

Fire Safe and Forest Stewardship Programs

Program Overview

Gallatin County Extension and the Northern Rocky Mountain Resource Conservation & Development Area, Inc. (NRM-RC&D) partner to assist landowners with creating survivable space around their home to reduce the danger from wildland fires. This program also addresses best management practices, forest stewardship, and tree insect and disease issues. The program provides technical assistance for landowners to develop and implement a hazardous fuels mitigation plan or a forest stewardship plan. Through grant funding we are able to provide cost share assistance to landowners who implement a plan. The grant funds assist landowners with paying for fuels reduction and forest health work (clearing, thinning, trimming vegetation). A Natural Resource Agent provides direct technical assistance to guide landowners through this process. \$251,000 grant dollars was awarded this year to the Hazardous Fuels Reduction Program. Areas of work include the South Bozeman Watershed, Paradise Valley, Bridger Canyon, Big Sky, and Meagher County.



Big Sky property that implemented a hazardous fuels reduction plan to create a survivable space around their home for better protection from wildland fires.



The above picture is a property in Big Sky that has been thinned for wildland fire safety and overall forest health.

Steps For Landowners

1. Submit an application to County office
www.gallatinextension.com or (406) 388-3213
2. Site visit with Natural Resource Agent
3. Receive property recommendations
4. Decide to have work done on your property
Hire a contractor or do the work yourself
5. Natural Resource Agent will let you know what grant money is available to help over costs
6. Work begins
7. Natural Resource Agent approves completed work and provides agreed upon amount of financial assistance

Crystal Hagerman

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Leadership & Coordination

Park County FireSafe Coalition
Big Sky FireSafe Council
Big Sky Natural Resource Council
Bozeman Watershed Protection Project

Partnerships

Northern Rocky Mountain RC&D
MT Dept. of Natural Resource and Conservation
US Forest Service
Meagher and Park County Extension
Disaster and Emergency Service Offices
Local Fire Departments
FireSafe Montana

Success

Year	Acres Treated	Properties Treated	Federal Grants
2008	155	58	\$98,287.66
2009	175	46	\$97,629.43
2010	218	55	\$113,681.73
2011	312	31	\$140,841.42
TOTAL	860	190	\$450,439.51

