



## Deschutes County Fuel Reduction Discretionary Grant Program

### Funding Guidelines

The Deschutes County Board of Commissioners has allocated \$100,000 to fund fuel reduction projects to reduce wildfire risk in Deschutes County communities. Discretionary grants are made available through the County's portion of proceeds from video lottery gaming. Preference will be given to communities or neighborhoods that are working to be recognized as a [Firewise USA™](#) site or are [currently recognized](#) as a Firewise USA™ site and are proposing projects consistent with their Firewise action plan and community assessment.

### Purpose

Fuel Reduction discretionary grants are intended to assist communities with specific, short-term projects or activities related to reducing fuels and improving defensible space in Deschutes County. A wide range of activities may be eligible for funding, including, but not limited to, equipment rental, supplies needed for community work parties, contracting out roadside chipping, fuel reduction or defensible space, and debris disposal fees. Deschutes County discourages requests for regular maintenance (i.e. pine needle raking and removal) and ongoing operational funding that cannot be sustained beyond the grant period.

### Eligibility

Applicants for Fuel Reduction discretionary grants must be working at a neighborhood or community scale (not individual properties) to reduce wildfire risks. Activities should result in reduction of wildland fuels and/or improvement of defensible space around structures.

### Funding

The amount of funding available for projects in the current fiscal year (through June 30, 2022) is \$100,000. There are no established minimum or maximum amounts for grant requests, however awards are anticipated to range between \$500 and \$5,000 and award amounts will be dependent on demand.

### Application

Applicants must complete and submit one copy of the Deschutes County Fuel Reduction Discretionary Grant application. The most competitive applications will contribute some matching resources toward the project budget, either in cash, volunteer time or in goods and services; however, a match is not specifically required.

Completed application packets should be mailed or sent via email to the following address:

Ed Keith, County Forester, [ed.keith@deschutes.org](mailto:ed.keith@deschutes.org)  
61150 SE 27<sup>th</sup> Street, Bend, OR 97702

## **Timelines**

The first round of applications will be accepted until September 30, 2021, and will be reviewed shortly thereafter. A site visit may be conducted as part of the review. Applicants will be notified of results by the mid October. Projects should be completed prior to June 30, 2022. Applications received after September 30<sup>th</sup> may be considered depending on available funding.

## **Evaluation**

Upon receipt, Deschutes County staff will screen applications for completeness and several ranking factors. Incomplete applications may be returned to the applicant with a request for additional information. Factors that will be considered during the review process include, but may not limited to, whether the neighborhood or community is a recognized Firewise USA™ site or is working to become one, whether the proposed project is consistent with the Firewise action plan and community assessment, the number and/or size of properties that are anticipated to participate in the project, whether the project is focused on defensible space within 100' of structures, and matching resources (cash or in-kind) provided to accomplish the project.

## **Awards**

All applicants will be notified of the funding decision. At that time, successful applicants will receive instructions describing how to receive the grant award.

## **Post-Award Requirements**

Acknowledgement of Funding: If any public recognition is made related to the purpose for which the grant was received, such as in media announcements, marketing materials, advertising, or information campaigns, grant recipients must acknowledge support from the Deschutes County Fuel Reduction Discretionary Grant Program.

Final Report: Recipients will be required to submit a brief written report upon completion of the grant funded project or activity that summarizes results and certifies that grant funds were used as intended. Proof of expenses is required. To comply with restrictions on the use of public funds, recipients may be asked to furnish financial and accounting information for audit purposes.

Compliance: Grant recipients who do not comply with award requirements established by Deschutes County may be subject to repaying funds received and may become ineligible for future funding consideration.

## **Additional Information**

Interested applicants can learn more and ask questions by attending one of two online meetings offered on August 16<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 – 11:00 a.m. or August 26<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 – 4:00 p.m. Register at the links below:

August 16: <https://bit.ly/FWGrant-Aug16>

August 26: <https://bit.ly/FWGrant-Aug26>

For additional information about this Deschutes County Discretionary Grant Program, please contact Ed Keith, County Forester at 541-322-7117 or [ed.keith@deschutes.org](mailto:ed.keith@deschutes.org)



## Deschutes County

### Fuel Reduction Discretionary Grant Program Application

Name of Community / Applicant Organization:

Project Beginning Date:

Project End Date:

Amount Requested:

Address:

Contact Name(s):

Telephone #:

Email Address:

**Please briefly answer the following questions (use additional pages as necessary):**

1. Is your community currently a Firewise USA™ site?
  - a. Yes
  - b. No, but currently we are a “pending” site working towards recognition
  - c. No
  
2. Describe the proposed project or activity.
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
3. Will this project include work in the 100’ defensible space zone next to structures?
  - a. Yes, the focus of the work will be in the zone 100’ around structures
  - b. Yes, this work includes areas within 100 of structures, but also areas further away such as common areas
  - c. No, this work is focused on areas further than 100’ from structures

4. How is this project consistent with your Firewise action plan and community assessment?

5. Provide a timeline for the proposed project or activity. (start and end dates, and anticipated duration)

Project will start by:

Project will end by (no later than June 30, 2022):

Approximate total time to accomplish project work:

6. Explain how the proposed project or activity will improve wildfire safety and reduce risks to the community.

7. Identify the expected number of community members participating in the project, estimated properties and approximate acreage of properties that will participate in the project, and if possible include a map of the project area.

8. Submit a project budget: Describe how grant funds will be used and include the source and amounts of matching funds or in-kind contributions, if any. Itemize anticipated expenditures in a project budget. (Volunteer time should be valued at the national volunteer rate of \$28.54 per hour.)