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Congratulations - You've taken the first step to reduce your Wildfire Risk!

Thank you for applying to Wildfire Partners and participating in a home assessment with a Wildfire Mitigation Specialist. By taking part in your assessment and acting to reduce your risk, you are serving as a positive example—a role model—for others in your community. Your leadership and stewardship will help create a positive change and build a more resilient community. Wildfire Partners is here to support you as you work to implement the following key messages that were stressed during your home assessment:

- **Take Personal Responsibility:** You, the homeowner, are responsible for reducing your vulnerability to wildfire.
- **Work with Neighbors:** You must often work with neighbors to perform effective mitigation.
- **Identify Your Weak Links and Your Preferred Pathways:** A comprehensive, customized action plan— derived from an interactive, on-site assessment—is essential.
- **Maintain over Time:** Wildfire mitigation is an on-going, long-term effort that requires on-going maintenance.
- **Understand Risks:** There are no guarantees. Effective mitigation increases the chance your home will survive a wildfire; it does not safeguard your property or guarantee your personal safety in the event of a wildfire.

What Happens Next?

1) Review Your Wildfire Partners Home Assessment Report

Your next step is to review your customized Wildfire Partners Home Assessment Report, which outlines your individual path to becoming certified as a Wildfire Partner. The report contains an Assessment Summary and ten sections.

Assessment Summary

Your Assessment Summary on the next page shows each of the ten categories assessed and your current status (pass/mitigation required) for each category. To obtain your certificate and become a Wildfire Partner, you must “pass” all ten categories. You “pass” a category by successfully completing all required mitigation items in the category (described below).

Ten Report Sections

The main body of the report contains ten sections that correspond with your on-site assessment. For each section, the following information is provided:

- Assessment Score – indicates whether or not you passed the category
- Why it Matters – an explanation of the science and importance behind mitigation activities
- Watch Outs – cautionary hints to help you as you think about and perform mitigation work
- Required Mitigation Items – mitigation actions that you must take in order to pass the section during your Follow-Up Site Inspection (see below) and obtain a Wildfire Partners Certificate
- Recommended Mitigation Items – mitigation actions that are not required, but highly encouraged, for you to take to further reduce your wildfire risk
- Properly Mitigated Items – actions that you have already taken and features already in place to reduce your wildfire risk
- Ongoing Maintenance – tips and advice to help you maintain effective mitigation on your land
- Photos – any photos taken during your on-site home assessment to help you identify mitigation actions
- Specialist Notes – any comments provided by the Wildfire Mitigation Specialist specific to the category and your property

2) Take Action!

Within the next two weeks, you will receive a call from a Wildfire Partners Advisor. Be prepared to review your report and ask any questions. During this call, your Advisor will also discuss your limited-time rebates and financing options, help you gather contractor bids from a pool of pre-screened contractors, and help you schedule your mitigation work. If you prefer, you can always contact a Wildfire Partners Advisor directly at 303-446-7877.

You can begin taking required and recommended mitigation measures at any time.

3) Schedule Your Free Follow-up Inspection

After you have successfully mitigated all required measures and checked off every item on your To-do list, please call a Wildfire Phone Advisor at 303-446-7877 to schedule your free follow-up inspection. A Wildfire Mitigation Specialist will use this report during the follow-up site visit to determine if you have completed all measures successfully and receive a passing grade on all ten categories.

4) Get (and Stay) Certified as a Wildfire Partner

Residents who pass their inspection will receive a Wildfire Partners Certificate and are eligible to receive their rebate. Participants who do not pass must continue to work to complete their required measures.

Obtaining your certificate will signify the beginning, not the end, of your involvement in Wildfire Partners. This is why we asked all applicants to commit to implementing mitigation measures for the duration of their time in their homes. Being properly prepared only at the time of your follow up visit is not enough to significantly reduce your wildfire risk. Once you receive your certificate, keep this report and revisit the Ongoing Maintenance, as well as the Recommended Actions, sections on a regular basis. Soon this systematic upkeep will become a regular habit that is embraced as part of a common ethic of living in the wildland-urban interface and building more resilient communities.

Similar to your wildfire mitigation measures, your Wildfire Partners Certificate will not last forever. Wildfire Partners has not yet determined the timeframe for re-certification. As a pilot program, Wildfire Partners is still evaluating the best way to renew your certificate.

Your Home's Wildfire Partners Assessment

Mitigation Category	Status
Roof & Eaves	Mitigation Required
Walls & Openings	Mitigation Required
Decks, Porches & Structure Attachments	Mitigation Required
Non-combustible Zone 1A (0-5 feet)	Mitigation Required
Zone 1-Vegetation (5 - 30+ ft)	Mitigation Required
Zone 2-Vegetation (30-100+ ft)	Mitigation Required
Accessory Structures & Personal Property	Mitigation Required
Homeowner's Insurance	Pass
Emergency Preparedness	Pass
Community Involvement	Pass

Your Home's Roof & Eaves Assessment

Overall Status

Assessment Score: Mitigation Required

Roof Type: Asphalt shingle

Wildfire Mitigation Specialist Notes:

Seal area shown in photo.

Why It Matters

Because it is a large surface where embers may land, the roof is often the most vulnerable part of a home during a wildfire. Most roofing has a rough surface and numerous cracks that can trap wind-blown embers and fire brands. If your roof covering is made from combustible materials or debris has accumulated at certain locations, embers can ignite these materials allowing the fire to spread to the rest of your home.

While your home may only be subjected to the flaming front of a wildfire for a few minutes, your roof can be subjected to wind-blown embers for a much longer period of time.

Watch Outs

Wind-blown embers can travel great distances ahead of the main fire, land on roofs and ignite combustible debris. Embers tend to collect along the edges of complex rooflines, in roof valleys and especially in gutters.

Ongoing Maintenance

Having a well-maintained, fire-resistant roof is critical to protecting your home during a wildfire. Make sure to inspect the condition of your roof and remove combustible debris multiple times per year. Remember, debris is most likely to accumulate after strong winds, in the fall, and in or near gutters, solar panels and skylights. Additionally, your roof should always be kept in good condition. Make sure to repair all missing shingles or tiles and fill or screen any gaps that may allow embers to enter the attic or roof cavity.

Your Home's Roof & Eaves Required Mitigation Items - To Do List



Roof Gaps: Plug all gaps between the roof covering and roof deck, at the roof edges with either “bird stop” or mortar mix.

Your Home's Roof & Eaves Recommended Mitigation Items - To Do List



Open Eaves: Consider converting open-eave framing to a boxed-in or soffited-eave design. Caulk any cracks and gaps between the blocking that fills the space between exposed roof rafters and any adjacent members. Tip: If you don't box in your eaves, be extra aggressive at creating a 5 foot perimeter of combustible free surfaces around your home.

Your Home's Roof & Eaves Properly Mitigated Items - Ongoing Maintenance Needed



Roof Class: Your roof appears to be a “Class A fire-rated roof.” If your roof was installed with a building permit after 1989, it was required to be a Class A fire-rated roof.



Skylights: Your skylights were clean of debris at time of inspection. If you have plastic or dome type skylights, we recommend replacement with flat, tempered glass skylight.

Roof & Eaves Photos

Seal area shown in photo.



Caulk as needed.



Your Home's Walls & Openings Assessment

Overall Status

Assessment Score: Mitigation Required

Siding Type: log construction

Wildfire Mitigation Specialist Notes:

Siding condition generally good. Caulk any holes where embers could lodge and smolder.

Why It Matters

The age of your home, the siding material, and siding design greatly influence your home's vulnerability to wildfires. The exterior walls of a building and its components are most affected by radiant heat from a fire and, if there is not effective defensible space, by direct flame contact. Siding products fall into three basic categories: non-combustible, ignition resistant and combustible, the latter being the most vulnerable. In a perfect world, all homes should be built or retrofitted so they have ignition resistant or non-combustible siding.

Openings, like windows and vents, can provide a direct path for flames or embers to reach a building's interior. Windows are one of the weakest parts of a building during a wildfire event because they usually break before the building ignites. Without proper screening, vents provide an entry point for embers to intrude and ignite combustible material inside the home.

Watch Outs

If your home has combustible siding, be extra vigilant at protecting it from embers and direct flames by increasing the clearance between the home, trees and other vegetation.

Ongoing Maintenance

Regularly examine your siding, vents and windows for locations where embers can accumulate, lodge or directly enter your home. Apply caulk at trim-to-siding locations to fill gaps and places where embers may lodge. To reduce the vulnerability of your siding, always keep the area within your non-combustible Zone 1A (0-5 feet) well maintained and completely free of combustibles like firewood or scrap lumber. Be extra aggressive at removing bushes and trees below windows. Also, make sure there is adequate "ground-to-siding" clearance (2 inches or more) between the home's siding and the adjacent ground in order to reduce the chance of ignition from embers and flames.

Your Home's Walls & Openings Required Mitigation Items - To Do List

Dryer Vent: Install a louver-type dryer vent that automatically stays closed unless the dryer is running.

Your Home's Walls & Openings Recommended Mitigation Items - To Do List

Siding Condition: The condition of your siding is increasing its vulnerability to ignition. Use caulk to fill all holes, gaps and other areas where embers may lodge or penetrate into the walls.

Walls & Openings Photos

Clean out lint until flapper closes.



Your Home's Decks, Porches & Structure Attachments Assessment Overall Status

Assessment Score: Mitigation Required

Wildfire Mitigation Specialist Notes:

Treatment recommended, not required. Deck should be refinished in next couple of years.

Why It Matters

Decks, porches and attached fences increase the vulnerability of your home during a wildfire because they are often attached to the house and near windows, sliding glass doors and siding. A burning deck, porch or attached fence will expose your home to radiant heat and flames, potentially igniting combustible siding and breaking glass in windows and doors.

Decks are at especially high risk of ignition due to direct flame contact, radiant heat, and blowing embers. Several factors contribute to the vulnerability of decks including: the material used to build the deck, the materials stored on and under the deck, the vegetation around the deck, and the location of the deck relative to the slope around the house.

Watch Outs

Both wood and plastic composite deck boards are combustible fuel when exposed to extreme heat; only metal and lightweight concrete decks are noncombustible. However, most well maintained decking products are not highly combustible by themselves. Typically other fuel sources contribute to deck fires. You can reduce your risk by removing combustible material that is on top of and underneath your decks and porches.

Ongoing Maintenance

Regularly clean out debris from between deck board joints, at deck-to-wall intersections and other areas where debris has accumulated or been stored. Check the condition of wood deck boards and structural support members and replace or repair rotted members. Avoid storing combustible items on your deck including combustible deck furniture and cushions. If you have a low deck that extends over flat ground, consider replacing it with an ignition-resistant flagstone patio.

Your Home's Decks, Porches & Structure Attachments Required Mitigation Items - To Do List

Deck Condition: Replace all rotten or heavily damaged deck boards with new ones.

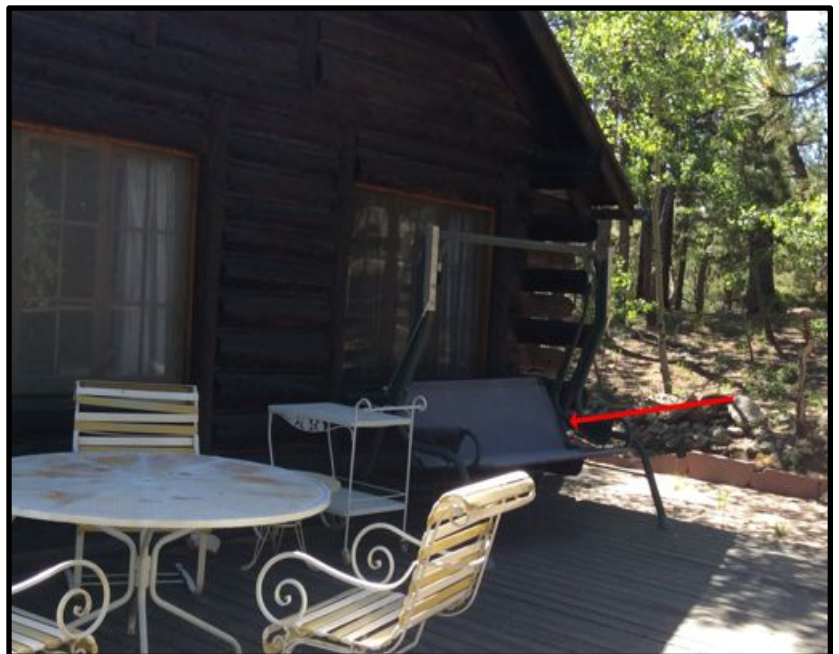
Items on Decks: Remove all combustible materials from on top of your deck. Tip: Combustibles such as pine needles or leaves are often present between deck boards and/or where your deck meets the wall.

Your Home's Decks, Porches & Structure Attachments Recommended Mitigation Items - To Do List

Your Home's Decks, Porches & Structure Attachments Properly Mitigated Items - Ongoing Maintenance Needed

Decks, Porches & Structure Attachments Photos

In case of fire or prolonged absence, move swing away from window. Remove firewood from deck.



Your Home's Non-Combustible Zone 1A (0-5 ft) Assessment Overall Status

Assessment Score: Mitigation Required

Wildfire Mitigation Specialist Notes:

Rake out pine needles.

Why It Matters

Most homes destroyed by wildfire are ignited by embers and/or grass (surface) fires coming into contact with combustible materials on or near the home. To protect your home, the first five feet surrounding your home's walls, decks and other attachments should be clear of combustible materials. This area is known as your home's "Non-Combustible Zone 1A". Non-Combustible Zone 1A is closest to the home, so it requires careful selection and management of vegetation and other combustible materials.

Watch Outs

Non-Combustible Zone 1A provides a critical barrier to protect your home against approaching wildfires. During a wildfire, windblown embers hit your home, collect, and become lodged in areas that are prone to ignition. As a guide, embers collect in the same locations where leaves, snow and pine needles tend to accumulate, such as where your walls meet the ground, in interior corners, and on and under decks. These areas should be kept clear of combustible debris and should not be used as storage.

Ongoing Maintenance

Periodically check this zone to ensure that it remains free of combustible material. Leaves, branches and pine needles will continually be blown into this area and need to be removed. Installing "smooth" hardscape surfaces in this area will make it easier to use a broom or leaf blower to keep the area properly mitigated.

Your Home's Non-Combustible Zone 1A (0-5 ft) Required Mitigation Items - To Do List

- Vegetation: Remove all combustible live or dead vegetation from this area and keep it free of anything that can support combustion.
- Under Decks: Remove all combustible material and/or vegetation from under your deck and/or house extension.

Your Home's Non-Combustible Zone 1A (0-5 ft) Properly Mitigated Items - To Do List

Non-Combustible Zone 1A Photos

Rake pine needles all around house. Consider cutting out area shown in photo from wood shelf outside of window.



Your Home's Zone 1 Vegetation (5-30+ ft) Assessment Overall Status

Assessment Score: Mitigation Required

Wildfire Mitigation Specialist Notes:

All deciduous trees are aspen, remove dead as needed. All looks good, no action required. Remove juniper as discussed and marked behind "fishing cabin".

Why It Matters

The objective of mitigation work in Zone 1 is to reduce the amount of radiant heat your home is exposed to during a wildfire and to prevent direct flames from touching your home's walls and windows. In Zone 1, natural and manmade fuels are treated, cleared or reduced to slow the spread of wildfire. Since it is close to your home, you must be aggressive when thinning trees and shrubs in this zone.

Having a properly mitigated Zone 1 increases your home's survivability against an approaching wildfire. A well mitigated Zone 1 also gives firefighters the opportunity to do their job more safely. Firefighters will not risk their lives to defend an unmitigated home. If firefighters are unable to directly protect your home during a wildfire, having an effectively mitigated Zone 1 will still increase your home's chances of survival.

Watch Outs

Few, if any, conifers should be present in Zone 1. The more trees you remove, the safer your home will be. On a flat property, Zone 1 should extend out at least 30 feet (measured from the outer edge of a deck or the outer edge of the eaves) to reduce radiant heat and flame exposure. This distance should be increased in areas downhill from a structure. Common ground juniper should be removed whenever possible because they are highly combustible.

Ongoing Maintenance

A properly mitigated Zone 1 must be maintained regularly. Trees, shrubs and grasses will continue to grow. Plants should be carefully spaced, low growing and free of resins, oils and waxes that burn easily. Keep grasses and weeds cut to a maximum height of six inches.

Your Home's Zone 1 Vegetation (5-30+ ft) Required Mitigation Items - To Do List

- High Value Conifers: Remove all marked trees. You decided to keep a high value tree in Zone 1. Consider it part of the structure and isolate it from other trees, remove all ladder fuels, and remove the lowest branches so they are 10 ft. from the ground.
- Deciduous Trees: Remove all marked trees. Remove dead, diseased and overcrowded branches. Deciduous trees should be lean, green and clean.
- Junipers: Remove all marked ground junipers and juniper shrubs in Zone 1.

Your Home's Zone 1 Vegetation (5-30+ ft) Properly Mitigated Items - Ongoing Maintenance Needed

- ✓ Pine Needles: A high value conifer remains in your Zone 1. At time of inspection all pine needles, mulches and grasses were raked three feet away from the base of the tree. Make sure to periodically check to ensure this area remains free of combustible material.
- ✓ Shrubs: At the time of inspection shrubs present in Zone 1 were properly mitigated. Isolated shrubs may remain in Zone 1 if they are well maintained and not growing under high value trees. Periodically prune shrubs and remove dead material to maintain proper spacing and prevent excessive growth.
- ✓ Surface Fuels: You have done a great job at keeping heavy accumulations of branches, logs, pine needles and/or wood chips out of Zone 1. Tip: Wildfires can quickly grow in intensity when they burn in areas with heavy accumulations of surface fuels.

Your Home's Zone 2 Vegetation (30 - 100+ ft) Assessment Overall Status

Assessment Score: Mitigation Required

Property Forest Type: Ponderosa Pine

Wildfire Mitigation Specialist Notes:

Limb as needed to 100 feet from structure or to natural fire break (or road).

Why It Matters

The objective of mitigation in Zone 2 is to break up forest continuity by creating large opening and separations between trees in an attempt to change fire behavior. Proper crown separation can help change an intense crown fire (a wildfire burning in the tree tops) into a less threatening surface fire, increasing the likelihood for a home to survive. It is not possible to stop wildfires, but proper defensible space in Zone 2 can greatly reduce the intensity and exposure to your home. Effective tree thinning in Zone 2 will also improve forest health. Most lower elevation forests in Boulder County are extremely overgrown, unhealthy and in desperate need of active forest management. By selectively thinning and creating a more park like setting on your land, you create a forest that is more likely to have trees survive future wildfires.

Watch Outs

During the 2010 Fourmile Canyon Fire, rapid fire spread during the first 12 hours overwhelmed fire suppression efforts leaving hundreds of homes to stand alone against flames and embers. Even if there were an unlimited number of firefighting resources available, they could not have mobilized fast enough, nor would it have been safe for them to try to protect the large number of homes exposed to fire.

Understanding how fires burn in Boulder County is important. We must design our defensible space so that our homes can survive future wildfires without depending on firefighters to be present to protect them. Modern wildfire mitigation science tells us that we have the opportunity to significantly reduce the potential for fire disasters during extreme burning conditions like the Fourmile Fire, but this opportunity depends on you, the homeowners, creating and maintaining effective defensible space and retrofitting your homes with safer materials.

Ongoing Maintenance

After creating proper tree spacing, Zone 2 is fairly easy to keep maintained and ready for future wildfires. Make sure to periodically walk your land and look for weak links in your defensible space. Look for areas where fire might be able to climb small trees or shrubs and jump into the tops of the taller trees. Keep an eye on the height of grasses and be conscious about placement of slash and firewood piles.

Your Home's Zone 2 Vegetation (30 - 100+ ft) Required Mitigation Items - To Do List

- Clumping of Conifers: Remove all marked trees. Your inspector marked your defensible space so that clumps of trees remain with large openings between each island of trees.
- Low Limbing: On all retained trees, remove all branches within 6-10 feet of the ground. Tip: Try not to remove branches from more than 1/3 the height of the tree because it could jeopardize the trees health.

Your Home's Zone 2 - Vegetation (30-100+ ft) Recommended Mitigation Items - To Do List

- Aspens: When possible promote aspens in Zone 2. Tip: Tree spacing and ladder fuel guidelines do not apply to mature aspens. Generally, no thinning of live aspens is recommended; only remove dead or diseased trees.
- Wildlife Snags: When practical keep a few dead trees (snags) as important wildlife habitat. Snags are typically dead trees over 8 inches in diameter.

Your Home's Zone 2 Vegetation (30 - 100+ ft) Properly Mitigated Items - Ongoing Maintenance Needed

- ✓ Shrubs: At the time of inspection, shrubs present in Zone 2 were properly mitigated. Tip: Isolated shrubs may remain in Zone 2 if well maintained. Periodically prune shrubs and remove dead material to maintain proper spacing and prevent excessive growth. Common ground junipers should be removed whenever possible.
- ✓ Surface Fuels: You have done a great job at keeping heavy accumulations of branches, logs, pine needles and/or wood chips out of Zone 2.

Your Home's Accessory Structures & Personal Property Assessment Overall Status

Assessment Score: Mitigation Required

Wildfire Mitigation Specialist Notes:

Discussed protecting pictured building with homeowner, as it could become the ignition source for other structures.

Why It Matters

Outbuildings, fences, arbors, pergolas, trellises, playground equipment, gazebos, boats, RV's, firewood piles, propane tanks and other combustible personal property located within 30 feet of your home will increase its vulnerability to wildfire. Once ignited, these items burn intensely, bringing large flames and embers near your home. If ignited, large outbuildings, like garages and sheds, will burn much longer than a typical tree, resulting in longer ember and heat exposure to your home.

Watch Outs

Think of everything on your property as a fuel source capable of driving flames and embers toward your home. Items connected directly to the home are particularly hazardous because they can act as a wick, carrying fire directly to the structure. In addition, many homes have been lost because of improper firewood storage. Firewood piles can easily ignite, and once ignited, they burn intensely.

Ongoing Maintenance

Implementing effective wildfire mitigation on your land is not a one-time project. Living in the wildland urban interface comes with responsibilities and challenges. Wildfires are a year round threat in the Front Range so mitigation and maintenance is a year round activity. Wildfires are dynamic and unpredictable events that can capitalize on vulnerabilities in your homes defenses. The more action you take to properly prepare your home the more you will increase the chances of your home's survival.

Your Home's Accessory Structures & Personal Property Required Mitigation Items - To Do List



Detached Accessory Structure: Your detached structure is not adequately mitigated. Remove all marked trees and apply the mitigation measures identified by your Wildfire Mitigation Specialist during your on-site inspection.

Your Home's Accessory Structures & Personal Property Recommended Mitigation Items - To Do List



Remove other combustible items, such as scrap lumber, junk, cars, boats, RVs, etc from Zone 2.

Your Home's Accessory Structures & Personal Property Properly Mitigated Items - Ongoing Maintenance Needed



Firewood: At time of inspection your firewood didn't present a risk to your home. Tip: Never store large caches of firewood within 30 feet of your home, downhill of your home or under large trees where it can act as a ladder fuel. For extra protection, store your firewood pile on a large noncombustible surface.

Accessory Structures & Personal Property Photos

Limb nearby trees, address pine needles and move stored wood away from structure.



Discussed protecting pictured building with homeowner, as it could become the ignition source for other structures.



Your Homeowner's Insurance Overall Status

Assessment Score: Pass

Wildfire Mitigation Specialist Notes:

Why It Matters

Effective mitigation increases the chances your home will survive a wildfire; however, there are no guarantees that mitigation will prevent your home from being destroyed. As a result, it is essential for you to adequately insure your home. As a homeowner, it is solely your responsibility to make sure your home is adequately insured. Government and charitable aid programs **will not** cover the cost of rebuilding a destroyed home.

Watch Outs

Many homeowners assume that their insurance will enable them to replace their existing home if it is destroyed by a wildfire. However, many residents have learned the hard way that they were underinsured by substantial amounts. The problem of underinsurance has surfaced in wildfire after wildfire throughout the country, not just in Boulder County. It is a systematic and significant problem with a simple solution.

Ongoing Maintenance

Do not assume your current coverage is adequate. Regularly update your insurance policy to ensure it provides the coverage necessary for you to effectively recover and rebuild.

Your Homeowner's Insurance Recommended Mitigation Items - To Do List

Adequate Insurance: In order to determine if you are adequately insured, start by evaluating your Homeowners Insurance Coverage A policy limit. You will need to know the size of your home and the cost of rebuilding it. To determine the cost of rebuilding, obtain an estimate from a local contractor who is familiar with the current costs of rebuilding a home similar to yours in Boulder County. (The cost of rebuilding your home is different than its current value.) If you are unable to obtain an estimate, you can also use the figure of \$200 to \$350 per square foot depending on the type of home.

To determine if your Coverage A is adequate, multiple the square footage of your home by your rebuilding cost per square foot. If this number is greater than your Coverage A limit, you should consider increasing this limit.

There are a number of other items in your insurance policy that you should review. Boulder County produced a video to help residents with insurance. Watch it here: www.youtube.com/watch?v=MMNtlzITsbg&feature=c4-overview-vl&list=PL034D4EED3629C14A. For more information, visit The Rocky Mountain Insurance Information Association at www.rmiia.org and United Policy Holders at www.uphelp.org.

Home Inventory: Create an inventory of your personal property now. If you lose everything you own in a fire, it will be difficult to remember what you lost. You can download free home inventory software at www.rmiia.org/Homeowners/Walking_Through_Your_Policy/Home_Inventory.asp.

Emergency Preparedness Overall Status

Assessment Score: Pass

Wildfire Mitigation Specialist Notes:

Why It Matters

Firefighters take every precaution to help protect you and your property from a wildfire. You should do the same. Successfully preparing for a wildfire requires you to take personal responsibility for protecting yourself, your family and your animals. With advanced planning and preparation, you can dramatically increase the safety of everyone in your household.

The Boulder Office of Emergency Management (OEM) and The Ready, Set, Go! Program, managed by the International Association of Fire Chiefs, provide leadership and guidance in preparing residents for wildfire. To learn more and create your own personal wildfire action plan, visit:

<http://www.colofirechiefs.org/docs/2012/ReadySetGoColorado.pdf>

Watch Outs

Your wildfire action plan should be prepared with all members of your household well in advance of a fire.

Go! Early! Leave early enough to avoid being caught in fire, smoke or road congestion. Do not wait to be told by authorities to leave. If you are advised to leave, do not hesitate—leave immediately.

During the 2003 Cedar Fire in Southern California, almost all of the 22 civilian deaths occurred while individuals were evacuating at the last minute.

Ongoing Maintenance

Regularly update your wildfire action plan. The more you have prepared and practiced evacuation, the better your family will be able to respond while under stress during an actual event.

Emergency Preparedness Recommended Mitigation Items - To Do List

Evacuation: You and your family should plan for and practice how you will evacuate during a wildfire. The fire season is now a reality throughout the year in Colorado, which means that both firefighters and residents have to be on heightened alert for the threat of wildfire at all times.

Belongings: Prepare a written list of items to take with you as well as an evacuation kit. Keeping a list of the items that you would like to take with you in the event of an evacuation can help assure that nothing important is left behind. It is easy to forget items such as family heirlooms, important documents, and valuables if you do not have a carefully prepared list. Be sure to evaluate how much time you have to evacuate prior to gathering those items – some situations will require immediate evacuation. Your evacuation kit should be individually tailored to meet the basic survival needs of your family for three days to a week. Most families prefer to store their emergency supplies in one location that is relatively safe, yet easily accessible if evacuation is required. Some items to consider include water, food, first aid kit, flashlight, medications, cash, tools, and sanitation items.

Notification: Sign-up to receive free emergency alerts (reverse 911) from the Boulder Office of Emergency Management. The emergency alert program allows residents to be notified of an emergency situation in a variety of ways, including on their cell phone, home and work phones, and by text messaging and e-mail. Residents may register for free at www.boulderoem.com under “Sign Up for Emergency Messages.”

Communications: Plan for how you and your family will stay in contact (or where you would meet) if separated during a wildfire. Do not rely on conventional forms of communication during an emergency. Having redundant forms of communication can help assure that you and your family will be able to quickly reunite should the unexpected occur. Some tips include using text messages to communicate during times with high call-volumes, establishing a meeting location where your family can reconvene, and assigning an out-of-town contact to serve as a liaison between family members.

Pets: Plan for caring and evacuating your pets during an emergency. If you must evacuate, try to take pets with you. Be sure your pet has identification tags securely fastened to the collar, and keep a pet carrier and leash to secure your pet.

Community Involvement Overall Status

Assessment Score: Pass

Wildfire Mitigation Specialist Notes:

Why It Matters

We all have a role to play in protecting ourselves and each other from the risk of wildfire. In order to effectively protect subdivisions and communities, landowners must work together to reduce fire hazards within and adjacent to communities. What role will you play? How will you come together with your community to take action?

By volunteering to be in the first group of Wildfire Partner applicants, you will serve as an early adopter, trendsetter, and trailblazer. You may also choose to become a community spark plug—the Firewise Communities term for individuals who spearhead action in a community.

No matter what role you play, you will serve as a positive example for others simply by actively performing mitigation measures. Your actions—as well as sharing your knowledge and experience with others—will create positive momentum. It is simple. When we are enthused about our work, others want to join in.

Watch Outs

Do not perform mitigation on someone else’s property.

If your neighbor is not currently interested in wildfire mitigation, do not give up hope. There may be creative alternatives to achieving everyone’s objectives, or your neighbor may change his/her perspective with time. They may decide to become a Wildfire Partner in the future.

At the community level, volunteer projects should be fun. Don’t burn out your leaders or your volunteers. Learn from others on how to create and lead sustainable community efforts. Support community wildfire protection efforts that are helping to reduce your wildfire risk.

Ongoing Maintenance

On the Wildfire Partners application form, you may have indicated that you would like to champion wildfire mitigation efforts in your neighborhood and serve as a positive example for your community. Thank you for your willingness to serve. If you have any questions about how to become involved, contact your Wildfire Phone Advisor at [303-446-7877](tel:303-446-7877) and read about existing community programs in the following questions.

Community Involvement Recommended Items - To Do List

Neighbors: Talk to your neighbors about linking your mitigation efforts. You may have several valid reasons why you are reluctant to talk or work with your neighbor. However, we encourage you try. Working in partnership with others makes sense for so many issues above and beyond wildfire mitigation. Positive connections between active and engaged neighbors help create resilient communities. The success of your mitigation efforts may depend upon it. Positive connections between active and engaged neighbors help create resilient communities.

Wildfire Mitigation Community Programs and Slash Disposal Options:

There are many ongoing efforts in Boulder County to learn about and join.

Saws and Slaws: Short for chainsaws and coleslaws—is a group of mountain folk who celebrate living in the Rockies by purposefully working to mitigate fire risk around our homes then feasting together as neighbors. Saws and Slaws is much more than a catchy name for mitigation activities, it's more like an old fashioned barn raising, or current day block party where friends and neighbors pool their efforts to help a fellow community member and then close their time together with good food (and sometimes home-made beer). Saws and Slaws can be easily replicated anywhere. Visit www.sawsandslaws.com to learn more.

Community Wildfire Protection Plans: Boulder County and 13 local fire districts have produced Community Wildfire Protection Plans (CWPPs). These plans contain a wealth of information on wildfire mitigation and have resulted in an enormous amount of work on the ground. If you have not read your district's or the county's plan, visit <http://csfs.colostate.edu/pages/community-wf-protection-planning.html>.

Firewise Communities USA: The Firewise Communities/USA Recognition Program is a process that empowers neighbors to work together in reducing their wildfire risk. Using a five-step process, communities develop an action plan that guides their activities, while engaging and encouraging their neighbors to become active participants. Visit www.firewise.org to learn more. Firewise Communities in Boulder County include Lake of the Pines, the Town of Nederland, and the Sunshine Fire Protection District.

Boulder County Community Forestry Sort Yards: Boulder County has established two community forestry sort yards – in Allenspark and Nederland - to collect wood and slash from county residents. Area residents can drop off logs and slash from private land for no charge at either site. For more details include hours of operation and materials accepted visit www.BoulderCounty.org/ForestHealth.

October Wildfire Awareness Month: On September 6, 2011—the one year anniversary of the Fourmile Canyon Fire—Boulder County declared October as Wildfire Awareness Month. Activities during the month teach residents about wildfires and wildfire mitigation and encourage homeowners to take action. The month features tours, hikes, training, volunteer projects, chipping days, the Wildfire Mitigation Challenge, and key note addresses by the nation's leading wildfire scientists.

Boulder County Community Chipping Reimbursement Program: Every year since 1993, the county offers financial assistance to encourage mountain communities to conduct community chipping days. In 2014 funding was awarded to: Coal Creek Saws and Slaws, Crestview Estates, Four Mile Fire Protection District (FPD), Magnolia Rd (PUMA), Town of Nederland Saws and Slaws, Rocky Mountain FPD, St. Antons HOA, Sugarloaf FPD, and Sunshine FPD. To find out if there is discounted chipping in your area, contact Ryan Ludlow, outreach forester at 720-564-2641. For more details visit: www.BoulderCounty.org/ForestHealth.

Boulder County Forest Health Outreach Program and E-Newsletter: Boulder County's Forest Health program promotes forest sustainability through outreach and education with private landowners. Throughout the year, we offer forestry workshops and trainings on topics such as wildfire mitigation, bark beetles and forest ecology. The best way to stay informed about upcoming programs is to join our eNewsletter by visiting www.BoulderCounty.org/ForestHealth.

Boulder County Parks and Open Space Volunteer Projects: Boulder County Parks and Open Space Department offers many volunteer forestry projects throughout the year. To view these projects, visit www.bouldercounty.org/jobs/vol/pages/posvolunteers.aspx.

Disclaimer - There Are No Guarantees

While the purpose of the Wildfire Mitigation Assessment is to reduce the risk of fire damage to your home or property, following the recommendations in this Assessment does not guarantee prevention of such damage. Wildfire mitigation work around your home can give firefighters the best chance to defend and protect your property from wildfires, and can also substantially increase your safety and reduce the risk to life and property. However, wildfire is unpredictable and can be impossible to stop or control, regardless of what mitigation efforts you have taken. Wildfire Partners makes no warranties, guarantees or representations of any kind with respect to the effectiveness of any mitigation efforts you undertake in connection with your participation in the Wildfire Partners program.

Required Mitigation Items - To Do List

Your Home's Roof & Eaves

- Roof Gaps: Plug all gaps between the roof covering and roof deck, at the roof edges with either “bird stop” or mortar mix.

Your Home's Walls & Openings

- Dryer Vent: Install a louver-type dryer vent that automatically stays closed unless the dryer is running.

Your Home's Decks, Porches & Structure Attachments

- Deck Condition: Replace all rotten or heavily damaged deck boards with new ones.
- Items on Decks: Remove all combustible materials from on top of your deck. Tip: Combustibles such as pine needles or leaves are often present between deck boards and/or where your deck meets the wall.

Your Home's Non-Combustible Zone 1A (0-5 ft)

- Vegetation: Remove all combustible live or dead vegetation from this area and keep it free of anything that can support combustion.
- Under Decks: Remove all combustible material and/or vegetation from under your deck and/or house extension.

Your Home's Zone 1 Vegetation (5-30+ ft)

- High Value Conifers: Remove all marked trees. You decided to keep a high value tree in Zone 1. Consider it part of the structure and isolate it from other trees, remove all ladder fuels, and remove the lowest branches so they are 10 ft. from the ground.
- Deciduous Trees: Remove all marked trees. Remove dead, diseased and overcrowded branches. Deciduous trees should be lean, green and clean.
- Junipers: Remove all marked ground junipers and juniper shrubs in Zone 1.

Your Home's Zone 2 Vegetation (30 - 100+ ft)

Clumping of Conifers: Remove all marked trees. Your inspector marked your defensible space so that clumps of trees remain with large openings between each island of trees.

Low Limbing: On all retained trees, remove all branches within 6-10 feet of the ground. Tip: Try not to remove branches from more than 1/3 the height of the tree because it could jeopardize the trees health.

Your Home's Accessory Structures & Personal Property

Detached Accessory Structure: Your detached structure is not adequately mitigated. Remove all marked trees and apply the mitigation measures identified by your Wildfire Mitigation Specialist during your on-site inspection.