



www.fireadapted.org

Fire Adapted Communities Background

- 2005 Quadrennial Fire Review promoted 'Fire Adapted Human Communities' as solution to escalating suppression costs, structure losses, fatalities
- 2009 Quadrennial Fire Review further defined FAC concept for communities to take responsibility, action

Fire Adapted Communities Background

2009 Federal Land Assistance,
Management, and Enhancement
(FLAME) Act

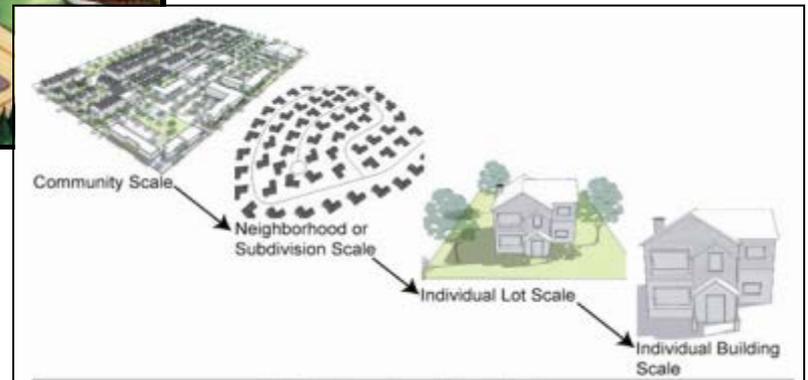


National Cohesive Wildland Fire Management Strategy

- 1) Create Resilient Landscapes
- 2) Create Fire Adapted Communities
- 3) Improve Response and Suppression

What is a Fire Adapted Community?

A community taking responsibility and implementing actions at ALL scales to reduce its wildfire threat.



Fire Adapted Communities:

- Exist within or adjacent to a fire adapted ecosystem.
- Have adequate local fire suppression capacity to meet basic community protection needs.
- Have structures and landscaping designed, constructed, retrofitted, sited, and maintained to be ignition resistant.

Fire Adapted Communities, continued:

- Use local codes [Building, planning, zoning, and fire prevention codes] to require ignition-resistant home design, building materials, and siting.
- Ensure fuel treatments are properly spaced and sequenced, and are maintained across the landscape.
- Implement community wildland fire protection plans.

Why is a Fire Adapted Community important?

- Increases firefighter and public safety
- Increases community resilience & post-disaster economic recovery
- Decreases funds necessary to protect community
- Decreases dependence on suppression & response



How to Become a Fire Adapted Community

Each community is unique and risk is best understood on the local level. These are general guidelines to consider in creating a fire adapted community:

1. Create a local collaborative group of stakeholders to develop and begin implementation of a CWPP. A CWPP identifies community risk and ways to mitigate that risk.
2. Use Firewise principles to help the community address structure ignitability issues and create defensible space.
3. Fire departments can use the Ready, Set, Go! program as an internal and external educational tool to make their jurisdiction aware of wildfire risk, keep awareness high, and help prepare for evacuation.
4. Work with local land managers to adequately treat hazardous fuels in and near the community.
5. Create fuel buffers around the community to protect it from wildfire encroachment.
6. Create internal safe zones in case evacuation is not possible.
7. Create or adopt wildland urban interface codes that govern where homes can be safely built, how they can be safely built, and of what materials.



FAC & Firewise Communities

- Key program to becoming fire adapted
- Voluntary recognition program that targets neighborhoods and homeowners



Fire Adapted Communities Resources

- Fire Adapted Communities Coalition
- Fire Adapted Communities Website
- Fire Adapted Communities Ad Campaign

Fire Adapted Communities Coalition



Supporting Those Who Serve



FEMA



USDA Forest Service | US Department of the Interior | US Fire Administration
International Association of Fire Chiefs | National Fire Protection Association
Insurance Institute for Business and Home Safety | The Nature Conservancy
National Volunteer Fire Council | National Association of State Foresters
National Wildfire Coordinating Working Group WUI Mitigation Committee

Fire Adapted Communities Website

- Promotes all forms of WUI mitigation
- Highlights national programs and research
 - Ready, Set, Go! (IAFC) 
 - Firewise Communities/USA® (NFPA) 
 - Community Wildfire Protection Plans (NASF)
 - Wildfire Retrofit Guides (IBHS)

Fire Adapted Communities Website

- Reaches out to all audiences
 - Homeowners & Residents
 - Firefighters & Emergency Responders
 - Land Managers & Foresters
 - Civic & Community Leaders





PROTECT
what matters

Know your
REGION

Know your
ROLE

Info and
RESOURCES



Key Topics and FAQs

Fire Adapted Communities reduce suppression and protection costs without compromising safety. Learn more about fire adapted community concepts.

Every year thousands of wildfires burn millions of acres across the United States. It's not if, but when the next wildfire will threaten your community. This website offers information and specific actions you can take, no matter what your role, to reduce your risk to the next wildfire. Do your part to protect your community now!

NEWS & COMMENTARY

05.30.2012

Community in South Dakota takes on the wildfire challenge

[More News & Commentary](#)

Are you at risk?



Northeast
Southeast
West

Protect what matters

- Family and Home
- Neighborhood
- Business and Infrastructure
- Parks and Public Lands

Know your region

- Northeast
- Southeast
- West

Know your role

- Residents and Homeowners
- Fire and Emergency Responders
- Forest and Land Managers
- Civic and Community Leaders

Info and resources

- What is a Fire Adapted Community?
- Key Topics and FAQs
- Media & Outreach
- Funding Opportunities
- Meet the Coalition



- FAMILY AND HOME
- NEIGHBORHOOD
- BUSINESS AND INFRASTRUCTURE
- PARKS AND PUBLIC LANDS

Family & Home

You can increase your home's survival rate during a wildfire by making the right decisions now about landscaping and home construction. Making this positive impact doesn't need to cost a lot of money or time, just effort and commitment. It's up to you.

A wildfire is still a threat, even if it's miles away. Traveling embers can ignite roofs, lawn chairs, decks, fences, mulch, pine needles, and other common items around your house and yard. Cleaning your property of debris and maintaining your landscaping reduces the likelihood of ignition. Consider everyday preparedness actions to make your home and property safer from wildfire, such as creating a "fuel-free" area within five feet of your home's foundation, moving firewood stacks and propane tanks away from your house or shed, and disposing of lawn cuttings.

Make sure your home is prepared for wildfire
 Resources on this page provide more thorough tips to identify your wildfire risk so you can be prepared. Also contact your local fire department, state forestry personnel, or local landscaping groups for more specific information about techniques, materials, procedures, and partnerships.

Success Story: Using Firewise principles to prepare a home for wildfire (Colorado)



Ed Brown and his wife Val Hall live west of Fort Collins, Colorado on the edge of Roosevelt National Forest. The couple has used Firewise principles ever since constructing their home in 1997. Firewise is a national program developed by the NFPA that educates homeowners about wildfire risk and advocates principles

Is your home ready for wildfire? Do an assessment today!

[Learn more](#)

- RESOURCES & INFO**
- > [Firewise Guide to Landscaping and Construction](#)
 - > [Ready, Set, Go! Program information for residents](#)
 - > [Retrofit guides to reduce wildfire risk](#)
 - > [Firewise principles for your home](#)



- NORTHEAST
- SOUTHEAST**
- Ecosystems
- Regional support
- WEST

Southeast

The southeastern United States consistently experiences more wildfires per year than any other region. More than 100 million acres of land have a moderate to extreme potential for wildfire. The issue is not if an area will burn but when, and at what intensity.

Learn about your region's unique wildfire risks by exploring this section. It provides federal, state, and local information and resources for the southeast – all of which support your community in becoming fire adapted.

What is the current fire danger rating in your area? Find out.

[Learn more](#)

Success Story: Wildfire Protection in Taylor, Florida



Taylor is a small rural community in northeastern Florida, bordering the Georgia state line. The surrounding area is a mix of thick woods and waterways. Taylor, like many communities in Florida, has experienced wildfires in the past including a series of fires in 2004 and the massive Bugaboo Fire in 2007.

Taylor has distinguished itself by implementing extensive measures to prepare for the next wildfire. After the fires of 2004, residents created a Community Wildfire

RESOURCES & INFO

- > Southern Fire Exchange
- > Wildfire Retrofit Guide for Florida
- > Wildfire Retrofit Guide for the Central US
- > Wildfire Retrofit Guide for the Southeast
- > Firewise Southeast Landscape and Construction Poster Set



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RESOURCES



RESIDENTS AND
HOMEOWNERS

FIRE AND EMERGENCY
RESPONDERS

FOREST AND LAND
MANAGERS

CIVIC AND COMMUNITY
LEADERS

Forest & Land Managers

Land management and wildfire are closely related. Ranching, farming, timber and logging operations, species management, and development can impact wildfire risk. As a public or private land manager, you can help create Fire Adapted Communities.

- Do a risk assessment, fire management plan, or forest action plan to address wildfire risk on the land you manage, and share that information with local suppression authorities and in the local Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP)
- Talk to other land managers in the community to gain mutual understanding of land uses and management goals and strategies
- Know the economic factors of your community's land uses, and how wildfire damages will affect the market
- Understand local and state protocols for prescribed fire
- Inform fire departments about when fires can be left to burn for the natural cycle
- Understand existing comprehensive planning, zoning ordinances, urban/suburban park, and recreation land planning and urban forest initiatives
- Determine expectations of out-of-state land managers and their understanding of local risks and resources

Become involved in
Community Wildfire
Protection Plans.

Learn more



RESOURCES & INFO

- > [National Association of State Foresters wildfire resources](#)
- > [Ready Set Go For Farmers, Ranchers and Growers \(Ventura County\)](#)
- > [The Nature Conservancy's Fire Program](#)
- > [Fire Learning Network](#)

Protect what matters

Family and Home
Neighborhood
Business and Infrastructure
Parks and Public Lands

Know your region

Northeast
Southeast
West

Know your role

Residents and Homeowners
Fire and Emergency Responders
Forest and Land Managers
Civic and Community Leaders

Info and resources

What is a Fire Adapted Community?
Key Topics and FAQs
Media & Outreach
Funding Opportunities



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WHAT IS A FIRE
ADAPTED
COMMUNITY?

KEY TOPICS AND FAQs

MEDIA & OUTREACH

Newsletters

FUNDING
OPPORTUNITIES

MEET THE COALITION

Media & Outreach

National wildland fire safety experts are available for interviews during a wildland fire event or any time you need more information on fire adapted communities. For immediate media inquiries and assistance, please contact the National Fire Protection Association's Public Affairs office:

+1 617 984-7275

Looking for free media and outreach resources?

Ad Council Fulfillment Website

Access TV, radio, print and outdoor PSAs to place in local media from the Ad Council fulfillment website.

FAC Media Toolkit

Explore resources from the Fire Adapted Communities media toolkit to use in your own outreach! Provided by the Ad Council.

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Media Toolkit:

- Campaign Background
- Media Outreach
- Spread the Word
- [View PSAs](#)

Questions?

Contact Information

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