Posted: _____

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Agenda

New Castle Climate and Environment Commission Virtual Work Session

Thursday, August 20, 2020, 6:30 PM

Due to concerns related to COVID-19, this meeting will be held as a virtual meeting only. The public is invited to attend.

To join by computer, smart phone or tablet click HERE

If you prefer to telephone in:
Please call: 1-346-248-7799
Meeting ID: 709 658 8400

Follow the prompts as directed. Be sure to set your phone to mute until called on.

Call to Order

Roll Call

Meeting Notice

Conflicts of Interest

Citizen Communication

Items for Consideration

1 **Revised and Approved Plan and New Name**

2 **Discussion: Addressing Wildfires in the Era of Climate Change:**
https://www.ready.gov/wildfires
https://www.nfpa.org/Public-Education/Fire-causes-and-risks/Wildfire/Firewise-USA
Becoming a Fire-Adapted Community:
https://fireadapted.org/

3 **Discussion: County Weed Board - Commissioner Leland**

4 **Public Education Messaging**

5 **Information Items: Colorado Communities for Climate Action and Colorado Climate Goals**

Adjourn

Climate and Environment Commission Plan for Future Actions

History of the Climate Action Plan

On April 3, 2007, Mayor Frank Breslin signed the U.S. Mayors Climate Protection Agreement as the Town Council fully committed to developing and implementing strategies to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. The Climate Action Advisory Commission, later named the Climate and Environment Commission (CEC), was created to help the town pursue the goals of this agreement. The goals included inventorying greenhouse gas emissions in city operations; adopting land-use policies that reduce sprawl, preserve open space; promote greener transportation options, such as bicycle trails and incentives for public transit or carpooling; making energy efficiency a priority through building code improvements, upgrades to water and wastewater treatment facilities, and purchases of vehicles and equipment; promoting tree planting for shading and carbon dioxide absorption; educating the public, schools, businesses, and the community about reducing greenhouse gasses.

Over the next thirteen years, the town made strides in addressing these goals, by installing roof-top solar on municipal buildings, installing electric vehicle charging stations, adopting efficient building codes, planting trees, gaining efficiencies at wastewater and water treatment facilities, and more. In 2020, the CEC decided to update and build upon these goals, as shown in the next section.

CLIMATE AND ENVIRONMENT GOALS

In 2020, the CEC determined that the most important long-term goals were to:

1. Advise the council and educate the community about environmental issues as well as climate change and its effects.

2. Provide guidance on individual and community activities that serve to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and protect the environment.

3. Advise and assist the town and community in transitioning to a more renewable and energy efficient future.

4. Advise the town in planning for and mitigating climate change impacts.

FOUR KEY STRATEGIES TO ACHIEVE THESE GOALS

1. Leading by example. Municipal government will continue to make its buildings and operations a model of energy efficiency and renewable energy while reducing energy costs.

2. Strengthening communication and education efforts of the CEC. The CEC should provide accurate and helpful information regarding climate change and environmental protection to stakeholders.

3. Networking with local and regional partners to remove barriers, to provide incentives for wiser energy use, and to increase local renewable energy supplies. The Town will work with Xcel Energy, Garfield Clean Energy (GCE), the Roaring Fork Transit Authority (RFTA), the Community Office for Resource Efficiency (CORE), the Clean Energy Economy for the Region (CLEER), the Governor's Energy Office (GEO), Colorado Mountain College (CMC), and others to accelerate the transition to a clean energy future, offering programs to households and businesses that combine financing, technical assistance, and education.

4. Collaborating to acquire funding. The CEC and the Town Council will collaborate to seek funding to carry out environmental protection and climate mitigation goals.

MEASURABLE ACTION STEPS TO MEET THE LONG-TERM GOALS

1. Providing educational programs and outreach

a. Create and implement educational programs for the public

Measurement of progress: Development of an educational program about climate change and environmental protection that can be shared with community groups

b. Serve as a resource for individuals seeking more information about the topics of climate change, environmental protection, energy conservation.

2. Creating opportunities for individual and collective action

a. Explore opportunities for planting of appropriate tree and vegetation species, with guidance on use of water-saving mulches and soil amendments

Measurement of progress: Providing list of native trees and vegetation, as well soil amendments, irrigation techniques, and proper planting procedures to reduce water consumption

Measurement of progress: Encouraging and helping the town plant trees/vegetation

Measurement of progress: Networking with the Garden Club and other organizations

b. Fine-tune use of water and other environmental resources by town and community

Measurement of progress: Communicate with residents regarding most effective and efficient watering strategies through the CEC website and other communication avenues including building permits

Measurement of progress: Work with the town in monitoring irrigation in parks and other spaces

3. Transitioning to a more renewable and energy efficient future

a. Encouraging energy efficiency activities and audits by homeowners

Measurement of progress: Encourage homeowners to have an energy audit and inform homeowners of free or low-cost energy audits

Measurement of progress: Connect and coordinate with regional partners such as GCE, CLEER, CORE and inform the public through various communication avenues, including the CEC website

b. Encouraging energy efficiency audits by businesses

Measurement of progress: Encourage business owners to have an energy audit and inform business owners of access to free or low-cost energy audits, incentives, and rebates

Measurement of progress: Connect and coordinate with regional partners such as GCE, CLEER, CORE regarding effective ways to work with local businesses

c. Communicating with stakeholders regarding incentives for renewable energy, addition of insulations, storm windows, electric vehicles, roof-top solar panels, lighting, air conditioners, and other ways to save costs

Measurement of progress: CEC creates a listing of what is available for assisting in renewable or energy efficient changes and develops a strategy for implementation

Measurement of progress: Communicate information in town newsletter, website, and other appropriate media

4. Planning for and mitigating climate change and environmental impacts

a. Understanding the increased risk of wildfires and how to mitigate and respond

Measurement of progress: Meet with appropriate town and fire officials to learn how to prepare and to improve fire-mitigation/prevention around homes and businesses

Measurement of progress: Communicate and offer guidance to residents. Consult with fire officials on how to best provide information to the community regarding fire dangers and how to minimize fire risk. Offer at least one outreach and educational program.

b. Understanding the increased risk of drought and how to mitigate and respond

Measurement of progress: Meet with appropriate town officials and water conservationists to learn about how to prepare and minimize water usage among the public and the town

Measurement of progress: Communicate and offer guidance for residents.

TOOLKIT

WILDFIRE COMMUNITY PREPAREDNESS DAY

May 2, 2020

Sponsored by StateFarm™

HOW WILL YOUR COMMUNITY PREPARE THIS YEAR?

Wildfires across the United States have cost more than 100 lives and more than $25 billion in property losses in just the last two years. That's why it's so important to take steps to improve the wildfire safety of your home and community.

PUT SAFETY FIRST. ON THE FIRST SATURDAY IN MAY.

Take the first step by participating in Wildfire Community Preparedness Day on Saturday, May 2, 2020. You can help your neighborhood create a sense of community by working together on a project that can make a real difference. Consider including the local groups listed to the right to involve as many people and resources as possible.

PLAN YOUR PROJECT WITH THIS TOOLKIT.

Inside you'll find the tools you need to start your community's own customized project, step by step. Start with a simple checklist. Then explore a list of possible projects. Move on to promoting your efforts, safety tips, funding, and more. Just turn the page.

YOUR COMMUNITY GROUPS

- Chamber of Commerce/Business
- Faith Community
- Federal and State Land Agencies
- Fire Department
- Local Utilities, such as Electric, Natural Gas, etc.
- Park District
- Private Land Trusts
- School District
- Street and/or Public Works Department
- Water District

CHECK YOUR PROGRESS

Work your way through this checklist as you complete each corresponding section of the toolkit.

PICK A PROJECT

Prep Day projects can vary in size, shape, and scope to fit your community.

- [ ] Gather neighbors, friends, and family members who want to participate in a project. Don't forget to check with local community groups for more ideas and participants.
- [ ] Review the project suggestions and select one that fits your community's needs. Then assign tasks to team members to help with logistics.
- [ ] Pick a time and location for your event—Wildfire Community Preparedness Day on May 2, 2020, is a good start!

SPEAK UP AND STAY SAFE

Communication is key to spreading the word and having a safe, smooth project.

- [ ] Promote your event locally with flyers and announcements, and invite others in your community to participate.
- [ ] Review the safety tips and gear suggestions with everyone who will participate.

POST AND PARTICIPATE

Spread the word beyond your community by making your project visible to the greater world.

- [ ] Get help paying for your community's project by applying for one of the $500 nationwide funding awards from State Farm.
- [ ] Post your project online on NFPA's Prep Day Map to share with the entire country.
- [ ] Post your photos on Facebook and Twitter (#WildfirePrepDay).
- [ ] Most of all, find a way to participate on Wildfire Community Preparedness Day! Don't forget to take photos and video for all to see!

PREPARE AND PROTECT WITH YOUR PROJECT

Pick projects that will fit your community and make a real difference in its future safety. Remember, inspect your surroundings, keep things tidy, and share info with others—"Check, Clear, Communicate."

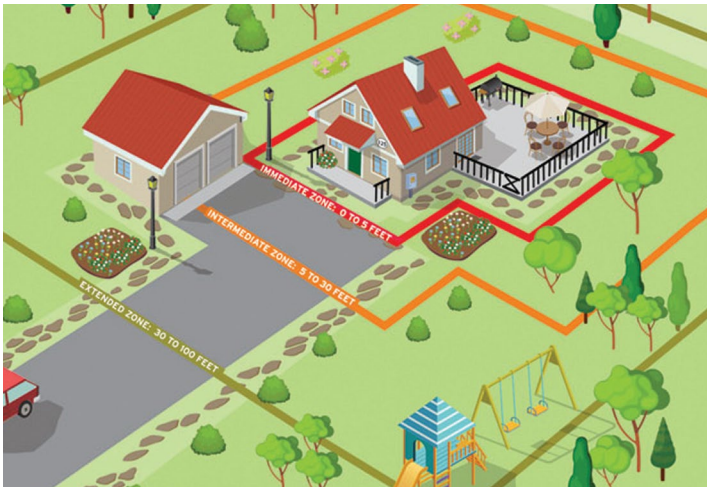
Projects that reduce wildfire risk and increase preparedness can be accomplished by people of all ages with a variety of time commitments. You might be asking, "What can I do in a single day to help stay safer from wildfire?" The answer is—a lot!

CHECK

- Can you see your home's address number from the street? How about your neighbors'? If not, trim overgrown vegetation covering or blocking the numbers on your homes in case firefighters need to find you.
- Locate two alternate routes out of your neighborhood (besides the one normally used) and plan and practice a family evacuation drill using those alternate routes.
- Measure how close wood piles are located to the home. If any are closer than 30 feet, move them farther away from structures. Screen or box-in areas below patios and decks with wire screening no larger than 1/8-inch mesh to help keep embers out during a wildfire.
- Check your possessions. Visit the Rocky Mountain Insurance Information Association to get free checklists. Take video and photos of your possessions so you'll have documentation to replace belongings.
- Check in on others! Help elderly relatives or neighbors enter emergency numbers into their cell phones. Using large type, post their phone number and street address above their landline phone so it can easily be seen when providing information to an emergency dispatcher.

CLEAR

- Rake and remove pine needles and dry leaves to a minimum of 3 to 5 feet from a home's foundation. Over time, continue up to a 30-foot distance around the home. Dispose of collected debris in appropriate trash receptacles.
- Sweep porches and decks, clearing them of leaves and pine needles. Rake under decks, porches, sheds, and play structures.
- On mature trees, use hand pruners and loppers to remove low-hanging tree branches up to a height of 4 feet from the ground (specific height depends on the type and size of tree). Collect downed tree limbs and broken branches and take them to a disposal site.



Rake and remove pine needles and dry leaves to a minimum of 3 to 5 feet from a home.

PREPARE AND PROTECT WITH YOUR PROJECT

(Continued)

CLEAR (CONTINUED)

- Remove items stored under decks and porches and relocate them to a storage area. Gasoline cans and portable propane tanks should never be stored indoors or near the home.
- Join forces with neighbors and pool your resources to pay for a chipper service to help clear slash/debris.
- Clear out your closets! Hold a garage sale and donate the proceeds to your local fire department's wildland fire team.

COMMUNICATE

- Create a family communication plan and build or update a 72-hour evacuation kit for you, your family, and your pets.
- Distribute wildfire safety information by setting up a table or leaving handouts at a grocery or hardware store (other high-traffic locations work, too).
- Send free Firewise USA® and emergency preparedness tips through social media or text messaging.
- Contact the local Office of Emergency Management about registering your mobile number to receive emergency notifications on your own device. After registering your own number, register those of your family.
- Inform young adults who babysit outside the home that they need to learn the family's emergency plan for wildfires and evacuations.
- Work with neighbors to develop a phone tree that can be used to alert everyone about a fire or evacuation.

MAJOR FIRE EVENTS 2017—2019

OCT. 2017 — Firestorm, Northern CA: **44 dead, 8,700 structures destroyed**

NOV. 2018 — Camp Fire, Northern CA: **85 dead, 18,800 structures destroyed**

OCT. 23 — Kincade Fire, Sonoma County: **76,000 acres, 189 buildings destroyed, 90,000 buildings threatened**

OCT. 28 — Getty Fire, Los Angeles: **7,000+ residences in mandatory evacuation zone**

2019—A total of 200,000 people evacuated for State of Emergency

Source: Insurance Information Institute

SPREAD THE WORD

Once you've picked a project, don't forget to tell others what you're doing to create a safer community. Promote your project to those in your community, the press, and local officials. Our tools make it easy.

FLYER TEMPLATE

- Download and customize this flyer for your specific event.
- Distribute throughout your community to increase participation and awareness.

DOWNLOAD FLYER >

ANNOUNCEMENT

- Download this announcement template to customize and communicate your message.
- An official announcement can add credibility, so send one along to everyone from elected official to the local press.

DOWNLOAD ANNOUNCEMENT >

BE PREPARED. BE SAFE.

Before starting a project, it's important to review the safety tips and gear with each participant. And always leave the power equipment to trained adults.

Work Together—For safety purposes, most projects are best accomplished by two or more people. It's always a good plan to work in pairs, or more.

SAFETY TIPS

1. **Bending:** Keep your feet shoulder-width apart and move your whole body as one unit; bend at your hips and knees, not at your waist.
2. **Lifting:** Ask a friend for help. Use slow, smooth movements while lifting, and keep your body facing the object. Keep the load close to your body between your shoulders and waist—this puts less strain on back muscles.
3. **Stacking:** For firewood, refer to this article from Popular Mechanics.
4. **Moving:** Use caution when moving and storing any type of hazardous items (gasoline, portable propane tanks, etc.). Many products can be dangerous if handled or stored incorrectly—and can harm your health and the environment.
5. **Protecting:** With hand tools, always wear eye protection. Handle sharp-edged and pointed tools carefully—never carry them in your pocket. Keep them close to your side, with the points and heavy ends downward and outward.
6. **Inspecting:** Tools should be inspected to ensure that they are in good condition before use. Do not use broken or unsafe equipment.
7. **Trashing:** If you are removing trash, be aware of nails, broken glass, and sharp metals. Always ensure that an adult works with minors.
8. **Trusting:** Minors should never accept an invitation from someone they don't know to enter a home or other structure—unless accompanied by a trusted adult or group leader.

BE AWARE!

When working outdoors, maintain good situational awareness about the conditions of the terrain. Your work can disturb critters or take place in tricky environments.

BEES

SNAKES

SLIPPERY CONDITIONS

SAFETY GEAR

Always use good safety practices, including wearing the proper clothing and personal protective equipment, especially when operating power tools.

- **Extremities:** Wear work gloves, long sleeve shirts, long pants, and nonslip closed-toe shoes or boots.
- **Eyes:** Always wear eye protection/safety goggles.
- **Ears:** Industrial style ear plugs/ear muffs need to be worn in loud work areas.
- **Head:** If you are cutting overhead branches, wear a hard hat.

TAKE ACTION

GET $500 TO WORK ON YOUR PROJECT

Now that you've chosen a project, submit an application to win one of 150 funding awards made possible with generous donations from State Farm.

If you are applying for an award for a project in the US and US territories, the application period opens in January 2020. Download Application

For funding awards in Canada, the application period will open in November through Firesmart.

BEST PRACTICES FOR APPLICATIONS

Collaborate with others to develop a project plan. Examine areas of your community where a one-day project can have the greatest impact. Clearly define the following:

Who:	List specific groups and/or volunteers. Who is planning the process? Who is supporting it?
Where/When:	Detail the location (home sites vs. common areas). Remember, part of the event must occur on Prep Day (May 2).
What/How:	Describe what you want to accomplish and how it will benefit the community. What are the steps to complete your project and how will the funds be used?

SHARE YOUR SUCCESS

Add your project to our nationwide list of communities taking part in Wildfire Community Preparedness Day on the **Prep Day Map.**

We also want to hear what you're planning and what you've accomplished at #WildfirePrepDay on **Twitter** or **Facebook**.

READY, SET, GO!

Wildfire Action Plan

Saving Lives and Property
through Advance Planning

The fire season is now a year-round reality in many areas, requiring firefighters and residents to be on heightened alert for the threat of wildfire throughout the year.

Each year, wildfires consume hundreds of homes in the Wildland/ Urban Interface (WUI). Studies show that as many as 80 percent of the homes lost to wildfires could have been saved if their owners had only followed a few simple fire-safe practices. In addition, wildfire-related deaths occur because people wait too late to leave their home.

Your fire department takes every precaution to help protect you and your property from wildfire. However, the reality is that in a major wildfire, there will simply not be enough fire engines or firefighters to defend every home.

Successfully preparing for a wildfire requires **you** to take personal responsibility for protecting yourself, your family and your property. In this publication, we hope to give you the tips and tools you need to prepare and be successful.

Fire is, and always has been, a natural occurance in the wildland. Our brush-covered hills, canyons and forests burned periodically long before we built homes there. Wildfires, fueled by a build-up of dry vegetation and driven by seasonal hot, dry winds, are extremely dangerous and impossible to control. However, many residents have built their homes and landscaped without fully understanding the impact a fire could have on them, and few have adequately prepared their families for a quick evacuation.

It's not a question of **if** but **when** the next major wildfire will occur. That's why the most important person in protecting your life and property is not the firefighter, but you. Through advance planning and preparation, we can all be ready for wildfire. We hope you find the tips in the next pages helpful in creating heightened awareness and a more fire-safe environment for you and your family.

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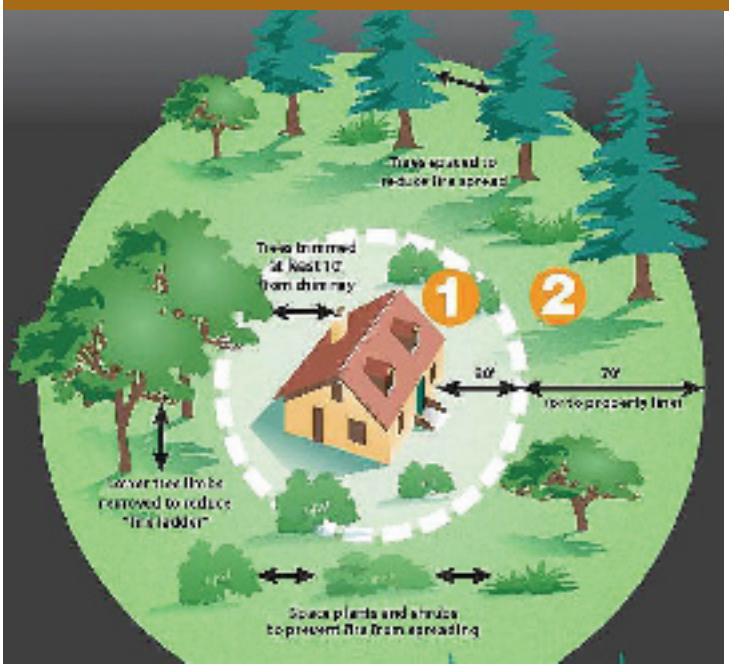
What is Defensible Space?



Defensible space is the required space between a structure and the wildland area that, under normal conditions, creates a sufficient buffer to slow or halt the spread of wildfire to a structure. It protects the home from igniting due to direct flame or radiant heat. Defensible space is essential for structure survivability during wildfire conditions.

ZONE ONE

Zone One extends 30 feet out from buildings, structures, decks, etc.

- Remove all dead or dying vegetation.
- Trim tree canopies regularly to keep their branches a minimum of 10 feet from structures and other trees.
- Remove leaf litter (dry leaves/pine needles) from yard, roof and rain gutters.
- Relocate woodpiles or other combustible materials into Zone Two.
- Remove combustible material and vegetation from around and under decks.
- Remove or prune vegetation near windows.
- Remove “ladder fuels” (low-level vegetation that allows the fire to spread from the ground to the tree canopy). Create a separation between low-level vegetation and tree branches. This can be done by reducing the height of low-level vegetation and/or trimming low tree branches.

ZONE TWO

Zone Two extends 30 to 100 feet out from buildings, structures and decks. You can minimize the chance of fire jumping from plant to plant by removing dead material and removing and/or thinning vegetation. The minimum spacing between vegetation is three times the dimension of the plant.

- Remove “ladder fuels.”
- Cut or mow annual grass down to a maximum height of 4 inches.
- Trim tree canopies regularly to keep their branches a minimum of 10 feet from other trees.

Tour a Wildfire Ready Home

Home Site and Yard: Ensure you have at least a 100-foot radius of defensible space (cleared vegetation) around your home. Note that even more clearance may be needed for homes in severe hazard areas. This means looking past what you own to determine the impact a common slope or neighbors' yard will have on your property during a wildfire.

Cut dry weeds and grass before noon when temperatures are cooler to reduce the chance of sparking a fire.

Landscape with fire-resistant plants that have a high moisture content and are low-growing.

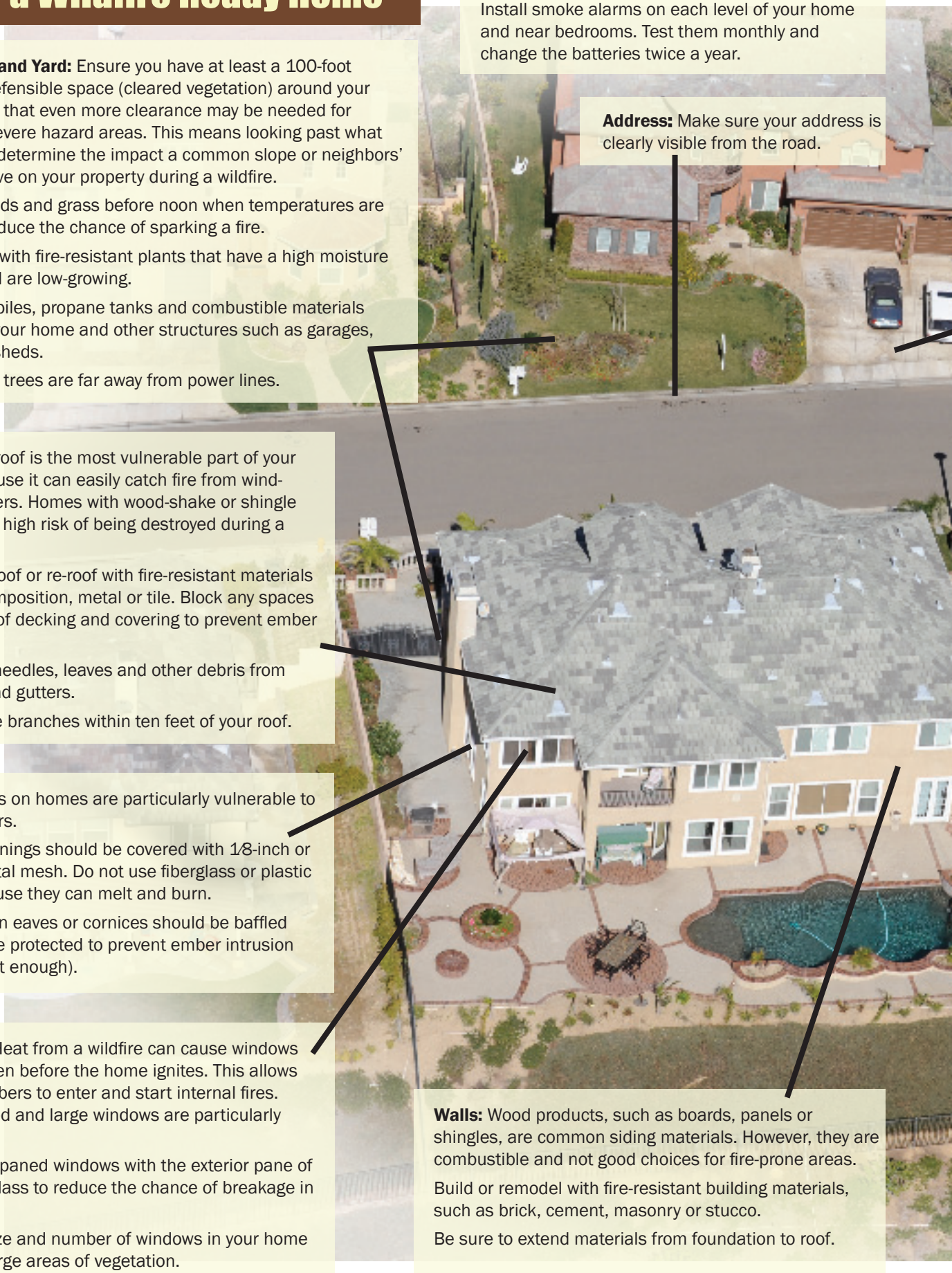
Keep woodpiles, propane tanks and combustible materials away from your home and other structures such as garages, barns and sheds.

Ensure that trees are far away from power lines.

Inside: Keep working fire extinguishers on hand.

Install smoke alarms on each level of your home and near bedrooms. Test them monthly and change the batteries twice a year.

Address: Make sure your address is clearly visible from the road.



Roof: Your roof is the most vulnerable part of your home because it can easily catch fire from wind-blown embers. Homes with wood-shake or shingle roofs are at high risk of being destroyed during a wildfire.

Build your roof or re-roof with fire-resistant materials such as composition, metal or tile. Block any spaces between roof decking and covering to prevent ember intrusion.

Clear pine needles, leaves and other debris from your roof and gutters.

Cut any tree branches within ten feet of your roof.

Vents: Vents on homes are particularly vulnerable to flying embers.

All vent openings should be covered with 1⁄8-inch or smaller metal mesh. Do not use fiberglass or plastic mesh because they can melt and burn.

Attic vents in eaves or cornices should be baffled or otherwise protected to prevent ember intrusion (mesh is not enough).

Windows: Heat from a wildfire can cause windows to break even before the home ignites. This allows burning embers to enter and start internal fires. Single-paned and large windows are particularly vulnerable.

Install dual-paned windows with the exterior pane of tempered glass to reduce the chance of breakage in a fire.

Limit the size and number of windows in your home that face large areas of vegetation.

Walls: Wood products, such as boards, panels or shingles, are common siding materials. However, they are combustible and not good choices for fire-prone areas.

Build or remodel with fire-resistant building materials, such as brick, cement, masonry or stucco.

Be sure to extend materials from foundation to roof.

READY, SET, GO!

Create Your Own Wildfire Action Plan

Now that you've done everything you can to protect your house, it's time to prepare your family. Your **Wildfire Action Plan** must be prepared with all members of your household well in advance of a fire.

Use these checklists to help you prepare your Wildfire Action Plan. Each family's plan will be different, depending on their situation.

Once you finish your plan, rehearse it regularly with your family and keep it in a safe and accessible place for quick implementation.

GET READY

Prepare Your Family

- ☐ Create a **Family Disaster Plan** that includes meeting locations and communication plans and rehearse it regularly. Include in your plan the evacuation of large animals such as horses.
- ☐ Have fire extinguishers on hand and train your family how to use them.
- ☐ Ensure that your family knows where your gas, electric and water main shut-off controls are and how to use them.
- ☐ Plan several different evacuation routes.
- ☐ Designate an emergency meeting location outside the fire hazard area.
- ☐ Assemble an emergency supply kit as recommended by the American Red Cross.
- ☐ Appoint an out-of-area friend or relative as a point of contact so you can communicate with family members who have relocated.
- ☐ Maintain a list of emergency contact numbers posted near your phone and in your emergency supply kit.
- ☐ Keep an extra emergency supply kit in your car in case you can't get to your home because of fire.
- ☐ Have a portable radio or scanner so you can stay updated on the fire.

Go! | *Early!*

By leaving early, you give your family the best chance of surviving a wildfire. You also help firefighters by keeping roads clear of congestion, enabling them to move more freely and do their job.

WHEN TO LEAVE

Leave early enough to avoid being caught in fire, smoke or road congestion. Don't wait to be told by authorities to leave. In an intense wildfire, they may not have time to knock on every door. If you are advised to leave, don't hesitate!

WHERE TO GO

Leave to a predetermined location (it should be a low-risk area, such as a well-prepared neighbor or relative's house, a Red Cross shelter or evacuation center, motel, etc.)

HOW TO GET THERE

Have several travel routes in case one route is blocked by the fire or by emergency vehicles and equipment. Choose an escape route away from the fire.

WHAT TO TAKE

Take your emergency supply kit containing your family and pet's necessary items.

EMERGENCY SUPPLIES

The American Red Cross recommends every family have an emergency supply kit assembled long before a wildfire or other emergency occurs. Use the checklist below to help assemble yours. For more information on emergency supplies, visit the American Red Cross Web site at www.redcross.org.

- ☐ Three-day supply of water (one gallon per person per day).
- ☐ Non-perishable food for all family members and pets (three-day supply).
- ☐ First aid kit.
- ☐ Flashlight, battery-powered radio, and extra batteries.
- ☐ An extra set of car keys, credit cards, cash or traveler's checks.
- ☐ Sanitation supplies.
- ☐ Extra eyeglasses or contact lenses.
- ☐ Important family documents and contact numbers.
- ☐ Map marked with evacuation routes.
- ☐ Prescriptions or special medications.
- ☐ Family photos and other irreplaceable items.
- ☐ Easily carried valuables.
- ☐ Personal computers (information on hard drives and disks).
- ☐ Chargers for cell phones, laptops, etc.

Note: Keep a pair of old shoes and a flashlight handy in case of a sudden evacuation at night.

READY, SET, GO!

Residential Safety Checklist
Tips To Improve Family and Property Survival During A Wildfire

Home	Yes	No
1. Does your home have a metal, composition, or tile (or other non-combustible) roof with capped ends and covered fascia?	☐	☐
2. Are the rain gutters and roof free of leaves, needles and branches?	☐	☐
3. Are all vent openings screened with $^{1}/_{8}$ inch (or smaller) mesh metal screen?	☐	☐
4. Are approved spark arrestors on chimneys?	☐	☐
5. Does the house have non-combustible siding material?	☐	☐
6. Are the eaves "boxed in" and the decks enclosed?	☐	☐
7. Are the windows made of at least double-paned or tempered glass?	☐	☐
8. Are the decks, porches and other similar areas made of non-combustible material and free of easily combustible material (e.g. plastic furniture)?	☐	☐
9. Is all firewood at least 30 feet from the house?	☐	☐

Defensible Space	Yes	No
1. Is dead vegetation cleared to the recommended defensible space area? (Consider adding distance due to slope of property.)	☐	☐
2. Is there separation between shrubs?	☐	☐
3. Are ladder fuels removed?	☐	☐
4. Is there a clean and green area extending at least 30 feet from the house?	☐	☐
5. Is there a non-combustible area within five feet of the house?	☐	☐
6. Is there separation between trees and crowns?	☐	☐

Emergency Access	Yes	No
1. Is the home address visible from the street?	☐	☐
2. Is the home address made of fire-resistant materials?	☐	☐
3. Are street signs present at every intersection leading to the house?	☐	☐
4. Are street signs made of fire-resistant materials?	☐	☐
5. Is flammable vegetation within 10 feet of the driveway cleared and are overhanging obstructions removed?	☐	☐
6. If a long driveway is present, does it have a suitable turnaround area?	☐	☐

TEXAS FOREST SERVICE
The Texas A&M University System

FEMA

FEMA V-1013/May 2018

BE PREPARED FOR A WILDFIRE

Wildfires can ruin homes and cause injuries or death to people and animals.

A wildfire is an unplanned fire that burns in a natural area such as a forest, grassland, or prairie.

Often caused by humans or lightning.

Can cause flooding or create problems with transportation, gas, power, and communications.

Can damage your property. Set up defense zones to protect your home.

Can happen anywhere, anytime. Risk increases with little rain and high winds.

IF YOU ARE UNDER A WILDFIRE WARNING, GET TO SAFETY RIGHT AWAY

Leave if told to do so.

Listen for emergency information and alerts.

If trapped, call 911.

Use an N95 mask to keep particles out of the air you breathe.

HOW TO STAY SAFE

WHEN A WILDFIRE THREATENS

Prepare NOW

Sign up for your community's warning system. The Emergency Alert System (EAS) and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Weather Radio also provide emergency alerts.

Know your community's evacuation routes and find several ways to leave the area. Drive the evacuation routes and find shelter locations. Have a plan for pets and livestock.

Gather emergency supplies, including N95 respirator masks that filter out particles in the air you breathe. Keep in mind each person's specific needs, including medication. Don't forget the needs of pets.

Keep important documents in a fireproof safe. Create password-protected digital copies.

Use fire-resistant materials to build, renovate, or make repairs.

Find an outdoor water source with a hose that can reach any area of your property.

Create a fire-resistant zone that is free of leaves, debris, or flammable materials for at least 30 feet from your home.

Review insurance coverage to make sure it is enough to replace your property.

Survive DURING

Evacuate. Leave immediately if authorities tell you to do so.

If trapped, call 911 and give your location, but be aware that emergency response could be delayed or impossible. Turn on lights to help people find you.

Listen to EAS, NOAA Weather Radio, or local alerting systems for current emergency information and instructions.

Use an N95 mask to keep particles out of the air you breathe.

Be Safe AFTER

Listen to authorities to find out if it is safe to return and whether water is safe to drink.

Avoid hot ash, charred trees, smoldering debris, and live embers. The ground may contain heat pockets that can burn you or spark another fire. Consider the danger to pets and livestock walking the ground.

Send text messages or use social media to reach out to family and friends. Phone systems are often busy following a disaster. Make calls only in emergencies.

Document property damage with photographs. Conduct an inventory and contact your insurance company for assistance.

Take an Active Role in Your Safety

Go to **Ready.gov** and search for **wildfire**. Download the **FEMA app** to get more information about preparing for a **wildfire**.

FEMA

FEMA V-1013
Catalog No. 17233-14

Public education messaging centered on climate change and environmental protection

Proposed: One paragraph "Did you know" items for the town newsletter and to be collated and archived on the CEC website.

Examples:

Do you know what to do if a wildfire is approaching? Learn more here: https://disastersafety.org/wildfire/what-to-do-if-a-wildfire-is-approaching/

How about saving money, helping the environment, and keeping cool? Did you know that Xcel Energy offers rebates of up to $1,200 for energy efficient swamp coolers and air conditioners? Learn more here: https://www.xcelenergy.com/programs_and_rebates/residential_programs_and_rebates/heating_and_cooling/cooling

Did you know that the Colorado State Legislature passed HB19-1261: Climate Action Plan to Reduce Pollution? These statutory goals are to reduce 2025 greenhouse gas emissions by at least 26%; reduce 2030 greenhouse gas emissions by at least 50%, and reduce 2050 greenhouse gas emissions by at least 90% of the levels of statewide greenhouse gas emissions that existed in 2005.

Did you know that amending the soil when you plant a tree or other vegetation helps to conserve water? However, not all soil amendments are right for the clay soils we have in New Castle. Learn more about choosing soil amendments from the Colorado State University Extension here: https://extension.colostate.edu/topic-areas/yard-garden/choosing-a-soil-amendment/#:~:text=Organic%20amendments%20include%20sphagnum%20peat,recommended%20by%20Colorado%20State%20University.

CC4CA 2020-2021 Policy Statement

Adopted by the Board of Directors on June 19, 2020
For Ratification By Each CC4CA Member Jurisdiction

Colorado Communities for Climate Action is a coalition of local governments advocating for stronger state and federal climate policy. CC4CA's policy priorities for 2020-2021 reflect unanimous agreement among the coalition members on steps that should be taken at the state and federal level, often in partnership with local governments, to enable Colorado and its communities to lead in protecting the climate.

CC4CA generally focuses on legislative, regulatory, and administrative action, supporting efforts that advance the general policy principles and the detailed policy positions described below, and opposing efforts that would weaken or undermine these principles and positions.

General Policy Principles

The following general principles guide the specific policies that Colorado Communities for Climate Action supports:

Collaboration between state and federal government agencies and Colorado's local governments to advance local climate protection and resilience.

State and federal programs to reduce carbon pollution, including adequate and ongoing funding of those programs.

Analyses, financial incentives, infrastructure, and enabling policies for the development and deployment of clean energy technologies.

Locally driven and designed programs to support communities impacted by the clean energy transformation.

Prioritizing policies that put people at the center of decision-making, minimizing disparities in growing the clean economy, especially for historically marginalized communities, and enhancing equitable outcomes for all.

Policy Positions

Colorado Communities for Climate Action supports the following policy positions:

Statewide Climate Strategies

1. Reduce statewide carbon emissions consistent with or greater than the State of Colorado's 2019 codified goals.

2. Secure accurate, frequent state greenhouse gas inventories and forecasts for Colorado which are made accessible to local governments and designed to be useful for stakeholders.

3. Adopt a comprehensive market-based approach to reduce Colorado's greenhouse gas emissions that ensures the benefits accrue justly and equitably to impacted communities.

4. Expand consideration of the environmental and health costs associated with the use of fossil fuels in making and implementing climate-related policy.

Local Climate Strategies

5. Remove barriers and promote opportunities that allow counties and municipalities to maximize the deployment of local clean energy and climate-related strategies, including resilience-oriented strategies, while promoting affordable, accessible, and equitable delivery of reliable clean energy.

6. Enable local governments to obtain the energy use and other data from utilities and state agencies that they need to effectively administer climate and clean energy programs.

7. Support a comprehensive public process for evaluating retail and wholesale energy choice options for communities, informed by a broad variety of stakeholders.

8. Support policies that promote the efficient use of energy in buildings.

9. Provide for cost-effective and equitable policies, strategies, and practices that enable and accelerate beneficial electrification, reduce GHG emissions, improve quality of life, and make the electric grid more robust and resilient.

Energy Generation

10. Accelerate retirement of existing fossil fuel generation facilities and their replacement with cost-effective and reliable clean energy supplies, through means that protect both utilities and consumers.

11. Expand the ability of electric cooperatives to independently purchase local renewable electricity and take other steps to reduce carbon pollution.

12. Modernize energy infrastructure to enhance community-based resilience and integrate distributed energy resources.

Energy Efficiency

13. Expand demand side savings from efficiency and conservation for all energy types.

14. Support ongoing and sustainable funding for weatherization and renewable energy assistance to low-income households, including those from coal-dominated economies, so that all Coloradans have access to comfortable and affordable homes.

15. Support ongoing and sustainable funding for programs that assist communities in transition from coal-dominated economies.

16. Provide counties and statutory cities and towns with the same authority held by home rule cities to implement local energy conservation policies and programs.

Transportation

17. Ensure effective implementation of Colorado's vehicle emissions standards and other regulatory and programmatic activities designed to reduce carbon emissions from vehicles.

18. Implement the 2020 Colorado Electric Vehicle Plan and other efforts to increase electrification of all motor vehicles.

19. Increase funding and policy incentives for multimodal transportation and multimodal-friendly development statewide.

20. Incentivize and select mobility alternatives, including movement of both people and goods, based on energy efficiency and environmental costs and benefits.

Fossil Fuel Extraction Activities

21. Expand monitoring and reduction of the full life cycle emissions from fossil fuel extractive industry activities.

Solid Waste Reduction

22. Grant CDPHE the authority to implement a plan for meeting Colorado's statewide and regional solid waste diversion goals.

23. Reduce the use of disposable/single-use products and promote the reuse of materials, including construction and demolition waste.

24. Foster infrastructure, policies, incentives, and programs for reuse, recycling, and composting.

General

25. Encourage the adoption of climate-positive innovations like telecommuting, drawing from the lessons learned during the coronavirus pandemic, to substantially reduce air and carbon pollution.

26. Promote proactive programs and efforts that improve the resilience and adaptability of Colorado communities in the face of natural disasters and other major challenges associated with climate change, including ensuring that disaster stabilization and recovery efforts result in reduced carbon pollution and improved resilience to future disasters.

27. Optimize the potential for carbon sequestration through regenerative agriculture, improved soil health, and forest management.

28. Incorporate equity, accessibility, and just transition considerations into climate policies and actions.

29. Encourage investments that achieve climate-positive solutions, including policies that encourage entities investing public dollars to consider partial or full divestment as part of their investment strategies.

30. Maintain protections and authorities currently provided under environmental laws like the National Environmental Policy Act, the Clean Air Act, and the Clean Water Act.

Colorado Communities for Climate Action Highlights

June 2020

Colorado Communities for Climate Action is a coalition of 34 counties and municipalities across Colorado advocating for effective state climate policy. Our members span the Western Slope and Front Range; small rural towns and major suburbs; counties and municipalities; and wealthy, middle income, and low-income neighborhoods.

New members over the past year include Broomfield, Erie, Fraser, Gilpin County, Glenwood Springs, Lyons, and Salida. Representing one-seventh of all Coloradans, and with rural communities making up two-thirds of the membership, CC4CA has become an impactful voice for clean air, climate action, and public health protection.

Legislative Successes

The 2020 legislation session was extraordinary even by the standards of Colorado's volatile pollical environment, with an unprecedented budget implosion and a pandemic-driven shutdown of the General Assembly lasting more than 70 days. Although we had anticipated moving fewer climate and energy bills this year compared to the breakout 2019 session, the wild circumstances led legislators to drop nearly every bill on every issue except the budget. CC4CA was still able to leverage our growing influence at the Capitol into a range of legislative successes:

- CC4CA helped secure passage of SB20-204, which creates a fee-based enterprise fund for the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment to step up work on clean air protection programs.
- CC4CA helped secure passage of seven other meaningful bills, including legislation increasing fines for air pollution permit violations, making it easier for electric vehicle manufacturers to sell in Colorado, protecting reasonable energy storage charges for electric co-ops, requiring homebuilders to offer solar and EV options, notifying the public about toxic air pollution releases, and expanding recycling markets.
- CC4CA helped fend off a legislative attack before the session even started on the low emission vehicle (LEV) standards adopted in 2018 we worked hard to secure.
- CC4CA played defense on key climate and energy policies all the way through the session, most significantly helping to defeat a bill that would have imposed unreasonable electric vehicle registration fees intended to suppress the EV market.
- CC4CA continued to effectively leverage the power of local government voices – which bring particular concerns and perspectives to the table – throughout even this convoluted legislative session. Our elected officials, staff, and lobbyists continued to expand on our credibility among legislators, weighed in at key moments on important

bills and votes, and ensured that media coverage of these issues incorporated local government perspectives at strategic moments. And we will have the opportunity to pick up where we left off next year on many of the bills we supported this year.

Advanced Clean Car Standards

Building on our success in securing Low Emission Vehicle (LEV) standards for Colorado in 2018, CC4CA worked hard on the adoption of Zero Emissions Vehicle (ZEV) standards. We persuaded the Colorado Air Quality Control Commission to launch this process and then to actually adopt the standards, which they did in August. As a result, electric vehicles will become more affordable and Coloradans will have dramatically improved access to the full range of electric vehicle models on the market, including SUVs, crossovers, and trucks. These standards will also help ensure that all of Colorado – rural and Front Range alike – will fully benefit from the spread of electric vehicles. CC4CA played a key role in securing this critical Colorado Air Quality Control Commission decision.

Pushing for Strong Executive Branch Policies and Programs

In a major victory, CC4A collaborated with other local jurisdictions and a wide range of other organizations to secure substantial improvements in Colorado's so-called "methane rules." These new standards strengthen the requirements on how often oil and gas drilling operations must check for methane leaks, eliminates a major loophole that had been allowing operators to emit large quantities of methane and other dangerous gases without a permit, and other improvements. The Colorado Air Quality Control Commission adopted these updated standards in late December 2019.

CC4CA also secured a major regulatory win on greenhouse gas inventories this year, following on the campaign we led last year to pass Senator Donovan's GHG inventory bill. SB19-096 required the state to undertake a major update of its inventory process to help ensure that it is accurately tracking all of the key sources of carbon pollution. Without accurate inventories, there is no way to know how much progress we are making, what the biggest trouble spots are, and which strategies are working and which aren't. We celebrated the AQCC's adoption of the new regulations just last month.

In the same rulemaking proceeding that led to updated GHG inventory rules, we succeeded in persuading the AQCC to phase-out HFCs – an especially potent greenhouse gas – in Colorado.

CC4CA is working closely with the Governor's staff, the Colorado Energy Office, the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment, and other state agencies to reduce Colorado's carbon emissions and better prepare for the local community impacts of climate change.

Elevating the Local Government Voice

CC4CA ensures that its members – local elected officials and local government staff – have the opportunity to serve as witnesses during legislative hearings, meet with their legislators, testify during agency rulemaking processes, speak to reporters, and publish opinion pieces in local and statewide media outlets.

In the past year alone, more than 20 CC4CA representatives have testified in legislative and rulemaking hearings, CC4CA has been quoted at least 40 times in news coverage, we have met with legislators and members of the governor's team many dozens of times, and coordinated with dozens of other stakeholder groups.

In just four years, Colorado Communities for Climate Action has evolved from a promising idea into an influential coalition shaping state climate policy. It can be very difficult for individual local governments to influence state policy on their own, but our coalition of counties and municipalities all speaking with one voice is having an outsized impact.

For more information:
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Colorado Communities for Climate Action

July 2020

Colorado Communities for Climate Action is a coalition of counties and municipalities advocating for strong state and federal climate policy.

Climate change is a defining challenge of this century. As local governments and local elected officials, we have a unique perspective on the threats and challenges that climate change poses, a perspective that is often overlooked in the policy debates.

Benefits of the Coalition

Collaboration

Working together through Colorado Communities for Climate Action, local governments can influence state and federal actions more than individual jurisdictions can alone. CC4CA works for strong collaboration between state and local governments, maximizing the return on local efforts.

Cost-Effectiveness

Pooling resources to secure professional representation is the most cost-effective way for local governments to sustain a focused and impactful presence at the state and federal levels.

Local Support

The coalition also offers networking opportunities to members and produces analyses and materials in support of coalition and member priorities and actions.

Current Policy Priorities

Colorado Communities for Climate Action works to shape state and federal climate policy. Coalition members annually update a Policy Statement that guides the coalition's advocacy efforts. The Policy Statement includes:

- Actively supporting pro-climate action legislation and opposing bills that undercut state or local climate authority.
- Advocating for state policies and actions that put Colorado on the path to significant greenhouse gas emissions reductions and empower local governments to take effective action in their own communities.
- Representing local interests in state agency proceedings on climate protection, energy efficiency, and clean energy, and advocating for continued and strengthened federal climate actions and against efforts to roll back federal policies and programs.

The coalition's 34 local government members include:

- Aspen
- Avon
- Basalt
- Boulder
- Boulder County
- Breckenridge
- Broomfield
- Carbondale
- Clear Creek County
- Crested Butte
- Dillon
- Eagle County
- Erie
- Fort Collins
- Fraser
- Frisco
- Gilpin County
- Glenwood Springs
- Golden
- Lafayette
- Longmont
- Louisville
- Lyons
- Mountain Village
- Nederland
- Northglenn
- Pitkin County
- Ridgway
- Salida
- San Miguel County
- Summit County
- Telluride
- Vail
- Westminster

Budget and Annual Dues

CC4CA members pay annual dues to provide the resources for effective coalition operations, including representation by professional advocacy consultants in the General Assembly and before state agencies. Dues are based on population size. Within each population category, local governments have a choice of dues amounts (Base, Base Plus, etc.). Every member of the coalition has the same voice and vote regardless of the dues level they select.

Population Size	Base	Base Plus	Core	Core Plus
Over 100,000	$15,000	$22,500	$30,000	$40,000
50,000 - 100,000	$10,000	$15,000	$20,000	$27,500
5,000 - 49,999	$5,000	$7,500	$10,000	$13,500
1,000 – 4,999	$1,000	$1,750	$2,500	$3,500
Under 1,000	$500	$750	$1,000	$1,250

Coalition Management

The coalition is guided by a board comprised of representatives from member jurisdictions, as well as an executive director and other committees of member representatives making decisions on particular subjects. A unanimous vote of all members is required to amend CC4CA's Policy Statement. Elisabeth Rosen of Political Advocacy, Inc. and Eliza Schultz of Schultz Public Affairs represent the coalition at the state capitol.

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