

Ventura County Wildfire Collaborative on Wildfire Planning & Collaboration

Mason Thurmond, Programs Manager

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Wildfire Planning & Collaboration

Agenda

1. Principles of Community Wildfire Mitigation
2. Ventura County Wildfire Collaborative
3. Ventura County CWPP Highlights
4. Implementation of the CWPP
5. Looking Forward: Get Involved!



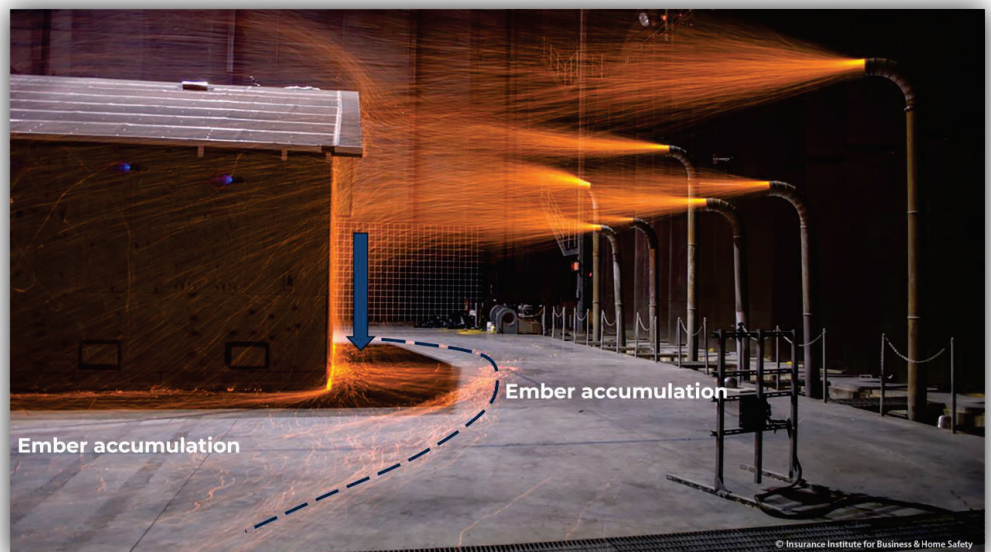
Defensible Space and Fuel Reduction slow momentum and intensity of Fire Front.

Scar above Westlake Village Community. 0 Structures lost.

Home Hardening: Ember Basics

Zone 0: 0-5 ft

- Embers accumulate within this zone
- Combustibles within this zone vulnerable to ignition
- Home maintenance:
 - Chipped paint / damaged materials
 - Vent screening
 - Combustible Siding (w/i 6-in of the ground)



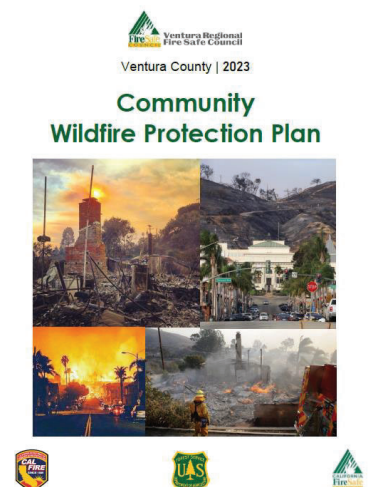
Ventura County Wildfire Collaborative



- Home Wildfire Assessments
- Firewise USA
- Fuels and Defensible Space Projects
- Wildfire Planning
- Education & Outreach
- Chipper Days

Community Wildfire Protection Plan

- Ventura County Community Overview
 - Partner and Program Alignment
 - Environment and Fire History
 - Economy and Built Infrastructure
 - Probability of Future Risk
- Local Community Snapshot
 - Incorporated and Unincorporated Ventura County
- Priority Actions
 - Community Engagement and Education
 - Structural Hardening
 - **Defensible Space**
 - **Fuels Reduction**
 - Evacuation and Emergency Response



Influencing Programs & Grant Applications

“The following are the VRFSC fuel reduction priorities:

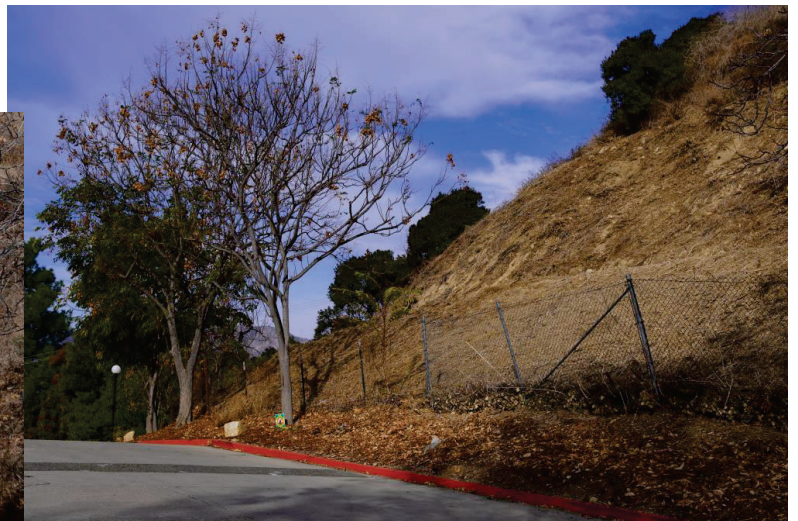
1. Continue to partner with local agencies and groups to conduct fuels reduction projects throughout the county.
2. Seek grant funding to contract fuels reduction priority projects.
3. Provide education about fuel reduction treatment types” (CWPP, 57).

How are we implementing the CWPP? Example I

- Condo complex in Fillmore with overgrown defensible space zones (first 100 feet)



Before



After
~15ft of road you see here between condos and hillside

Example II



Before



After

What role can you play in wildfire planning?

More on Plans

- While the Safety Element of General Plans and Local Hazard Mitigation Plans are mandated, many agencies and nonprofits are writing **Community Wildfire Protection Plans and Regional Priority Plans** to qualify for common wildfire mitigation funding streams (CAL FIRE, USFS, and CA Department of Conservation)
- **Support needed:**
 - Insights, direction, and communication regarding *expansion in the Wildland Urban Interface*
 - *Alignment with climate resilience goals* (mulch for drought resilience, urban greening, etc.)
 - *Consistency with fire agencies* in code and permitting requirements
 - *Influence and educate* the public: residential and community solutions
 - More!

Resources

Ventura County Wildfire Collaborative

<https://vcrcd.org/vcwc/>



BUILDING A RESILIENT FUTURE TOGETHER!

Ventura Countywide Community Wildfire Protection Plan

<https://venturafiresafe.org/cwpp/>

Ventura Regional Fire Safe Council

<https://venturafiresafe.org>

Board of Forestry Zone 0 Hub

<https://bof.fire.ca.gov/projects-and-programs/defensible-space-zones-0-1-2/>

