A Community Wildfire Protection Plan is a written document, mutually agreed upon by local, state and federal representatives and stakeholders that identifies how a community will reduce its risks from wildland fire.
Community Wildfire Protection Plans are a collaborative approach to wildland fire protection and mitigation. A plan can be as simple or complex as the needs of the community dictate.

**Convene Decision Makers.**
- Engage local Texas A&M Forest Service representative—they can provide guidance and subject matter expertise.
- Involve local jurisdictions and fire service leadership from local, state, and federal cooperators.
- Notify local government officials—local support will bolster political capital in the community.

**Engage Interested Parties.**
Wildfire risk is a community problem and a shared responsibility between stakeholders.
- Form a core working group with representation from the local fire department, local government, and Texas A&M Forest Service.
- Additional partners should be encouraged to participate. Who needs to be part of the conversation? Who has a vested interest in the community?
- Gain input from a variety of partners to ensure that the CWPP reflects the interests and values of the entire community.

**Start Proclamation.**
- Present a proclamation/resolution to local government for approval and signatures.

**Create a Community Base Map.**
- Develop a base map of the community that identifies potential communities at risk, areas with critical infrastructure, and delineation of the Wildland Urban Interface.
- Identify high-risk, priority areas for risk assessments.

**Conduct Risk Assessments.**
- Consider factors that influence risk in the community: fuels, structural characteristics, access, local fire capacity, utilities, etc.
- Assume no operational response and address stand-alone survivability.
- Utilize as a tool to help residents understand their wildfire risk and engage in mitigation actions.
- Compile results and share with core working group and partners.

**Establish Community Hazard Reduction Priorities and Recommendations to Reduce Structural Ignitability.**
- Communicate the results from the risk assessments with all stakeholders.
- Begin to develop priorities for the community.
- Recommend actions that address structural ignitability and hazardous fuel reduction.
- Create strategies that address local fire service capacity.

**Develop an Action Plan.**
- Generate prioritized recommendations for fuels reduction projects, outreach and education programs, and other mitigation actions that assist in achieving the goals and objectives of the CWPP.
- Identify roles and responsibilities, funding needs, and timelines for each priority project.
- Recommended actions must directly relate to the protection of the community and its values.

**Finalize the Community Wildfire Protection Plan.**
- Complete plan and ensure that the three required criteria are met.
- Present a final draft to local signatories and Texas A&M Forest Service for approval.
- Plan a signing/recognition ceremony.