

Community Wildfire Protection Plans

More Information

Minimum Requirements for a CWPP:

1. **Collaboration:** A CWPP must be collaboratively developed by local and state government representatives, in consultation with federal agencies and other interested parties. SCFSC is taking the lead to work with local fire agencies to develop CWPPs in Santa Clara County. The BLM will support us from their Hollister office.
2. **Prioritized Fuel Reduction:** A CWPP must identify and prioritize areas for hazardous fuel reduction treatments and recommend the types and methods of treatment that will protect one or more at-risk communities and essential infrastructure.
3. **Treatment of Structural Ignitability:** A CWPP must recommend measures that homeowners and communities can take to reduce the ignitability of structures throughout the area addressed by the plan. This requirement supports SCFSC's Mission is to preserve California's natural and man-made resources by mobilizing the people of Santa Clara County to make their homes, neighborhoods and communities "Fire Safe."

Communities at Risk: There are now 14 communities in Santa Clara County on the federal and California Fire Alliance lists of Communities at Risk from wildfires: Cupertino, East Foothills, Gilroy, Lexington Hills, Los Altos Hills, Los Gatos, Milpitas, Monte Sereno, Morgan Hill, Palo Alto, San Jose, San Martin, Saratoga and Stanford.

For More Information:

CWPPs: www.cafirealliance.org/cwpp/

California Fire Alliance: www.cafirealliance.org

Communities at Risk: www.cafirealliance.org/communities_at_risk/

(Filter by "County Name" and "Santa Clara")

SCFSC: www.SCCFireSafe.org or e-mail info@SCCFireSafe.org

California Fire Safe Council: www.firesafecouncil.org

CDF (Ca. Department of Forestry and Fire Protection): www.fire.ca.gov

San Jose Fire Department: www.sjfd.org



Santa Clara County FireSafe Council

Community Wildfire Protection Plans

An introduction for homeowners and residents



Santa Clara County Croy Fire – September 2002

**Community Wildfire Protection Plans
can help protect your home and community**

Defensible Space

Defensible Space can protect your home!



Photo from:

Living With Fire in Santa Clara County
A 20-page Guide for Homeowners and Residents

Published by the
Santa Clara County FireSafe Council

www.SCCFireSafe.org
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Santa Clara County FireSafe Council

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What: A Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) is a community plan to reduce the risk of wildfire. The plan identifies strategic sites and methods for fuel reduction projects.

Why: Benefits to the community include:

1. Communities can help determine the appropriate boundaries for the Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) covered in their CWPP.
2. Communities with CWPPs are given priority for Federal grants for projects to reduce hazardous fuels.
3. Federal Agencies can use alternative environmental compliance options to expedite fuel reduction projects identified in CWPPs.
4. Communities can organize projects, based on CWPPs, to build fuel breaks and reduce hazardous fuels without federal funding.

Who: Three entities must agree to the contents of a CWPP:

- The applicable local government (i.e., counties or cities).
- The local fire department(s).
- The state entity responsible for forest management (In California, the CDF is the State Forester).

When: The Santa Clara County FireSafe Council (SCFSC) received a federal grant from the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) in early 2006 to develop CWPPs. The BLM is part of the U.S. Department of the Interior and the grant will be administered by the California Fire Safe Council. During the next year, SCFSC intends to use this federal funding, plus local matching funding from companies and individuals, to develop CWPPs for the Croy Fire Area west of Morgan Hill and Gilroy and for the East Foothills east of San Jose.