

## **Wildfire Mitigation Stewardship Agreement**

This Agreement is entered into this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ between the City of Colorado Springs, a Colorado municipal corporation and home rule city by and through its Colorado Springs Fire Department Wildfire Mitigation Section (hereinafter, the "City") and \_\_\_\_\_ (hereinafter, the "Owner(s)")

The Parties agree as follows:

The Owner(s) wish to reduce natural fuel accumulation (including brush, grass, duff and litter) in the neighborhood in order to reduce the fire danger posed to the area and the owner's property. The City has code and requirements that regulate the accomplishment of this clearing and removal.

### City's Responsibilities

1. To assess current conditions and provide guidelines for property owners.
2. To identify and assist in pursuing grant opportunities for vegetation management on behalf of the Owner(s), whenever possible. The City is not responsible for any funding for the project.
3. To conduct a reassessment upon completion of the work to evaluate and update the wildfire hazard rating.
4. To inspect the project area in order to monitor progress and check for compliance with Colorado Springs Wildfire Mitigation guidelines.

### Owner's Responsibilities

1. To implement a comprehensive vegetation management prescription for mechanical thinning and removal of fuels.
2. To approve treatment methods which can include, but are not limited to, the following: cutting, limbing, pruning, felling, bucking, grinding, chipping and hauling of slash or other debris.
3. The work under this Agreement should be limited to the hours of 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. daily.
4. Owner(s) further agree to provide measures recommended by the City on any newly exposed hillsides for protection from erosion. These measures can include, but are not limited to, the following: terracing, retaining walls, plantings, water bars, slope blankets or mesh.
5. Owner(s) agree to those standards of good practice as directed by the Colorado Springs Wildfire Mitigation concepts.
6. Upon the completion of the work, Owner(s) will contact the Wildfire Mitigation Program Coordinator for a final site visit. This site visit is for the purpose of reassessing the wildfire risk values for the treated parcel.
7. Owner(s) agree and understand that this agreement may be withdrawn without the consent or acquiescence of the City.
8. Owner(s) agree and understand that in case the agreement is withdrawn, there shall be no liability or responsibility on the part of the City for termination of the agreement. Owner(s) shall hold the City harmless for any such withdrawal or termination.
9. Owner(s) understand that in case the agreement is withdrawn, there shall be no liability or responsibility on the part of the Owner(s) for termination of the agreement. City shall hold the Owner(s) harmless for any such withdrawal or termination.
10. Owner(s) agree that they are responsible for the actions of any work performed by volunteers, contractors, or other persons working on their property.
11. If the Owner(s) employs contractor(s) or personnel, then the Owner(s) will provide a general description of personnel, qualifications, professional certifications and licenses.
12. Owner(s) agree and understand that there is no representation or warranty by any person that this wildfire mitigation project or creation of defensible space will or could prevent the ignition or spread of any fire.

The City and the Owners have executed this agreement on the date above written.

City of Colorado Springs Fire Department

Owner(s)

By \_\_\_\_\_

By \_\_\_\_\_

Printed \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE NUMBERS: \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_

**Disclaimer:** Wildfire mitigation is intended to reduce wildfire risk; not eliminate the risk of wildfire. It is important to note that wildfires are a dynamic event influenced by several factors including weather (winds, relative humidity, temperature, atmospheric pressure, lightning, etc.) topography, fuels, human activity, response times and seasonal trends (i.e. drought.) There will always be some risk of wildfire regardless of mitigation efforts and structural characteristics.