



CANYON CREEK

FIRE

INFORMATION AND

PREPAREDNESS





Every year, devastating wildfires burn across the United States especially in the West, and Montana is no exception.

With Canyon Creek, Birdseye, Marysville, and Lincoln Communities right along the Continental Divide, we are prone to receive unexpected weather with the Rocky Mountains at our doorstep and backyard! Hence our recent Wind events followed by power outage.

As we have all noticed this Winter is quite the exception with extremely mild winterlike conditions with unusually warm temperatures and lack of precipitation. Yes, it's delightful weather to get out and about in nature, however, if we don't begin to see some cooler and wetter weather soon our Fire Season may arrive months early and without warning.

The Canyon Creek Rural Fire Department encourages us all to be proactive about what we can do NOW and not after fires have begun and resources become limited or strained. Please take a look at some of the information on the following pages to see how you can become FIRE SMART, PREPARE and MITIGATE, and SURVIVE and THRIVE during and post Fire Season

At the same time, a growing number of people are living where wildfires are a real risk. While these fires will continue to happen, there are things you can do to protect your home and neighborhood as well as your family's safety. The information is here to help you get started.



<https://www.nfpa.org/Education-and-Research/Wildfire/Firewise-USA>

NFPA and the Insurance Institute for Business & Home Safety (IBHS) have developed a Wildfire Research Fact Sheet series featuring the wildfire research being done at the IBHS research facility to create more resilient communities.

Each fact sheet is available in both a printable pdf format and also with a customizable feature, where wildfire stakeholders can add a PDF file of their logo.

- [Attic and crawl space vents | customizable version](#)
- [Coatings | customizable version](#)
- [Decks | customizable version](#)
- [Exterior sprinkler systems | customizable version](#)
- [Fencing | customizable version](#)
- [Fire spread on ember-ignited decks | customizable version](#)
- [Immediate \(noncombustible\) zone | customizable version](#)
- [Roofing materials | customizable version](#)
- [Skylights | customizable version](#)
- [Under-Eave Construction | customizable version](#)

https://youtu.be/vL_syp1ZScM

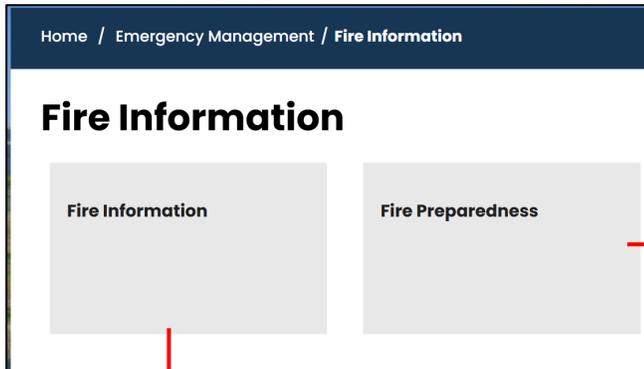


Your Home Can Survive a Wildfire

Dr. Jack Cohen, Fire Science Researcher with the USDA Forest Service, explains current research about how homes ignite during wildfires, and the actions that homeowners can take to help their home survive the impacts of flames and embers.

LEWIS AND CLARK COUNTY

<https://www.lccountymt.gov/Emergency-Management/Fire-Information>



Emergency Notification - Smart911

Get notified in an emergency, sign up today!

Smart911

Register your cell, email address and home phone to receive emergency alerts.

<https://www.lccountymt.gov/Emergency-Management/Emergency-Notification-Smart911>

Evacuation

1. Pre-identify your [Evacuation Assembly Area](#)
2. Have a "go-kit" ready to take with you if you have to evacuate.
3. Check-in with authorities at your [Evacuation Assembly Area](#) to let them know you have evacuated.

Volunteers will be on-site to:

- *Mark you down in the [Red Cross Safe and Well website](#)*
- *Add your name and address to a roster.*
- *Provide shelter options if needed.*

WHAT DO I DO TO INITIATE OR ASK FOR ASSISTANCE TO MITIGATE MY PROPERTY?

Fire Mitigation

- [Lewis and Clark Rural Fire Council](#)
- [National Fire Protection Association - Wildfires](#)
- [Tri-County Fire Safe Working Group](#)
- [DRAFT Tri-County Regional Community Wildfire Protection Plan\(PDF, 4MB\)](#)



The image shows a YouTube video thumbnail. On the left, a woman in a blue DNRC uniform stands in a wooded area. The video title is 'Request a Home Wildfire Risk Assessment'. On the right, a dark blue box contains the text: 'Request a Home Wildfire Risk Assessment', 'A Home Wildfire Risk Assessment is a free service provided by the DNRC that evaluates your home's vulnerabilities to wildfire. A local fire professional will visit your property to identify potential hazards and recommend specific actions to reduce your wildfire risk.', and 'Learn more about this service in the FAQ below.' The video player interface includes a play button, a share icon, and a YouTube logo.

<https://dnrc.mt.gov/Forestry/Resources/request-a-site-visit>

The Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation offers free home risk assessments that help you prepare your home for the threat of wildfire. If implemented, the recommendations provided during a site visit can help decrease the risk of property damage and loss from wildfire.

When you request a site visit, a local fire professional will come and assess your home and the area immediately surrounding it. During the visit, they will provide actionable recommendations on how to reduce your wildfire risk, plan for evacuation, and answer any questions you may have about living with wildfire in Montana.

To schedule, fill out the form below. Information discussed during site visits will *not* be shared with any third parties, and will only be available by yourself and emergency first responders in Montana.

. Cooperative Fire Protection Capacity Grant

- **Provider:** DNRC.
- **Eligibility:** Montana counties with a current Cooperative Fire Protection Agreement per MCA 7-33-2202 (4b).
- **Funding Amounts:** \$10,000–\$30,000 per fiscal year; multi-year up to 2 years possible, based on availability.
- **Application Process:** Details forthcoming; contact DNRC for forms.
- **Deadlines:** Cycle TBD for 2026; typically July 1–June 30 fiscal year.

7. Community Wildfire Defense Grant (CWDG) Program

- **Provider:** U.S. Forest Service.
- **Eligibility:** Communities/Tribes in high wildfire hazard areas, low-income, or disaster-impacted (last 10 years). Montana’s rural areas often qualify due to wildfire risks.
- **Funding Amounts:** Competitive; Year Three (2024?) awarded \$200 million across 58 proposals. Overall \$1 billion over five years (started 2022).
- **Application Process:** Submit competitively; reviewed by Tribal/state panels.
- **Deadlines:** No 2026 details; monitor USFS for annual rounds.

Additional Notes

- **Other Opportunities:** Look into Town Pump Charitable Foundation for equipment grants (applications ongoing, but details sparse—contact them directly). Also, general homeland security/EMS grants may apply.
- **Tips for Application:** Many require matching funds, compliance docs (e.g., SAM registration), and reporting. For Lewis and Clark County, coordinate with DNRC or county officials for mutual aid agreements that unlock more options.
- **Resources:** Start with DNRC’s fire grants page (dnrc.mt.gov/Forestry/Grants/FireGrants) for state-specific info. Grants like VFA/VFC are ideal for rural setups like yours in Lincoln.

Still have questions? Take a look at the official CCRFD website <https://www.canyoncreekruralfire406.org/> and click on the FIRE CO. link on the home page and check out helpful information under Public Service, **Home Fire Safety Checklists/Fact Sheets. & WILDLAND FIRE tab.**

Still have questions? Please call the station at 406.368.2266 and leave us a message and staff member will return your call.