

A Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) is a plan developed by a community in an area at-risk from wildfire.

Across the United States, more and more people are building homes adjacent to and within fire-prone landscapes and as a result, the risk of wildfire damage to properties and communities is increasing. A local Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) is a collaborative plan created by local fire departments, state and federal agencies, private landowners, local government agencies, volunteer organizations and concerned citizens who live in fire-prone landscapes. The planning process maps values at risk, and requires actions to reduce risk, such as prescribed burning, fuel reduction, or

other measures that adapt a community to better confront their wildfire threat. In addition to enhancing safety and reducing risk to human structures and watersheds, communities with an



Photo courtesy of Multnomah County CWPP

approved CWPP are given priority for federally funded hazardous fuels reduction projects as authorized under the Healthy Forest Restoration Act of 2003 (HFRA).

The contents of a CWPP must be agreed upon by local government, local fire departments, and the state agency responsible for land management.

There are three requirements of a Community Wildfire Protection Plan:

- 1. Collaboration- The plan must be collaboratively developed by local and state representatives, in consultation with local communities and federal agencies.
- 2. Prioritized fuel reduction Priority areas for hazardous fuel reduction treatments must be identified in the plan and recommendations made for the types and methods of treatment that will protect at-risk communities and essential infrastructure.
- 3. Treatment of structural ignitability Activities that individual homeowners and communities can take to reduce the ignitability of structures throughout the planning area must be included in the plan.

For more information:

Community Wildfire Protection Plans in Oregon State:

https://www.oregon.gov/ODF/Fire/Pages/CWPP.aspx

Community Wildfire Protection Plans in Washington State:

 $\underline{http://www.dnr.wa.gov/programs-and-services/wildfire/wildfirepreparedness/community-wildfire-protection}$

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