



Yuba Foothills Home Hardening Cost Share Program Program Guidelines

Home Hardening prepares your home for wildfire. While no home is completely fireproof, a hardened home has a reduced risk of ignition. [Home hardening addresses the most vulnerable components of your house with building materials and installation techniques that increase resistance to heat, flames, and flying embers.](#)

... [Flying embers have been shown to cause the most damage.](#)

PROGRAM SUMMARY

Hardening a home against wildfire by modifying the building materials and design features is critical to improving its resilience and survivability. This program provides financial support to residents of Yuba County's five Foothill Fire Districts through partial reimbursement to make specific home hardening upgrades. These improvements to individual residences include upgrading specific building materials to ignition-resistant or non-combustible materials, and reducing orifice size on ventilation systems. By prioritizing the most integral home hardening upgrades first, we can significantly reduce risk of home ignition.

HOW TO PARTICIPATE

- Obtain a *free* Wildfire Mitigation Review (WMR) from YWPFSC's trained volunteers to become eligible for the cost share program

- Based on the information obtained in your WMR, make as many eligible home hardening upgrades as possible. Remember to take before and after photos of the work – photos *and* receipts are required for reimbursement eligibility. *WE MAY SCHEDULE A FOLLOW-UP VISIT TO CONFIRM PROGRAM ACTIVITIES*

- Submit an online application along with copies of receipts or invoices, and before/after photos. If you are unable to submit an application online, a mail in option is available using a pdf that can be downloaded and printed (scroll down the webpage for more information)

Awards will be distributed first come, first served - until funds run out

*Work must be performed in 2022 and **application must be submitted by November 30, 2022***

REIMBURSEMENT PROCESS

This program provides 50% reimbursement of eligible expenses to residents of any of the five Yuba foothill fire districts, up to a maximum of \$2,000 reimbursement per residence per year.

- Example 1: You purchase \$500 of fire-resistant foundation and eave vents, and \$200 of weather stripping for your garage door, and you do the work yourself. YWPFSC will reimburse \$350 once the work is complete and application submitted.

- Example 2: You hire a company to replace all the single-pane windows in your home with dual-pane, tempered, WUI-rated windows, with a total cost of \$10,000. YWPFSC will reimburse \$2,000 once the work is complete and application submitted.

Note: This program is intended to help our communities prepare for wildfire and is operating on limited funds. Please do not take advantage by buying tools for other purposes or reselling materials. Remember we must all work together to make our communities safe.

ELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES

- Install 1/8"-1/16" metal mesh on vents or install ember/flame resistant vents
- Cover chimney and stovepipe outlets with non-combustible screen/ spark arrestors
- Install metal gutters, corrosion resistant gutter guards, and drip edge
- Upgrade last 5' of fencing closest to house with non-combustible materials such as metal
- Box in eaves with ignition-resistant or non-combustible materials and plug or caulk gaps around rafters
- Fix any roofing that is loose, missing, or at the end of its life, and fill gaps between roof and sheathing
- Hire a service to clear debris and vegetation from roof, gutters, and within first five feet of home
- Install weather stripping around and under the garage door
- Replace roofing and siding with non-combustible materials
- Seal joints and cracks and replace dry rot in siding
- Upgrade windows to dual pane tempered glass
- Repair or replace window screens

Some activities may require a building permit prior to starting work. Please check with the Yuba County Building Department for more information. **Compliance with applicable state or county building codes and associated fees are the landowner's responsibility.**

This program is focused on helping residents upgrade to ignition resistant building materials and will **not** cover the cost of fire retardant gels or sprinkler systems.

Contact us by emailing programs@yubafiresafe.org if you have questions about project eligibility.

Submission of an application does not guarantee reimbursement, which will occur based on determination of project eligibility and fund availability.

For more information including how to prioritize upgrades, refer to your Wildfire Mitigation Review and read:
University of California Cooperative Extension 's page on Preparing Your Home:
<https://ucanr.edu/sites/fire/Prepare/Building/>
Guide to specific House Upgrades, and how to prioritize them:
<https://defensiblespace.org/house/house-upgrade/>

Funding provided by a grant from PG&E through the California Fire Safe Council.

To help pay for upgrades to the 100 ft surrounding your home, check out our [Defensible Space Cost Share Program](#).

