeks because the weeks are scaled up or down according to crew size. Projects may be completed in fewer weeks than contracted if the scope of work has been fulfilled.

**Disclaimer:** Projects are awarded on a per week basis and cannot guarantee project completion. Projects are deemed complete when the weeks awarded are fulfilled or the scope of work is completed, whichever occurs first.



#### **4. Wildfire mitigation workforce training**

Training is important to the development of Colorado's wildfire mitigation workforce. COSWAP will provide cash grants to cover the cost of S-130/S-190/L-180 basic firefighter training, S-212 wildland fire chainsaw operations and Prescribed Fire Training Exchange (TREX) events. A list of eligible and ineligible expenses can be found on page 5.

Trainings are available for the following groups:

1. People employed in forest health or wildfire mitigation
2. Volunteer firefighters serving with a fire department or fire protection district
3. Volunteers who have shown their commitment to mitigation work previously and are completing mitigation beyond their own properties

This year trainers must be preidentified and qualifications noted in the application for review. All applicants are required to communicate with the potential trainees or organizations listed on the grant application before submitting their proposal.

Applications requesting funds for wildfire mitigation workforce training may not exceed \$100,000. In the budget narrative, please explain if there will be other funding sources contributing to the cost of the training so it is clear that there is no duplication of payments.

# Process

## 1. Application

The COSWAP Workforce Development Applications are available on the COSWAP website: <https://dnr.colorado.gov/divisions/forestry/co-strategic-wildfire-action-program>. Applicants are required to submit a complete application and map depicting the geographic location of the project. You should receive an email confirmation of your submission within 1 week. If you do not hear back about your application within 1 week, please contact Roberta Anderson (303-358-1344, [roberta.anderson@state.co.us](mailto:roberta.anderson@state.co.us)).

## 2. Evaluation and Ranking

COSWAP will accept applications until November 3, 2025. Applications are reviewed by subject matter experts and DNR staff based on alignment with the program criteria. Review 'Appendix B: COSWAP Ranking and Scoring Sheet' for details.

## 3. Award Process

For CYCA accredited conservation corps or DOC SWIFT crew applications, COSWAP staff will notify applicants of conditional award decisions via email by the end of November. Following a conditional award, the applicant must conduct a site visit with project partners within 3 weeks. Applicants are required to report back to DNR on the feasibility of the project, including the size, scope of work, and number of weeks requested. COSWAP will then determine whether or not to make an official award.

All applicants will be notified of official award decisions in December 2025, and may be contacted beforehand with clarifying questions regarding the application. Applicants must accept the award and reporting requirements before DNR initiates the grant agreement process. **No work can begin, or expenses incurred, until the grant agreement is signed and initiated.**

## 4. Reimbursement Process

The Workforce Development cash grants are reimbursement grants and awardees must submit invoices to DNR up to once a month or at least once a year. COSWAP will only reimburse actual, incurred expenses; calculated or estimated expenses will not be accepted for reimbursement. Awardees must invoice DNR for all work completed within a state fiscal year by June 30th. An invoice template and instructions will be provided upon award. DNR will pay CYCA accredited conservation corps and DOC SWIFT crews directly, therefore crew time awards do not have a reimbursement process.

## 5. Reporting Requirements

Awardees are required to submit quarterly progress reports to DNR and have 30 days after project completion to submit the final project report. Forms will be provided in the award package.

## Grant Agreement, Liability, Insurance, and Indemnification

All successful applicants will be required to enter a Grant Agreement with the State of Colorado as a condition of receiving the grant award. The Grant Agreement template is linked on [COSWAP's website](#) for reference. All successful applicants must agree to assume all liability related to the approved project and to indemnify and hold harmless the State of Colorado, CYCA, DOC SWIFT, and any CYCA-accredited conservation corps for any and all claims arising out of the approved project. The State, CYCA, DOC SWIFT, and any CYCA-accredited conservation corps will not be liable for any act or omission of any party as a part of an approved grant program that causes any harm or that fails to prevent or mitigate wildfire damage at any time in the future. All successful applicants will be required to maintain and provide proof of adequate insurance coverage as detailed in the Grant Agreement.

## Supplemental Information

Information about Colorado's wildfire risk to life, property, and infrastructure, via the Colorado Wildfire Risk Assessment (CO-WRA) is found on the Colorado State Forest Service Forest Atlas:  
<https://coloradoforestatlas.org/>

Colorado State Forest Service guidelines for fuelbreaks:  
[http://static.colostate.edu/client-files/csfs/pdfs/fuelbreak\\_guidellines.pdf](http://static.colostate.edu/client-files/csfs/pdfs/fuelbreak_guidellines.pdf)

Forestry Best Management Practices to Protect Water Quality in Colorado:  
<http://static.colostate.edu/client-files/csfs/pdfs/ForestryBMP-CO-2010.pdf>

Mulching: A knowledge summary and guidelines for best practices on Colorado's Front Range:  
<https://research.fs.usda.gov/treearch/62158>

Colorado Pile Construction Guide:  
[https://drive.google.com/file/d/1aG\\_3NNK1Fp8kYJFW8CtWBGgkG1zDmN\\_g/view](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1aG_3NNK1Fp8kYJFW8CtWBGgkG1zDmN_g/view)

Division of Fire Prevention and Control Prescribed Fire Management Resources:  
<https://dfpc.colorado.gov/prescribed-fire-management>

## Appendix A: Working with CYCA Accredited Conservation Corps and DOC SWIFT crews

Hosting CYCA accredited conservation corps and DOC SWIFT crews requires cooperation, communication, and shared responsibility. The breakdown below details how project managers, crews, and COSWAP generally share responsibility. Applicants should note in their applications any deviations from this general approach to the shared responsibilities that might be necessary for their particular project.

### **Project Manager Responsibilities:**

- Project planning, and flagging project boundaries (if necessary)
- Pre-project site visit with crew staff
- Specialty tools (if necessary)
- Camping and porta-pottie logistics. Camping should be within 30 minutes of the project area.
- Project manager must be available for oversight and direction throughout the duration of the project. It is especially important to conduct regular check ins to ensure corps work is satisfactory before moving forward.
- Quarterly project reports
- Certify that the project is complete and report project metrics to DNR

### **CYCA Corps and DOC SWIFT Crew Responsibilities:**

- Pre-project site visit with project manager
- Crew supervision
- Crew members
- Basic tools including chainsaws
  - DOC SWIFT crews and some CYCA accredited conservation corps have chippers available
- Transportation, food, and camping gear

### **DNR, COSWAP Responsibilities:**

- Review applications, select projects, and execute contracts
- Pay CYCA accredited conservation corps or DOC SWIFT crews for their work
- Process reimbursement requests for cash grants
- Collect and review quarterly and final reports



## Appendix B: COSWAP Ranking and Scoring Sheets

*While a numerical evaluation method will be used as an aid, using the factors identified below, the selection ultimately is a program judgment that will reflect an integrated assessment of the relative merits of proposals.*

### 2025 Workforce Development Ranking Criteria - Mitigation Projects

The 2025 Workforce Development ranking for mitigation projects is based on the following criteria, out of a total of 100 possible points. A breakdown of scoring is as follows:

#### Program Criteria and Eligibility (Yes or No)

- Is this an eligible applicant/project manager?
- Is the project located in the Strategic Focus Areas? Or within 3 hours of the DOC SWIFT facility?
- Is this an eligible project?
- Is this prescription appropriate for the fuel type, location and workforce crew?
- Does the organization have the capacity to provide project management and oversight?

#### Organization Information (Max 5 Points)

- Is there a collaborative nature to this project?

#### Project Purpose & Objectives (Max 5 Points)

- Are the project objectives specific, measurable, achievable, and timely? Do they align with COSWAP's objectives?

#### Wildfire Risk Information (Max 10 Points)

- Is the project in a high risk area identified in [CO-WRA](#) or a local risk assessment? (5 points)
  - Score breakdown:
    - Project is within ½ mile or less from an area at high-risk (5 points)
    - Project is ½-2 miles from an area at high-risk (3-4 points)
    - Project is 2-5 miles from an area at high-risk (1-2 points)
- Is the project identified in a local or county CWPP, completed WRAP, or FEMA Hazard Mitigation Plan? (5 points)
  - Score breakdown:
    - This project is specifically identified in a plan with link and page number (5 points)
    - This project is generally specified in a plan (2 points)

#### Project Location (Max 25 Points)

- Community Protection (15 points)
  - Score breakdown:
    - Directly protects high density neighborhoods (15 points)
    - Directly protects medium density neighborhoods (10 points)
    - Directly protects low density neighborhoods (5 points)
- Does the project connect to planned or executed fuels reduction efforts? (5 points)
  - Score is dependent on proximity to project(s), status of project(s), size and number of project(s) and inclusion of the projects(s) on the required maps.
- Is the project within two miles of a socially vulnerable area? (5 points)
  - Score breakdown:
    - Project is within two miles of a socially vulnerable area (5 points)
    - Project is farther than two miles from of a socially vulnerable area (0 points)

#### Project Impact (Max 30 Points)

- Applicant has clearly described how the project is strategic and reduces wildfire risk to life and property (10 points)

- Critical Infrastructure (not water): Higher scores are given to more critical infrastructure and applications that more clearly describe the infrastructure and protection (10 points)
  - Score breakdown:
    - Protects multiple pieces of critical infrastructure: evacuation routes, communication towers, etc. (10 points)
    - Protects some critical infrastructure (5 points)
    - Protects other infrastructure of value (evacuation centers, parks) (<5 points)
- Is the project located in a [high priority subwatershed](#)? (5 points)
  - Score breakdown:
    - High priority subwatershed (5 points)
    - Low priority subwatershed (1 points)
- Applicant has clearly described how the project directly protects critical water infrastructure (5 points)
  - Scores will be dependent on specific impacts including named water infrastructure, soil erosion concerns, sediment buildup, water quality and accessibility, etc.

#### **Project Maintenance (Max 5 Points)**

- Project maintenance is funded, planned, and appropriate for the fuel type/prescription

#### **Leveraged Funding and Resources (Max 5 Points)**

- Does this project leverage outside funding or resources?

#### **Scope of Work (Max 5 Points)**

- Applicant provided a clear, detailed and appropriate plan and deadline for removing any woody material/slash generated

#### **Budget (Max 5 Points)**

- Budget quality and clarity (5 points)
  - Score breakdown:
    - Budget is incredibly detailed, the budget narrative is clearly explained and there are no follow up questions. Match is clearly defined. (5 points)
    - Satisfactory, budget adds up and all explanations are included (3 points)
    - Budget does not add up or is missing explanations for expenses (0 points)

#### **Maps (Max 5 Points)**

- Map quality and clarity (5 points)
  - Scores are dependent on maps containing the requested components and connectivity is clear

## 2025 Workforce Development Ranking Criteria - Trainings

The 2025 Workforce Development ranking for trainings is based on the following criteria, out of a total of 40 possible points. A breakdown of scoring is as follows:

### Program Criteria and Eligibility (Yes or No)

- Is this an eligible applicant?
- Is this an eligible group of trainees?
- Is this an additional (rather than standard) trainings?
- Are the trainers qualified to provide this training?

### Training Objectives (Max 5 Points)

- Are the training objectives specific, measurable, achievable, and timely? Do they align with COSWAP's objectives?

### Leveraged Funding and Resources (Max 5 Points)

- Does this project leverage outside funding or resources?

### Trainee Info and Impact (Max 15 Points)

- Training increases the forestry and mitigation workforce (5 points)
- Trainees have shown their commitment to wildfire mitigation (5 points)
- There is a clear plan for trainees to continue to engage in wildfire mitigation (5 points)

### Training Info (Max 5 Points)

- Applicant has clearly described the training location, timeline, and trainer qualifications.

### Preparation (Max 5 Points)

- The grantee has explained its ability to host or organize the relevant training
  - For TREX: TREX event is already being planned and coordinated with partners and resources to allow for success within the specified timeline
  - For in-house trainings: In-house offerings have explained their experience hosting this type of training.
  - For trainings at a facility: Facility trainings have begun coordination

### Budget (Max 5 Points)

- Budget quality and clarity (5 points)
  - Score breakdown:
    - Budget is incredibly detailed, the budget narrative is clearly explained and there are no follow up questions. Match is clearly defined. (5 points)
    - Satisfactory, budget adds up and all explanations are included (3 points)
    - Budget does not add up or is missing explanations for expenses (0 points)