



Wildfire Mitigation Outreach Grant Program 2025 Report

*Prepared for the Wildfire Matters Review Committee
August 2025*

Purpose of the report

This progress report details the implementation of the Wildfire Mitigation Outreach grant program (aka Wildfire Mitigation Resources and Best Practices grant program), which is administered by the Colorado State Forest Service. The CSFS is required to submit an annual report on this grant program to the Wildfire Matters Review Committee of the Colorado General Assembly as directed in House Bill 22-1007.

Background

The Colorado General Assembly established the Wildfire Mitigation Outreach grant program in 2022 through House Bill 22-1007. The legislation directed the CSFS to administer the program, which provides state support to conduct outreach among landowners in high wildfire hazard areas. To be eligible, a recipient must be an agency of local government, a county, municipality, special district, a tribal agency or program, or a nonprofit. The legislation allocated \$300,000 for this program. Projects must be completed by March 29, 2027.

Qualifying projects could include outreach and/or educational programs, events, materials or other relevant activities, with a primary goal of educating residents located in high wildfire hazard areas on wildfire mitigation. All outreach messages and materials had to align with the guidance in the CSFS Home Ignition Zone guide. In addition, applicants were encouraged to use the state's Live Wildfire Ready campaign resources that are targeted to help Colorado residents, especially those who live in the wildland-urban interface, understand their wildfire risk and what they can do to mitigate that risk to their life, family, home and property.

Grant process

The CSFS released a Request for Applications for Wildfire Mitigation Outreach grants on Jan. 17, 2024, with a deadline of Feb. 29, 2024. The CSFS received 28 applications totaling more than \$1,330,000 in requests, and a panel of CSFS staff reviewed and scored the applications. Staff used a map of the project area generated by the applicant using the Wildfire Risk Reduction Planner within the Colorado Forest Atlas to determine a project area's wildfire hazard risk. After the review process, the CSFS announced awards on May 7, 2024.

Awards

The CSFS awarded the \$300,000 allocated for this grant program to 12 applicants that serve 24 counties. Applicants had to match at least 10% of the total project, amounting to roughly \$294,000 in match across all projects. With matching funds included, grant awardees will invest more than \$594,000 in efforts dedicated to educating residents about wildfire and how to reduce their risk.

A list of awardees is provided in Table 1 below. Awarded projects included a variety of outreach activities, ranging from videos about the home ignition zone, to events and training for homeowners, to online resources such as websites, apps and social media campaigns. Funds also supported the growth of ambassador efforts, where volunteers foster support among their neighbors to adapt their community to wildfire.

Table 1: 2024 Wildfire Mitigation Outreach Grant Program Awards

Applicant	Project name	County	Award amount
City of Boulder	Home Ignition Zone Instructional Videos	Boulder	\$20,600.00
City of Castle Pines	Castle Pines Engagement Workshops and Videos	Douglas	\$36,800.00
Colorado Nonprofit Development Center dba Friends of Coal Creek	Fire-wise Gardening Pilot Program - Friends of Coal Creek	Boulder	\$8,140.00
Custer County	Wildfire Ready Homeowner Association and Ambassador Outreach	Custer	\$16,889.12
Delta County	2024-2025 Delta County CWPP Update Public Outreach	Delta	\$27,000.00
Evergreen Rotary Foundation	Rotary Wildfire Ready Outreach	Boulder, Clear Creek, Jefferson, Park	\$19,329.88
Friends of Willow Springs Open Space Inc.	Wildfire Mitigation Outreach 2024	Jefferson	\$21,670.00
Grand County Wildfire Council	Increase Community Engagement to Increase Acres Mitigated	Grand	\$8,660.00
Poudre Canyon Fire Protection District	Poudre Canyon Wildfire Community Alliance	Larimer	\$69,000.00
Roaring Fork Valley Wildfire Collaborative	2024 Summer Wildfire Education Series	Garfield, Pitkin, Eagle, Gunnison	\$24,142.00
Spanish Peaks Alliance for Wildfire Protection (SPAWP)	SPAWP Neighborhood Wildfire Outreach 2024	Costilla, Custer, Fremont, Huerfano, Teller, Las Animas, Pueblo	\$30,169.00
Wildfire Adapted Partnership	Wildfire Risk Education and Outreach in SW CO	Archuleta, Dolores, La Plata, Montezuma, San Juan	\$17,600.00

Project successes to date

Awardees have until March 29, 2027, to complete their projects. Given this, some of them are further along with their projects than others, and none has fully completed their project. Awardees have already achieved many successes so far through the Wildfire Mitigation Outreach grant program.

- The City of Boulder is nearing completion of instructional videos on simple, practical, low-cost activities for hardening homes and creating defensible space.
- The Friends of Coal Creek hosted two workshops on Firewise residential landscaping in April 2025 for residents of Superior, Louisville, Lafayette and Erie.
- The Friends of Willow Springs Open Space in Morrison hosted three Slash & Learn events in May 2024, October 2024 and May 2025, with one more planned. The events have reached 209 households in eight neighborhoods. In addition, four neighborhoods have received Firewise USA® site recognition, and one additional neighborhood is seeking it.
- The Grand County Wildfire Council hosted 14 events reaching 455 people in 2024, including a Living with Fire training series and events for children at the library.
- The Poudre Canyon Fire Protection District hired a contractor to coordinate its volunteer ambassadors, who completed 45 home assessments in 2024.
- The Spanish Peaks Alliance for Wildfire Protection hosted three community meetings about wildfire preparedness reaching 130 people and enhanced its website.
- Wildfire Adapted Partnership hosted 74 wildfire-related events in 2024 and 2025 reaching 1,893 people in southwestern Colorado, including HOA presentations, booths at farmers markets, library workshops, volunteer ambassador meetings and more.

Learn more about the grant program: csfs.colostate.edu/grants/wildfire-mitigation-outreach/



Friends of Willow Springs Open Space "Slash & Learn" event in October 2024. Photos courtesy of the FWSOS



Grand County Wildfire Council wildfire event for kids at the library. Photo courtesy of the GCWC