



2022 CAL FIRE Defensible Space Assistance Grant

September 2023

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California Fire Safe Council (CFSC) is pleased to announce that eleven (11) organizations have been selected to receive grant awards for defensible space assistance projects. With funding from a 2022 CAL FIRE master grant, the CFSC will award more than \$5 million to these applicants through the Defensible Space Assistance Grant Program.

The Defensible Space Assistance Program provides funding to organizations to assist vulnerable populations (i.e., low-income, disabled, senior/elderly, disadvantaged), in High and Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zones, with defensible space treatment on their property. Defensible space, coupled with home hardening, is essential to improve a home's chance of surviving a wildfire. Projects will implement a coordinated approach to defensible space compliance with CAL FIRE and other stakeholders, with priority for vulnerable populations.

We look forward to working with the award recipients to enhance each county's wildfire resilience through defensible space efforts, while working toward our shared vision of a more fire-resilient California!

Thanks to our partner, CAL FIRE, for providing the funding for the 2022 Grants Clearinghouse master grant.



2022 CAL FIRE Defensible Space Assistance Grant Award Announcements

11 PROJECTS AWARDED

GRANT AWARDS PROVIDED: \$5,250,000

September 2023

El Dorado

Grantee: El Dorado County Fire Safe Council

Project: El Dorado Defensible Space Program

Grant Amount: \$500,000

Tracking #: 442534

Project Description:

EDCFSC's Defensible Space Financial Assistance Program for seniors, veterans, and low-income households creates defensible space around the primary homes of qualifying property owners on the western slope of El Dorado County.

Humboldt

Grantee: County of Humboldt

Project: Southern Humboldt Defensible Space Project

Grant Amount: \$500,000

Tracking #: 443243

Project Description:

The County of Humboldt, in partnership with the Briceland Volunteer Fire Department, proposes to develop a defensible space assistance program for disadvantaged residents in rural Southern Humboldt County.

Lake

Grantee: Lake County Resource Conservation District

Project: Lake County Defensible Space Program

Grant Amount: \$500,000

Tracking #: 443732

Project Description:

LCRCD will lead Lake County's first defensible space program offering fuels clearing specifically for low-income homeowners. The need is driven by 28% of the county being in a Very High FHSZ, and 82% of residents qualifying as low-income.

Lassen

Grantee: Lassen Fire Safe Council

Project: Lassen County Defensible Space Program

Grant Amount: \$500,000

Tracking #: 442839

Project Description:

LFSC's defensible space program includes no-cost property assessments, homeowner education, and treatment of eligible properties for vulnerable residents (i.e., low-income, disadvantaged, seniors, disabled, or veterans) throughout Lassen County.



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Madera

Grantee: Eastern Madera County Fire Safe Council

Project: Eastern Madera County Defensible Space Referral Program

Grant Amount: \$500,000

Tracking #: 443715

Project Description:

EMCFSC will fund a defensible space referral program, working in partnership with CAL FIRE, to get residential properties into code compliance. EMCFSC will also host defensible space workshops to include information on code, zone zero, and fire-resistant landscaping.

San Bernardino

Grantee: Mountain Rim FSC

Project: Do It NOW Defensible Space Program

Grant Amount: \$500,000

Tracking #: 442650

Project Description:

This project is a proactive approach to defensible space not previously implemented by MRFSC. Teams performing on-site assessments, thinning of live trees and access to new technology will bring MRFSC and County defensible space projects to the forefront.

San Diego

Grantee: RCD of Greater San Diego County

Project: San Diego County Community Wildfire Resilience Programs

Grant Amount: \$500,000

Tracking #: 443779

Project Description:

This new pilot program will encompass outreach, in-person home assessments, education, and assistance with implementation for elderly, disadvantaged, disabled, and low-income residents in targeted areas throughout the county.

Santa Barbara

Grantee: Santa Barbara Fire Safe Council

Project: Santa Barbara County Vulnerable Residents Defensible Space Assistance Program

Grant Amount: \$250,000

Tracking #: 443317

Project Description:

This project is developed to identify residents in need, provide skilled work and labor to those who are unable to conduct the fuels reduction themselves, and provide education and resources that empowers vulnerable residents to create their own defensible space.



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Sonoma

Grantee: Fire Safe Sonoma Inc.

Project: Fire Safe Sonoma Collaborative
D-Space Project 2024

Grant Amount: \$500,000

Tracking #: 443895

Project Description:

In partnership with North Bay Jobs with Justice and the Resilience Force, this pioneering project will employ trained underserved workers with a family sustaining wage to create defensible space around homes of underserved residents.

Tulare

Grantee: Tulare County Resource
Conservation District

Project: Tulare County Defensible
Space

Grant Amount: \$500,000

Tracking #: 442986

Project Description:

The Tulare County RCD project will provide defensible space for vulnerable populations including disadvantaged, infirmed, elderly or those who are unable due to financial hardships.

Ventura

Grantee: Central Ventura County Fire
Safe Council (DBA Ventura Regional
Fire Safe Council)

Project: Unity and Preparedness
through Defensible Space

Grant Amount: \$500,000

Tracking #: 443541

Project Description:

VRFSC will conduct outreach to vulnerable residents and communities and implement defensible space work for these groups on the individual and communal level.