



## FireWise of Southwest Colorado 2016 Vallecito Mitigation Program Overview and Instructions

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### OVERVIEW:

FireWise of Southwest Colorado received a Colorado State Forest Service (CSFS) Wildland-Urban Interface grant for wildfire mitigation work in the Vallecito area. This grant can be used to reimburse some of the cost of having mitigation work done on your property. The grant can only be used to reduce hazardous fuels, which may involve hand thinning (chainsaws, etc.) or mastication (using a brush hog or similar apparatus), as well as chipping or burning of slash. Before any work is started, an application must be submitted and FireWise or the Colorado State Forest Service must conduct an on-site assessment. Upon completion of the work, a satisfactory inspection from one of the same agencies is required, along with submission of all required paperwork and photos, before any reimbursement will be issued.

**You must submit an application and be approved  
BEFORE any work begins.**

### FUNDING DETAILS:

The maximum grant award is \$7,500. This grant will be awarded as a reimbursement of 50% of the total project cost. The total cost is a combination of the amount invoiced by a contractor plus any approved volunteer labor supplied by the property owner. Volunteer labor is figured at \$25.68 per hour. You cannot be reimbursed for more money than you actually paid out.

If you hire a contractor to do all of the work, you can expect to receive 50% of what you paid out as a reimbursement to you. If you volunteer your own labor it is a little more complicated.

*Here's an example:*

*Mary Smith pays a contractor \$700.00 to thin some trees on her property. Mary also spends 10 hours with her tractor and a brush hog, mowing oak brush. That 10 hours is worth \$256.80 (10 x \$25.68) towards her pre-approved project.*

*The total project cost is \$956.80. Mary's reimbursement would be \$478.40 (\$956.80 x 50%).*

*Here's another example:*

*Farmer John hires a mitigation contractor to do \$3000.00 worth of mitigation work on his property. John puts in 150 hours of his own labor thinning trees for the equivalent of \$3852.00 (150 x \$25.68). The total project is approved for \$6852.00. The reimbursable amount is \$3426.00 (\$6852.00 x 50%). John is only eligible to receive a \$3000.00 reimbursement since that is the amount of cash that he paid out of his own pocket.*

## **INSTRUCTIONS:**

1. Please read the requirements detailed on the next page thoroughly.
2. Contact Bill Trimarco, FireWise Coordinator, or the Colorado State Forest Service (CSFS) and schedule an assessment. FireWise does not charge for this assessment; CSFS may charge.
3. Obtain work bids from at least two contractors. Make sure they are aware of what work is required based on the site assessment. The Colorado State Forest Service maintains a list of contractors. This is not an endorsement and you may use contractors that are not listed. The CSFS list is available at: <http://csfs.colostate.edu/districts/durango-district/> under District News and Resources
4. Take at least three “Before” photographs.
5. Fill out the application, and include all required attachments.
6. Completed applications should be submitted to:

Bill Trimarco  
[archuletafirewise@gmail.com](mailto:archuletafirewise@gmail.com)

Electronic applications are preferred, but hard copies will be accepted at the following address:

Bill Trimarco  
FireWise of Southwest Colorado  
1252 Loma Linda Dr.  
Pagosa Springs, CO 81147

**Applications will be accepted until September 1, 2016 unless grant funds are expended sooner. All work must be completed before October 31, 2016.**

**Funded projects will receive an award letter detailing the award amount, which the applicant must sign and return acknowledging the award agreement.**

**You must apply for the grant, be approved, AND return the signed award letter before any work begins.**

## **REIMBURSEMENT REQUIREMENTS:**

- Completion of all proposed project work.
- Satisfactory completion verified by a FireWise or CSFS inspection.
- Submission to FireWise of the contractor’s paid invoice.
- 3 “After” photographs from the same location as the “Before” photographs.

Questions regarding the application process and requests for recommendations on work needed should be directed to Bill Trimarco, Archuleta County Chapter Coordinator at 970-264-0430 or [archuletafirewise@gmail.com](mailto:archuletafirewise@gmail.com).



## FireWise of Southwest Colorado 2016 Archuleta County Mitigation Application

### APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS:

#### Eligibility:

- The grant opportunity covers all private lands in Archuleta County.
- Project proposal must be for a specific fuels reduction recommendation and/or defensible space project recommended by the Colorado State Forest Service or FireWise Coordinator.
- Property Owners Association approval must be obtained where required.

### PLEASE COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION:

<b>Name</b>	
<b>Site Address</b>	
<b>Town</b>	
<b>State</b>	
<b>Zip Code</b>	
<b>Mailing Address (or Same)</b>	
<b>Street or P.O. Box</b>	
<b>City</b>	
<b>State</b>	
<b>Zip Code</b>	
<b>Phone (1)</b>	
<b>Phone (2)</b>	
<b>Email address</b>	

**Who suggested your project?**

Colorado State Forest Service\_\_\_\_ Fire Department\_\_\_\_  
FireWise Representative\_\_\_\_ Insurance Provider\_\_\_\_  
Community Wildfire Protection Plan\_\_\_\_ Yourself\_\_\_\_  
Other\_\_\_\_

**Who inspected your proposed project?**

Colorado State Forest Service\_\_\_\_ FireWise of SW CO\_\_\_\_

**How many acres will be mitigated? \_\_\_\_\_**

**How many structures on your property will be protected? \_\_\_\_\_**

(Home, garage, barn, etc.)

**How many residences are adjacent to your property? \_\_\_\_\_**

**Have you gotten at least two contractor bids for the project? \_\_\_\_\_**

**Have you taken at least three “before” photos? \_\_\_\_\_**

**Is any volunteer work (yourself or others) part of this project? \_\_\_\_\_**

Note: If your project is approved, you will receive a work log in order to document your time.

**What, if any, volunteer work will be done?**

**Which contractor would you prefer to do the work?**

**Proposed start and finish dates.**

**Scope of Work:**

(Briefly describe what work will be done on your project.)

## Proposed Project Cost and Reimbursement

<b>Contractor Bid</b>	
<b>+ Volunteer Time @ \$25.68/hour</b>	
<b>= Total Project Cost</b>	
<b>Reimbursement = 50% of Total Project Cost</b>	
<b>Maximum Project Reimbursement</b>	

### Attachments:

- Map of the Project area.
- At least two (2) contractor bids for your project with your desired contractor identified
- At least three “Before” pictures of the proposed project area (preferably jpg files).  
Note: “After” pictures of the same locations will be required later.
- Homeowner or Property Owner’s Association Approval.

Please direct any questions to Bill Trimarco at [archuletafirewise@gmail.com](mailto:archuletafirewise@gmail.com) or 264-0430. Completed applications should be sent to the e-mail address above or mailed hard copy to Bill Trimarco, FireWise of Southwest Colorado, 1252 Loma Linda Drive, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147. Please keep a completed application for your files.

***Electronic application packets are preferred.***