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For More Information:

[tfsweb.tamu.edu/ProtectYourCommunity/
texaswildfirerisk.com](https://tfsweb.tamu.edu/ProtectYourCommunity/texaswildfirerisk.com)
firewise.org

“ **A Community Wildfire Protection Plan** is a written document, mutually agreed upon by local, state and federal representatives and stakeholders that identifies how a community will reduce its risks from wildland fire. ”



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A Leader's Guide to Developing a Community Wildfire Protection Plan



*Have you done everything possible to
protect yourself and your community
before a wildfire occurs?*

Community Wildfire Protection Plans are a collaborative approach to wildland fire protection and mitigation. A plan can be as simple or complex as the needs of the community dictate.

☐ Convene Decision Makers.

- * Engage local Texas A&M Forest Service representative—they can provide guidance and subject matter expertise.
- * Involve local jurisdictions and fire service leadership from local, state, and federal cooperators.
- * Notify local government officials—local support will bolster political capital in the community.

☐ Engage Interested Parties.

Wildfire risk is a community problem and a shared responsibility between stakeholders.

- * Form a core working group with representation from the local fire department, local government, and Texas A&M Forest Service.
- * Additional partners should be encouraged to participate. Who needs to be part of the conversation? Who has a vested interest in the community?
- * Gain input from a variety of partners to ensure that the CWPP reflects the interests and values of the entire community.

☐ Start Proclamation.

- * Present a proclamation/resolution to local government for approval and signatures.

☐ Create a Community Base Map.

- * Develop a base map of the community that identifies potential communities at risk, areas with critical infrastructure, and delineation of the Wildland Urban Interface.
- * Identify high-risk, priority areas for risk assessments.

☐ Conduct Risk Assessments.

- * Consider factors that influence risk in the community: fuels, structural characteristics, access, local fire capacity, utilities, etc.
- * Assume no operational response and address stand-alone survivability.
- * Utilize as a tool to help residents understand their wildfire risk and engage in mitigation actions.
- * Compile results and share with core working group and partners.

☐ Establish Community Hazard Reduction Priorities and Recommendations to Reduce Structural Ignitability.

- * Communicate the results from the risk assessments with all stakeholders.
- * Begin to develop priorities for the community.
- * Recommend actions that address structural ignitability and hazardous fuel reduction.
- * Create strategies that address local fire service capacity.

☐ Develop an Action Plan.

- * Generate prioritized recommendations for fuels reduction projects, outreach and education programs, and other mitigation actions that assist in achieving the goals and objectives of the CWPP.
- * Identify roles and responsibilities, funding needs, and timelines for each priority project.
- * Recommended actions must directly relate to the protection of the community and its values.

☐ Finalize the Community Wildfire Protection Plan.

- * Complete plan and ensure that the three required criteria are met.
- * Present a final draft to local signatories and Texas A&M Forest Service for approval.
- * Plan a signing/recognition ceremony.