

Wildfire Mitigation

within

the Municipality

Anchorage Fire Department

Wildfire Mitigation Program

- **Goals**

- Reduce the loss of life and property from wildfire within the Municipality

- **Objective**

- Utilize the Firewise program to encourage private landowners to ensure defensible space.
- Conduct wildfire fuels mitigation on public lands.
- Promote Wildland Urban Interface principals for development and maintenance.

Wildfire Mitigation Program History

- **1996** – Anchorage Fire Department (AFD) – Post Miller’s Reach fire FEMA – \$200k
 - Public Education to encourage residents to build defensible space around their home
- **1997** – AFD – FEMA Project Impact – \$400k
 - Public Education to continue wildfire awareness program
- **2001** – Anchorage Wildfire Mitigation Office (WMO) – USFS – \$1.75 million – set up
 - 3 Program staff, purchase wildfire response apparatus, train responders, promote Firewise program
- **2002 through 2004** – WMO – USFS - \$11.148 million
 - 3 Program staff, public lands fuels mitigation, train responders, deliver Firewise program
 - Anchorage Fire Exposure Model, Community Wildfire Protection Plan, Website materials, wood lot program
- **2008 through 2010** – WMO– USDA - \$1.2 million
 - 3 Program staff, deliver Firewise, public fuels mitigation
- **2011 through 2020** – Firewise Program - State Fire Assistance Grant – \$120k/year
 - 1 part time staff to coordinate the delivery of the Firewise program, public wildfire awareness, minor public fuels mitigation

Wildfire Mitigation Today

Firewise program

- Educate homeowners about Firewise principles to reduce the potential for structural ignitions from brush fires.
- Provide information about safe burning practices, emergency preparedness, and forest stewardship.
- Coordinate the Firewise Home Assessment program

Wildfire Mitigation Program

Public Lands Mitigation

- MOA Parks & Rec
 - \$100K grant from US Forest Service – hired 4 for beetle kill removal
- OEM-GIS
 - Application in process - FEMA grant to update wildfire risk mapping
- OEM – AFD
 - Application in process - FEMA grant to conduct wildfire fuels mitigation on public lands