

Understanding Oregon's Fire Hardening Grant Program

If your home or business was lost or damaged in a wildfire during 2020, you may be eligible to receive more than \$6,000 in grant money for fire hardening of your home or business.

Local counties and the Department of Consumer and Business Services have created a fire hardening grant program to help people affected by the 2020 wildfires. The program will provide money directly to home and business owners who receive a grant to help pay for fire hardening of a home or business that was damaged or destroyed in the 2020 wildfires.

What is fire hardening?

Fire hardening describes steps that can be taken to make a home or business more resistant to damage from a wildfire. These steps may include the following:

- Using ignition resistant materials for siding and roofing
- Installing fire resistant windows to protect openings
- Using attic ventilation devices that help reduce ember intrusion

Why is fire hardening important?

Fire hardening, along with creating defensible space by maintaining vegetation and reducing combustible materials surrounding the home or business, decreases the likelihood that a nearby fire will ignite your structure and reduces the potential for damage.

Fire hardening makes the community more resistant to the spread of wildfire. By slowing down a fire, it may create additional time and opportunity for emergency responders to protect life and property threatened by the fire.

How do I participate?

The program is being run through your county's building department which will be accepting applications and verifying fire hardening work to process your application. You can also visit the program's web page listed below. On that page you will find links to the application for each affected county. You will also find an explanation of the fire hardening improvements that the program is incentivizing and the value of the different grants that are available.



www.oregon.gov/bcd/Pages/firehardening.aspx

Please visit the program web page to learn more and to find an application.