



2026 WASHINGTON STATE DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES FIREWISE USA® SITE MICRO GRANT Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO)

The 2026 Washington Department of Natural Resources (WA DNR) Firewise USA® Site Micro Grant is a part of the Wildfire Ready Neighbors (WRN) Program assisting Firewise USA® sites in a community effort to implement their Firewise USA® Action Plans and be more prepared for a wildfire. It is designed to encourage neighbors in communities to work together and take actions to reduce wildfire risks through implementation of mitigation strategies identified in Firewise USA® site Action Plans. This program is intended for community risk mitigation and not for individuals or households. This program will provide reimbursement of *up to \$4,000** for eligible activities conducted in active or prospective Firewise USA® sites as funds are available. The following guidelines are intended to help potential grantees apply to this program.

**Awarded reimbursements may vary based on available funds and numbers of applicants; If you have needs beyond \$4,000, ask your regional DNR Community Resilience Coordinator about the availability of additional funds this fiscal year. Recipients will be notified of actual reimbursement amount available at time of award.*

Program Intent and Objectives:

The intent of this grant opportunity is to encourage residents of Washington State to prepare for the 2026 wildfire season during the Wildfire Awareness Month of May. Hosting a community event and/or implementing action items from existing or newly developed Firewise USA® Action Plans is a great way to prepare, this grant program helps facilitate that.

You should check your community Firewise USA® status before applying. If you are unsure if your community is currently recognized as a Firewise USA® Site you can go [**HERE**](#) and check the interactive map. If your community may have been previously recognized, but is not currently in good standing Click [**HERE**](#). < That link is also appropriate to learn more about becoming a Firewise USA® site. The Wildfire Awareness Month of May can be used as a pre-season focus time for your community to prepare for the upcoming fire season, however your event /activity can be held at any time prior to June 15th, 2026.

The objectives of these grant awards are to:

- Encourage communities to celebrate Wildfire Preparedness Day (May 2nd, 2026) and/or to celebrate the Wildfire Awareness Month of May.
- Increase ignition-resistance in communities through homeowner mitigation actions in the Home Ignition Zone and other community properties.
- Help communities implement Firewise USA® Action Plans.
- Educate the public about the benefits of the wildfire mitigation activities.
- Support current and/or prospective Firewise USA® sites.
- Encourage more Firewise USA® sites in Washington State to help reduce the risk of catastrophic loss in communities due to wildfire



- Create more ignition resistant Washington communities.
- Reduce the risk and effects of wildfire in wildland-urban interface areas.
- Encourage greater understanding of fire adaptation principles in Washington State.

Project Match Requirements:

This program has NO project match requirements. Eligible expenses will be reimbursed after project completion. Receipts are required for reimbursement.

Eligible Grant Recipients:

Active and Prospective Firewise USA® sites, or local Fire Districts/non-governmental organizations, planning a community event in all of Washington State

Eligible Projects:

- Projects listed in Firewise USA® Action Plans; or projects that increase ignition-resistance and/or focus on actions in the Home Ignition Zone and its immediate surroundings.
- Expenses associated with community events celebrating Wildfire Preparedness Day, Wildfire Awareness Month, or other community wildfire mitigation activities or events. This could include a workshop to educate community members about the National Firewise USA® program and the steps to becoming nationally recognized.
- Wildfire mitigation educational activities/workshops or materials that can be used to educate the community. (Structural firefighting educational supplies are not covered).
- Wildfire hazard mitigation activities, such as hazardous fuels reduction, debris collection, chipping programs, etc.
- Updating and installing Fire District approved reflective addressing signs throughout the community.

Outlined below is a list of approved equipment and services which can be rented and reimbursed with state funds administered by DNR under this Grant. Additional items may be acceptable; Please confirm before incurring expenses, as non-eligible expenses will not be reimbursed. For more information, contact the Grant Manager or your Local WADNR Community Resilience Coordinator listed in the contacts below.

Examples of Approved Services and Expenses

- Equipment rental for wildfire hazard mitigation, fuel for equipment
- Hazardous fuel removal or firebreaks (chipper, debris bins, chainsaw, industrial leaf blowers, industrial weed eaters, etc.)
- Education/Preparedness workshop expenses
- Promotional materials for preparedness programs
- Fire Resistant Plants
- Hardscape materials such as gravel
- Community Mailings
- Contracted labor costs
- Dumpster rentals and disposal fees



Ineligible Projects or Items:

- Projects outside the intent and scope of the legislative funding as interpreted by the DNR.
- Food or Beverages
- Structural firefighting educational supplies are not covered
- Indirect and administrative costs

Funding Ranges:

The 2026 Washington DNR Firewise USA® Micro Grant program has up to \$4,000 available per community. If you have needs beyond this amount, ask your local DNR Community Resilience Coordinator about the availability of additional funds this funding cycle.

Grant Application Deadline and Review:

Round 1 Due by February 27th. Applicants will be notified by **March 6th** of round 1 results

Round 2 is due by March 27th. Applicants will be notified by **April 3rd** of the results
(Round 2 will only happen if funds are still available)

Round 3 is due by May 29th, Round 3 will only occur if funds are available after April 3rd.
Applications received after March 27th will be reviewed as first come first serve until funds run out.

Project, Claims, and Accomplishment Deadlines:

If awarded funds, your project must be completed by June 15, 2026.

The Washington State Department of Natural Resources **Claim Form needs to be submitted to Regional Wildfire Resilience Coordinators no later than June 19, 2026 (see below).**

Cost Documentation, Payment Process, and Reporting:

- Method of payment: Program will **reimburse for actual expenses** as described in your award letter. One reimbursement payment will occur after project completion for eligible expenses incurred after the Award Date and Prior to June 15th, 2026.
- The grant recipient must provide DNR with acceptable written documentation (e.g. receipts from contractors and suppliers of costs incurred.)
- The intended payee of the awarded funds must have a valid Statewide Vendor/Supplier Registration prior to making a claim for reimbursement by the June 19th deadline.
- The payee is usually the same as the applicant/grantee, in some cases contractors may be the payee.



- Intended payees with a valid Statewide Vendor/Supplier Registrations on file with the Washington State Department of Enterprise Services may use their current registration. *It is recommended grantees ensure the intended payee has a valid Statewide Vendor/Supplier Registration after you receive your approval letter, prior to the completion of the project and the subsequent claim for reimbursement. This will help avoid delays and potentially miss the completion paperwork deadline of June 19th. If the deadline is missed, you may not receive reimbursement past June 30th.*
- The following website has the most recent Statewide Vendor/Supplier Registration forms available as a web form or to download: <https://ofm.wa.gov/it-systems/accounting-systems/statewide-vendorpayee-https://ofm.wa.gov/tech-support/statewide-vendor-payee-services/#section-statewide-registration-forms>
- The following website may be used to lookup a current registration, the Statewide Payee contact information is located on the left of the page if you need assistance: <https://ofm.wa.gov/tech-support/statewide-vendor-payee-services/statewide-vendor-number-lookup/systems/accounting-systems/statewide-vendorpayee-services/statewide-vendor-number-lookup>
- **The State of Washington may be required to report your grant payment to the IRS in compliance with agency regulations. Payees may receive a 1099 tax form from the DNR. Consult a tax professional if you have questions about reimbursement payments and taxable income.**
- Grant recipients will be required to provide an accomplishment report with activity summary and proof of project completion to DNR:
 - Demographic data – Community name, location, date of event, and total amount of funds used.
 - Activity summary – Number of participants, acres treated, hours spent, copy of hazard risk assessment, brochures produced. If funds are used to conduct an outreach meeting, then organizers should submit a copy of the meeting agenda, number of contacts made (number of attendees), and materials produced or handed out. (Example: A one-day project to remove flammable debris would provide DNR the number of acres covered, the total tonnage/cubic yards collected for the day and a sign-in sheet recorded each participant's name and number of hours worked.)
 - Photos – Before and after, community participation, etc. If submitting photos that include minors, a waiver must be signed and submitted.



Program Contacts

WASHINGTON STATE DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES **Regional Community Resilience Coordinators**

Please send your completed applications to your regional Community Resilience Coordinator
Contact your regional Community Resilience Coordinator with any questions

Applications and information can also be found at:

<https://dnr.wa.gov/wildfire-resources/community-wildfire-resilience-and-preparedness/defensible-space-prepare-your-home>

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2026 Washington Department of Natural Resources Firewise USA® Site Assistance Micro Grant Manager

**Contact your regional Community Resilience Coordinator with any questions. Contact the
Grant Program Manager below if you cannot reach your regional coordinator**

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