



## **State Fire Assistance for Hazard Mitigation 2019 Vegetative Fuel Break Grant Application**

**Grant Funded Through USDA – Forest Service  
Award #18-11083148-001, CFDA #10.664**

Vegetative fuel breaks are trees and shrubs systematically planted adjacent to fields, homesteads, or feedlots as a barrier to reduce or redirect the wind. Overall, vegetative fuel breaks enhance aesthetics, increase land value, reduce soil erosion, protect buildings and/or equipment and establish wildlife habitat. During the 2017 fire season, it was observed that a well maintained and irrigated vegetative fuel break or homestead windbreak could impact wind-driven fire behavior and provide time for residents or firefighters to evacuate before the fire impacts the adjacent home or structure.

**Scope of Project:** Reduce the risk of home loss to wildfire through the use of green vegetative fuel breaks. Projects will be located in the Texas high plains. The goal of the grant is to protect high-risk communities by reducing the risk of catastrophic wildfire on private and public lands.

Grant recipients will be reimbursed up to \$2,500 for actual costs associated with creating a green vegetative fuel break, consisting of a minimum of 3 rows of trees and 400 feet in length. Reimbursable costs include services of a landscape/planting contractor, trees, weed barriers, ground staples, protection tubes, stakes, tree shades, wire wickets, drip irrigation systems, the rental of a tree planter and the rental of a fabric layer.

Application packages post marked on or before February 15, 2019 will be accepted and considered for funding. **No faxes or e-mailed applications will be accepted.** Please return the completed and signed application packages by mail to:

**Texas A&M Forest Service  
Mitigation & Prevention Department  
15110 Jones Maltsberger STE 101 San Antonio, TX 78247**

All applicants will receive a notification of decision letter of either approved or denied no later than March 15, 2019. Any work on an approved project prior to receiving an approval letter from Texas A&M Forest Service (TFS) will not be eligible for reimbursement. TFS will also publicize the listing of approved recipients on its website. The grant funding period is from March 15, 2019 to July 31, 2019. No application deadline extensions will be granted.

We will be happy to help with any questions. Please call Logan Scherschel, Wildland Urban Interface Specialist, at (210) 556-9374 or [lscherschel@tfs.tamu.edu](mailto:lscherschel@tfs.tamu.edu), Jonathan Motsinger, Program Leader, at (806) 281-4091 or [jmotsinger@tfs.tamu.edu](mailto:jmotsinger@tfs.tamu.edu), Brian Scott, Staff Forester, at (806) 316-6560 or [bscott@tfs.tamu.edu](mailto:bscott@tfs.tamu.edu).

**Project support provided by the U.S. Department of Agricultural, Forest Service, Southern Region, State and Private Forestry Program. This institution is an equal opportunity provider.**



### **Applications Must Include:**

- Complete landowner information on page 1 including signature and date
- Vegetative fuel break map displaying boundary and length of the proposed fuel break
- Lat/Long of proposed vegetative fuel break (Degrees/Minutes/Seconds)
- County and physical address of proposed vegetative fuel break location **or** distance and direction to nearest intersection

### **Additional Information of Vegetative Fuel Break Grant:**

- **The completed application package must be post marked on or before February 15, 2019.** Deadline for applications is firm. No fax or e-mailed applications will be accepted. Selection process will begin immediately.
- The grant is competitive and selection will be based on the goal of reducing wildfire risk. All applications will receive a notification of decision by mail on or before March 15, 2019.
- Multiple applications may be submitted per individual for different properties.
- Name on application, grant agreement, and invoice for payment must match.
- TFS will complete an on-site assessment prior to approval of recipient's application, and contact applicant after receipt of the approval notification letter from TFS to discuss the project.
- Grant is to be used only for the reimbursement of costs to landowners for planting a vegetative fuel break. (Minimum of 3 rows of trees and 400 feet in length). These costs are limited to expenditures directly related to the installation of the vegetative fuel break including services of a landscape/planting contractor, trees, weed barriers, ground staples, protection tubes, stakes, tree shades, wire wickets, drip irrigation systems, the rental of a tree planter and the rental of a fabric layer. Receipts or paid in full invoices are required documentation prior to TFS reimbursing actual costs.

### **If you are selected:**

- All grant documents must be completed and signed by applicant and approved by Texas A&M Forest Service before the creation of the vegetative fuel break.
- TFS staff member will make a short site documentation visit and take pre-planting photos of vegetation condition along with a final post planting inspection and photos of vegetation.
- **TFS will supply the applicant with an approval letter if selected for grant award. Any planting on an approved project prior to receiving this notice may forfeit applicant's grant funding.**
- No change of property location will be allowed. Reimbursement will be made only for property listed on approved application.
- **Recipient should notify TFS when the planting has been completed. Recipient should call Logan Scherschel, Wildland Urban Interface Specialist, at (210) 556-9374 or secondary contact Jonathan Motsinger, Program Leader, at (806) 281-4091 with this notification.**





**Vegetative Fuel Break Location**

**Latitude:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Longitude:** \_\_\_\_\_

**County:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Physical Address of fuel break or nearest intersection:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**City:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Zip Code:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Pages 1 & 2 of application must be completed.**

**Please attach the following with your two page application:**

- Vegetative Fuel Break Boundary Map.





## State Fire Assistance for Hazard Mitigation 2019 Vegetative Fuel Break Grant Reimbursement Form

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**Recipient should notify Texas A&M Forest Service when the planting has been completed. Recipient should call Logan Scherschel, Wildland Urban Interface Specialist, at (210) 556-9374 or secondary contact Jonathan Motsinger, Program Leader, at (806) 281-4091 with this notification.**

Itemized Costs	Description	Cost
Contractor		
Trees		
Weed Barriers		
Ground Staples		
Protection Tubes		
Stakes		
Tree Shades		
Wire Wickets		
Drip Irrigation System		
Tree Planter Rental		
Fabric Layer Rental		
<b>Total</b>		

**\*Copies of all receipts must be attached to this form**

**Mail completed reimbursement form and all receipts to:**

**Texas A&M Forest Service  
Attn: Logan Scherschel  
15110 Jones Maltsberger STE 101  
San Antonio, TX 78247**