

Park County FireSafe Coalition

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What is the PCFSC?

The newly formed PCFSC is a sub-committee of the Park County Fire Council and a member of FireSafe Montana. The PCFSC's mission is to provide regional support for FireSafe Montana objectives at the local level through resources, education, and awareness of personal responsibility. FireSafe Montana's main objective is to mobilize Montanans to make their homes, neighborhoods, and communities fire safe. The coalition consists of representatives from Park County, Park County Rural Fire Department, Wilsall Fire Department, Northern Rocky Mountain RC&D, MSU Extension, and the US Forest Service.



This home has non-flammable roof, rock foundation, irrigated lawn, and there is a river directly behind the home to serve as a water source in an emergency.

The goals of the Coalition are:

- To implement FireSafe programs
- To provide fire education through information sharing and resource support with local fire departments and community groups
- To develop PCFSC visibility in the community
- To reduce hazardous fuels

Contact Information

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Get involved today.....



If you are interested in gathering more information about or becoming involved with the PCFSC, please contact one of the members listed to the right.

We are working with your local Fire Departments to help your home, subdivision, and/or community become more safe and aware prior to a wildland fire event.

Elements of a Fire Adapted Community

The solution to Montana's wildfire situation is to create communities that can survive wildfire. Montanans must learn to live with fire. Based on recent history and experience, Montana possesses all of the characteristics necessary to support large, intense, and uncontrollable wildfires. Within this hazardous environment are individual houses, subdivisions, and entire communities. Many homes, however, are ill-prepared to survive an intense wildfire. It is not a question of "if" a wildfire will occur but when. As such, the potential of losing human lives and properties are growing. Our ability to live more safely in this fire environment depends on prefire activities. These are actions taken before a wildfire occurs that improve the survivability of human lives and homes. It is important to remember that there are no guarantees when wildfires meet extreme conditions. The look of our Montana forests has changed dramatically in the last several decades. In many instances, trees are far more numerous. This change has led to destructive fires in recent years. The buildup of fuel coupled with recent insect and disease outbreaks has greatly increased potential for severe wildfires. Climatic factors such as drought and warmer temperatures also play a role. Review the 5 main components below that are critical when establishing a fire adapted community.

Built Environment

Appropriate home construction and maintenance resists ignition.

Community Protection

Well-designed fuel breaks and safe areas protect the community.

Evacuation

Prepared communities can evacuate safely and effectively.

Defensible Space

Proper management of vegetation surrounding the home reduces the wildfire threat.

Access

Good access helps emergency responders arrive in a timely manner.

