



Trout Lake Wildfire Risk Mitigation Guide

Wildfire is an unavoidable part of the life and landscape of Mt. Adams country. Use these resources to help protect your home and family in the event of a wildfire that threatens our community.

-  Wildfire risk assessments
-  Local contractors
-  Home hardening
-  Emergency preparedness
-  Financial assistance
-  More resources



Mt. Adams Resource Stewards





Wildfire risk assessments

Home assessments

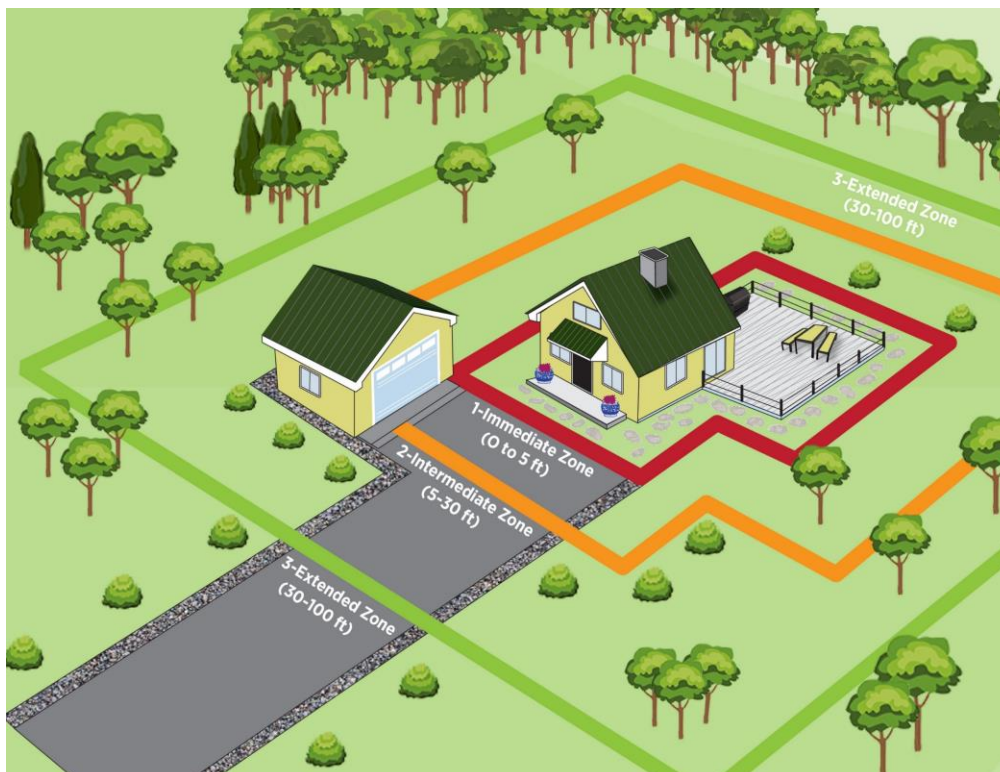
- Free 30-45 min site visit to identify wildfire risks on & around your house
- Followed up with list of individualized and prioritized risk mitigation actions
- **Contact:** Sarah Allaben, Mt. Adams Resource Stewards, 440-497-8224, sarah@mtadamsstewards.org OR sign up at wildfireready.com

Forest health evaluations

- The Washington Department of Natural Resources' (DNR) Service Forestry program can provide technical & financial assistance to write forest management plans or implement forest health and wildfire mitigation treatments
- **Contact:** Sharon Frazey, Washington DNR Service Forestry, 509-638-3118, sharon.frazey@dnr.wa.gov

Principles of defensible space

- Creating a buffer between your home and the surrounding grasses, trees, and/or wildlands is essential to slow the spread of wildfire and create a safe space for firefighters to defend your home. Learn more by [clicking here](#)



1 - Immediate Zone (0 to 5 ft):

Install noncombustible ground cover. Use fire-resistant or noncombustible materials for decks, porches, railings, or fences that attach to the home.

2 - Intermediate Zone (5-30 ft):

Plant trees no closer than 30 feet to the home. Space tree crowns 18 feet apart or further on slopes. Trim branches up to 6 to 10 feet from ground and at least 10 feet from structures.

3 - Extended Zone (30-100 ft):

Remove vegetation next to outbuildings. For trees 30 to 60 ft from the home, space so mature canopies are at least 12 feet apart; for 60 to 100 feet from the home, space so tree canopies are at least 6 feet apart.



Local contractors

Tree service & hazardous fuels reduction

Mt. Adams Resource Stewards Stewardship Crew
(Trout Lake/Glenwood)
Lucas King, 509-637-3767
lucas@mtadamsstewards.org

Mt. Adams Tree Service
(Trout Lake)
Jon Caryl, 509-395-2321
jcaryl@gorge.net

MAGMA Solutions LLC
(Trout Lake)
509-637-5054
shay@magmasolutionsllc.com

Klickitat Tree Operations
(White Salmon)
509-278-9787
klickittatree.com

Brothers Garcia Forest Safer
(White Salmon)
Miguel Garcia, 509-261-0646
miguel.garcia.98672@hotmail.com

Braun Arboricultural Consulting (Hood River)
Dave Braun, 541-806-0347
dave@arborcare.com

Benson Services (Hood River)
Dennis Benson, 541-386-5156
mdlbenenson@gmail.com

Skookum Resources (Lyle)
Brian Beaulaurier,
509-699-0242
skookum.resources@gmail.com

Heartwood Tree Care (Portland)
Ben Trapanese, 503-887-9885
heartwoodtreecarepdx@gmail.com

Mastication/machinery

Mt. Adams Lumber Co.
(Trout Lake)
David Woodruff, 509-395-2131

J and R Dirt Diggers (Husum)
Rick Estey, 541-490-0077
jandrdirt@hotmail.com

Gorge Dirtworks LLC
(White Salmon)
Dayne Connell, 509-637-0417
dayne@gorgedirtworks.com

Next Level Excavation, LLC
(Goldendale)
Andrew Malcolm, 509-261-1018
nextlevelexcavationllc@hotmail.com

Fast Eddys Excavating LLC
(Yakima)
Eduardo Abundiz, 509-306-8241
fasteddysprojects@gmail.com

Landscaping

Twin Oaks Trails (White Salmon)
Avery Hoyt, 503-757-3762
twinoakstrails1979@gmail.com

Evergreen Landscaping
(White Salmon)
Victorio Heredia, 509-493-1926
egl509services@gmail.com

Cortes Yard Service & Construction (White Salmon)
Alfredo Cortes, 509-493-8814
cortesland@yahoo.com

Sparhawk Garden Design
(White Salmon)
Adria Sparhawk, 503-318-0049
adria@sparhawkgardendesign.com

Mount Hood Gardens (Hood River)
541-386-4119
info@mounthoodgardens.com

****This list does not constitute an endorsement or certification of any contractor. If you would like to be added to this list, please contact sarah@mtadamsstewards.org****

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Home hardening (Ignition-resistant construction)

Listed below are standards and best practices for wildfire ignition-resistant home construction. See the California Office of the State Fire Marshal [Wildland Urban Interface Products handbook](#) for a list of approved brands and products.

Note that simple, inexpensive maintenance tasks (e.g., removing pine needles and leaves from the five-foot zone around your home, moving firewood off your deck, cleaning your gutters) can go a long way. You do not need to undertake major home renovations to reduce your wildfire risk!

Roofs ([NFPA fact sheet](#))

- **Build:** Class A rated roofing material (metal, asphalt composite shingles, clay/concrete tiles, slate)
- **Maintain:** Remove debris, especially where it accumulates at roof intersections and around skylights/chimneys

Gutters

- **Build:** Metal, corrosion-resistant drip edge and non-combustible gutter cover
- **Maintain:** Remove debris buildup regularly

Soffits and Eaves ([NFPA fact sheet](#))

- **Build:** Boxed-in (soffited) eaves with vents covered by 1/8" metal screen
- **Maintain:** Ensure vent screening is clean to promote airflow and prevent embers from establishing

Chimneys

- **Build:** 3/8"-1/2" metal screen covering all chimney and stovepipe outlets
- **Maintain:** Close flue when chimney is not in use during fire season

Vents ([NFPA fact sheet](#))

- **Build:** ≤1/8" corrosion-resistant metal screen covering all vents (crawl space, soffit, gable, ridge, etc.)
- **Maintain:** Clean/de-clog vent screening to promote airflow and prevent embers from establishing

Siding

- **Build:** Ignition-resistant siding (fiber cement, stucco, treated wood, brick, steel)
- **Maintain:** Caulk/seal any crevices or gaps that could catch embers

Windows

- **Build:** Double-paned windows and skylights with one pane of tempered glass; metal screens in operable windows
- **Maintain:** Keep screens in good condition and avoid planting vegetation directly beneath windows

Decks ([NFPA fact sheet](#))

- **Build:** Ignition-resistant decking (composite [e.g., Trex], aerated concrete, treated wood); enclose space under deck with 1/8" metal screening
- **Maintain:** Remove debris and flammable objects/materials (firewood, patio furniture, door mats) stored on and under deck

Fences ([NFPA fact sheet](#))

- **Build:** Fence should not directly touch house, unless 5 feet of fence adjacent to home is built with non-combustible material
- **Maintain:** Remove debris accumulated at base of fence

Exterior sprinklers ([NFPA fact sheet](#))

- **Build:** Mount on roof, under eaves, or on ground directed at the house. Necessitates adequate water supply for up to 8 hours
- **Maintain:** Address other home hardening & defensible space priorities; sprinklers should only be a supplement to other mitigation strategies

Other resources

- [Wildfire Home Retrofit Guide](#) (Cal Fire)
- [Low-cost Retrofit List](#) (Cal Fire)
- [Bushfire Mesh](#) (metal screening products for home ember resistance)
- [Approved Wildland Urban Interface products](#) (CA Office of the State Fire Marshal)



Emergency preparedness

Address signs

- Install 4" blue reflective address sign by your driveway (visible from the street) to help emergency personnel locate your home
- **Contact for FREE address sign:** Mike Adelmund, Trout Lake Volunteer Fire Department, 509-366-8418

Emergency notifications

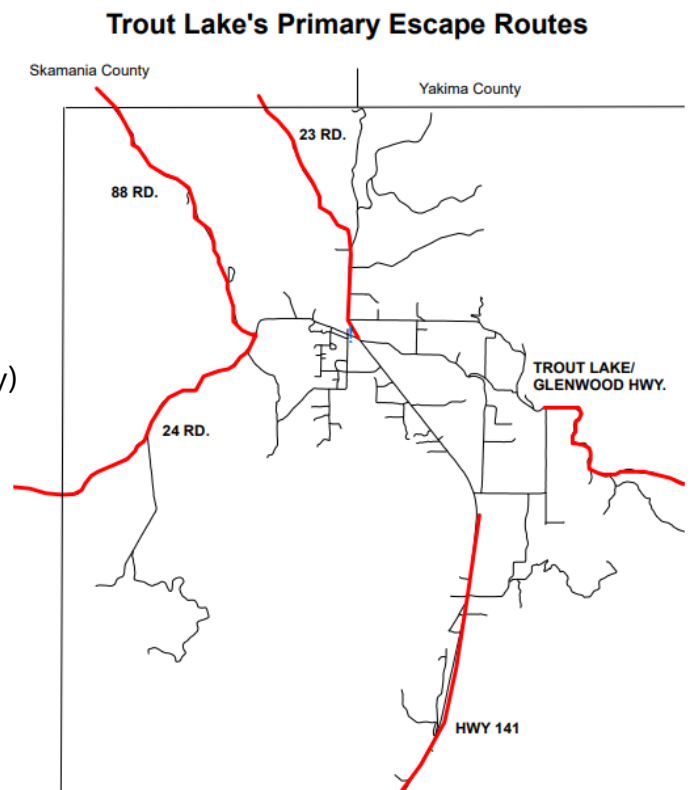
- Klickitat County's Emergency Notification System sends evacuation notices and updates for fires, floods, and other emergencies
 - **Sign up:** [Click here](#), go to "SIGN UP HERE", make a free Smart911 account, and add desired phone number/email
- Other pages for emergency notices in the Trout Lake region:
 - [Mt. Adams Area Emergency & Info Facebook page](#)
 - [Trout Lake Volunteer Fire Department & EMS Facebook page](#)
 - [Klickitat County 911 / Emergency Management Facebook page](#)

Emergency planning

- [Family Handbook for Trout Lake Valley Emergencies](#) (Trout Lake Community Council)
- [All-Hazards Preparedness for Rural Communities](#) (Iowa State University)

Emergency kit basics

- Water & food (3-day supply)
- Medications and medical items (7-day supply)
- Wallet, credit cards, cash, chargers
- Flashlight, radio, batteries
- Matches/lighter, multipurpose tool
- First aid kit, sanitation/hygiene items
- N97 masks
- Important personal documents
- Pet and baby supplies
- Extra car, house, and safe deposit keys
- Extra clothing (hat, gloves, rain gear, sturdy shoes)
- Forest Service map of the area, GPS





Financial assistance

Cost-share program (Washington Dept. of Natural Resources)

- Funds to assist with wildfire risk mitigation and forest health improvement work. You can be reimbursed (typically 50% of costs) for contracted or personally completed work
- Process begins with a local forester completing a consultation on your property
- **Contact:** Sharon Frazey, Washington DNR Service Forestry, 509-638-3118, sharon.frazey@dnr.wa.gov
- **Program website:** <https://www.dnr.wa.gov/cost-share>

Environmental Quality Incentives Program (USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service)

- Technical and financial assistance to farmers, ranchers, and forest landowners to address natural resource concerns and deliver environmental benefits (including wildfire resilience)
- Process begins with a planner visiting your property and helping you develop a conservation plan
- **Contact:** Sergio Paredes, Natural Resources Conservation Service (Goldendale Service Center), 509-773-5822, sergio.paredes@usda.gov
- **Program website:** <https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/programs-initiatives/eqip-environmental-quality-incentives>



More resources

Fire Adapted Community Trout Lake (FACT)

- Volunteer-led group that strives to increase knowledge about wildfire risk and preparedness, and guide the community to become more resilient to wildfire
- **Join FACT email list:** contact Sarah Allaben, 440-497-8224, sarah@mtadamsstewards.org



Fire-resistant landscaping

- [Fire-Resistant Plants for Eastern Washington](#) (Washington State University Extension)

Chipping and pile burning

- [Washington DNR Outdoor Burning Guidelines for SE Region](#)
- [Ten Tips for Burning Slash Piles](#) (University of Idaho)
- Preparing a slash pile for chipping:
 - Build along accessible road/driveway with all butt ends of branches facing access road and stacked neatly
 - Do NOT include green vine-like material smaller than your pinky, dirt, rocks, stumps, rotten logs, logs less than 36" in length, material larger than 10' in length or 8" in diameter, or inorganic material

Community Wildfire Protection Plans (CWPPs)

- [Trout Lake CWPP \(2005\)](#)
- [Klickitat County CWPP \(2018\)](#)

More reading

- [Building a Wildfire-Resistant Home: Codes and Costs](#) (Headwaters Economics)
- [Asbestos and Natural Disasters Guide](#) (Mesothelioma Center)
- [Wildfire Preparedness for Farms webinar](#) (King Conservation District)