Wildfire Risk, Preparedness & Mitigation DENVER FIRE DEPARTMENT







"Although many would not view the occurrence of a wildland fire within the City and County of Denver as a significant threat, with today's changing climate the potential is always there. Whether it be human caused or naturally occurring, taking individual, family, business, and community preparedness steps can reduce the impacts in the event of an unexpected occurrence."

Desmond Fulton, Chief of the Denver Fire Department



The Basics of Wildfires

- There are 3 ingredients needed to sustain fire. Take away any one side and the fire cannot burn.
- 9 out 10 fires are human caused
- Wildland fires can occur anywhere there is grass, brush, trees or other fuel.
- Weather factors play a critical role.





Marshall Fire









Denver Fire Departments Wildfire Mitigation Preparedness and Response

- Denver Firefighters are continually pre-planning the neighborhoods they work in, developing a plan for all types of emergencies – including urban wildfires.
- DFD has Wildland fire engines pre-positioned throughout the City to respond on an outside/brush or grass fire if needed.
- There are approximately 200 Wildland firefighters on DFD with the skills and preparedness to fight an urban wildland fire.



Personal & Family Preparedness





Insurance Policy













Home Inventory



COMPLETE GUIDE TO CREATING YOUR HOUSEHOLD INVENTORY





Create a Family Emergency Communications Plan





WHAT IS MY FAMILY/HOUSEHOLD COMMUNICATION PLAN?





Individual Family Member "Go-Bag"









Emergency Alert Notifications

Visit the Denver Office of Emergency Management

Sign-up to receive alerts via voice mail, text message, or e-mail at multiple locations





Home & Property Preparedness Steps for Wildfire





Community & Neighborhood Preparedness





FA-337 / August 2020

Collaborate with local, state and federal foresters, park managers or land managing agencies to create healthy forests.

Use nonflammable material, like metal, stone, stucco or brick, for building signs and cladding installed on the outside of the building.

不

Report any downed power lines, damaged transformers and other distribution infrastructure to your local power utility company.

AF

Use hard-wired generators powered by an alternative fuel supply (like propane) for hospitals and water supply systems.

Mark roads with reflective nonflammable street signs. Create more than one way out of the area and practice evacuations. Create and practice plans for evacuating hospitals, schools and nursing homes. Pre-Fire Planning to Help Communities Become More Fire Adapted

Protecting businesses, public buildings, residents and firefighters from wildfire loss.

Planning before a wildfire occurs ensures that jurisdictions can be more resilient. Hard work by all stakeholders can help a community before, during and after a wildfire.

Each community has its own risks. Use the downloadable Community Wildfire Protection Plan template (https://www.usfa.fema.gov/downloads/pdf/publications/ creating_a_cwpp.pdf) to identify and mitigate these hazards and help communities become more fire adapted.

Clear all debris from hydrants. Install reflective blue dots in the middle of roadways to show the location of the hydrants during smoky wildfire conditions.

practice evacuations. Create and practice plans for evacuating hospitals, schools and nursing homes.





For more information, visit www.usfa.fema.gov.

August 2020



X

Business Preparedness





Neighborhood Business Emergency Planning Resources



Small Business Administration: https://www.sba.gov/sites/default/files/WildfirePreparednessSBA.pdf

American Red Cross: https://www.projectwildfire.org/businesstips/



How do we mitigate and reduce potential wildfire hazards?

As a NEIGHBORHOOD!

Collectively identify areas of concern and communicate.

- **Ownership Responsibilities** Community Planning and Development
- Roads and Rights-of-Way Denver Public Works
- City Parks and Open Space Denver Parks and Recreation
- Trees and Natural Areas Office of the City Forester and City Naturalist
- Evacuation Routes and Planning Denver Police Department
- Alerts and Warnings Denver Office of Emergency Management
- Fire Response and Capabilities Denver Fire Department
- Trees Touching or Hanging over Powerlines Xcel Energy



Community Wildfire Preparedness Resources



DenverREADY approach allows residents, neighborhoods, local officials, businesses, non-profits, faith-based organizations, and emergency management officials to collectively understand and assess the needs of their respective communities, determine the best ways to organize their resources, and prepare for emergency events. Denver has embraced the "Whole Community Preparedness Programs" concept and invites our community partners to help build a stronger, more resilient community.







Wildfire Preparedness and Mitigation Resources

Wildfires

- Prepare for Wildfires
- Stay Safe During
- <u>After a Wildfire</u>
- <u>Additional Resources</u>
- o <u>https://www.ready.gov/wildfires</u>
- <u>https://www.nfpa.org/News-and-Research/Data-research-and-tools/Wildland-Urban-Interface</u>
- https://csfs.colostate.edu/csfspublications/#1554911218200-07f5f9e5-0554
- o <u>https://www.usfa.fema.gov/wui/</u>



Questions and Discussion

Denver Fire Department

745 W. Colfax Ave. phone: 720-913-3474 fax: 720-913-3596 email: <u>denfpb@denvergov.org</u> <u>www.denvergov.org/dfdweb</u>

