Wildfire Risk Reduction Program

Whatcom CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Summary of Accomplishments Jan 2019 - Dec 2020

Wildfire Risk Assessments
32 assessments & reports completed

Trained staff met with landowners on their property to discuss wildfire risk & offer specific recommendations for improving the wildfire safety of the property. Follow-up reports were provided with photos & recommendations. Hard copy resources were also provided to each landowner.

Fuels Reduction/Chipping
60 tons of material removed & chipped

Landowners around the county worked to remove down tree debris & prune up tree branches to reduce the wildfire risk around their structures. Chipping costs were covered through partnerships, grants, & community funds. Chipping provides a great alternative to burning.

Firewise USA Program
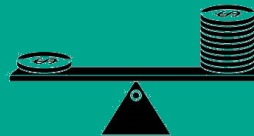**1 new Firewise Site, 3 in progress**

Through this program, neighbors are working together to address their shared risk. There are 6 Firewise Sites currently in Whatcom County. Chuckanut Crest, Mt. Baker Rim, Peaceful Valley & Sudden Valley are also engaged in wildfire planning & may be added to the program in the future.

Capacity Building
An additional $15,000 leveraged

WCD leveraged county funds for an additional $15,000 in cash & in-kind contributions that allowed 5 chipping projects to occur & additional risk assessments to be provided. WCD partnered with local, state, & federal organizations to get projects on the ground.

Wildfire Awareness Month
May 2020 County Proclamation

To support the county proclamation of May as Wildfire Awareness Month, WCD launched a media campaign focused on wildfire preparedness. It included articles, social media posts, radio content, & mailers. New wildfire information pages were created on the WCD website.

Community Education
Over 700 residents reached

Whatcom County residents in vulnerable areas were reached through workshops, presentations & targeted mailers. Tools & resources were provided to residents on improving the fire-resistance of structures, fire-resistant landscaping, fire behavior, and response.

TOPOGRAPHY WEATHER FUEL
Fire Behavior Triangle

www.whatcomcd.org/wildfire