

Fire Adapted Communities



CARCD 72nd Annual Conference
“Dynamic Partnerships, Relevant Results”
November 2017 – Sacramento, CA



RESOURCE
CONSERVATION DISTRICTS

Partnerships forged by fire

Connecting, educating, and empowering people to create neighborhood-wide defensible space and develop fire adapted communities

Fire Adapted Communities Program
Tahoe Resource Conservation District



Nicole Shaw

Landscape Conservation Program Manager

Office: 530.543.1501 x129

nshaw@tahoercd.org

TahoeRCD.org

Fire Adapted Communities



INTRODUCTION

Why develop a Fire Adapted Communities program?

How are we paying for this?

Who else is involved?

What does Tahoe RCD do?

What are some of our challenges?



Fire Adapted Communities



Fire Adapted Communities -- Fire Wise -- Fire Safe Councils

SOME COMMON GOALS

- reduce wildfire risk on private property
- promote fuels reduction and defensible space
- services to help deal with the green waste (e.g. chipping)
- often driven by a Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP)
- help communities safely co-exist with fire-adapted (and often unpredictable) natural systems



Fire Adapted Communities



The Tahoe context of our Fire Adapted Communities program....



Fire Adapted Communities



Tahoe Fire and Fuels Team (TFFT)

- Formed in 2008 to implement the Lake Tahoe Basin Multi-Jurisdictional Fuel Reduction and Wildfire Prevention Strategy
- Developed a Community Wildfire Protection Plan per the National Cohesive Strategy (2015)
- A tenet of both is development of Fire Adapted Communities (FAC)
- Established the Tahoe Network of Fire Adapted Communities (2016)
- 20 federal, state, and local agencies and organizations, including the Tahoe Resource Conservation District



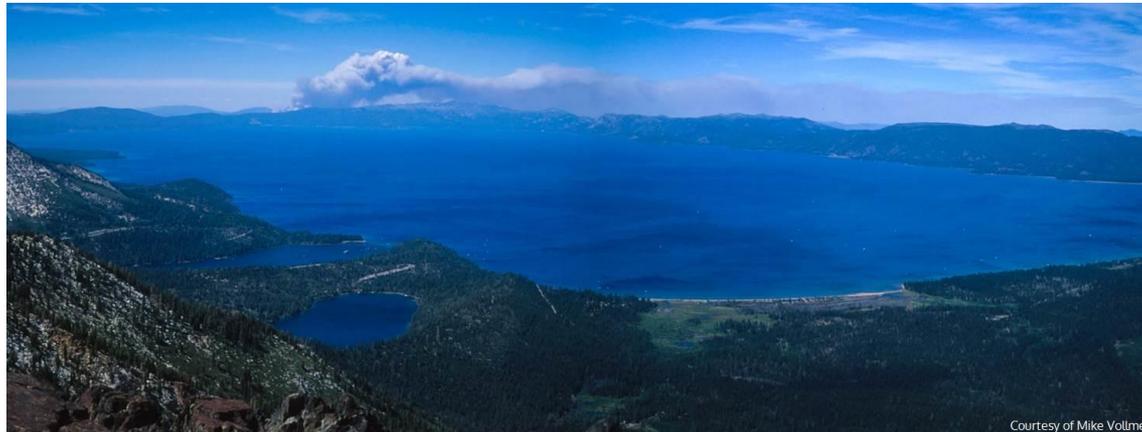


SNPLMA

the Southern Nevada Public Land Management Act of 1998

ROUND 16 - TFFT coordinated multiple complementary applications

1. US Forest Service Hazardous Fuels Reduction
2. California Hazardous Fuels Reduction
3. Nevada Hazardous Fuels Reduction
4. Programmatic Timber Environmental Impact Review
5. Tahoe Network of Fire Adapted Communities



Fire Adapted Communities



Fire district roles

- Free defensible space inspections by request
- Free chipping services
- Use new Tahoe-wide inspection database
- Select neighborhoods for blanket, curbside inspections in alignment with fire district priorities
- Build the Tahoe Network of Fire Adapted Communities
- Provide single point of contact for FAC work



Fire Adapted Communities



Tahoe RCD roles

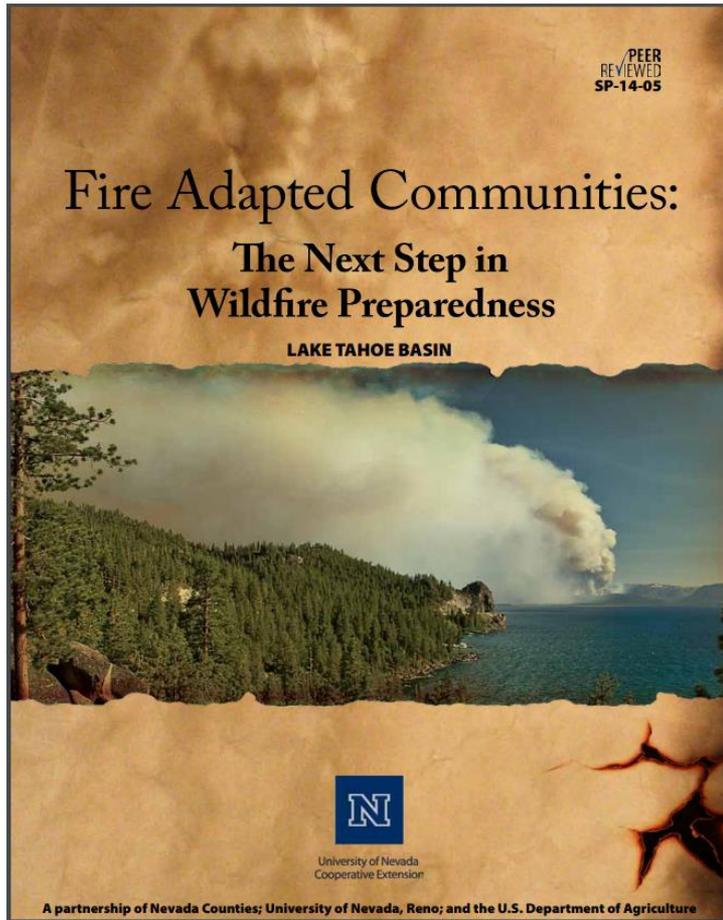
- Grant management
- Fire Adapted Communities
- Outreach and education strategy (*Living with Fire – UNCE*)
- Green waste
- Incorporate with existing programs
- Tahoe fire defensible space inspection database
- Deliver all elements of fire adapted communities



Fire Adapted Communities



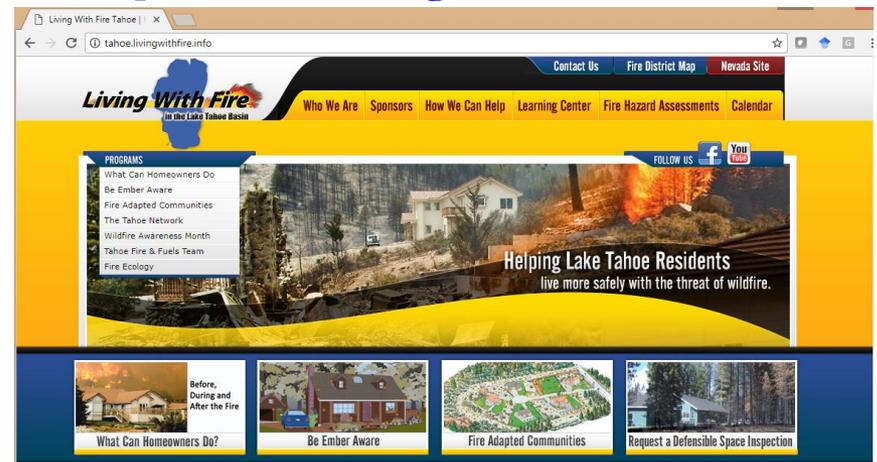
Outreach and Education



University of Nevada
Cooperative Extension



<http://tahoe.livingwithfire.info/>



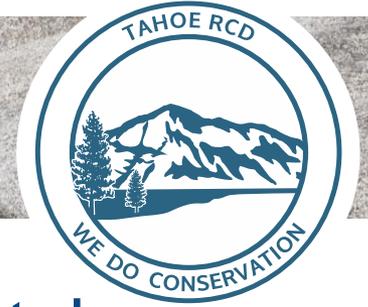
Fire Adapted Communities



Tahoe Fire Defensible Space Inspection Database

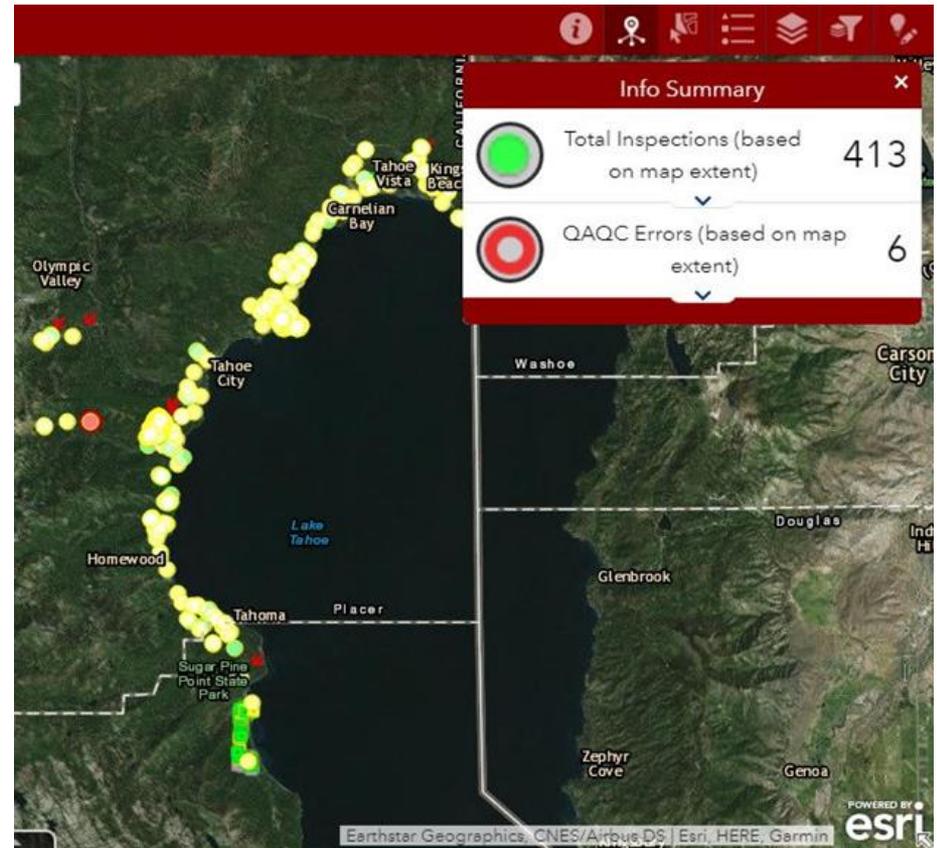
- Centralized clearinghouse of all defensible space inspection data in Tahoe
- CAL FIRE partnership and secondary beta test
- Mutual learning opportunity and data sharing
- Real-time data via *The Cloud*





Tahoe Fire Defensible Space Inspection Database

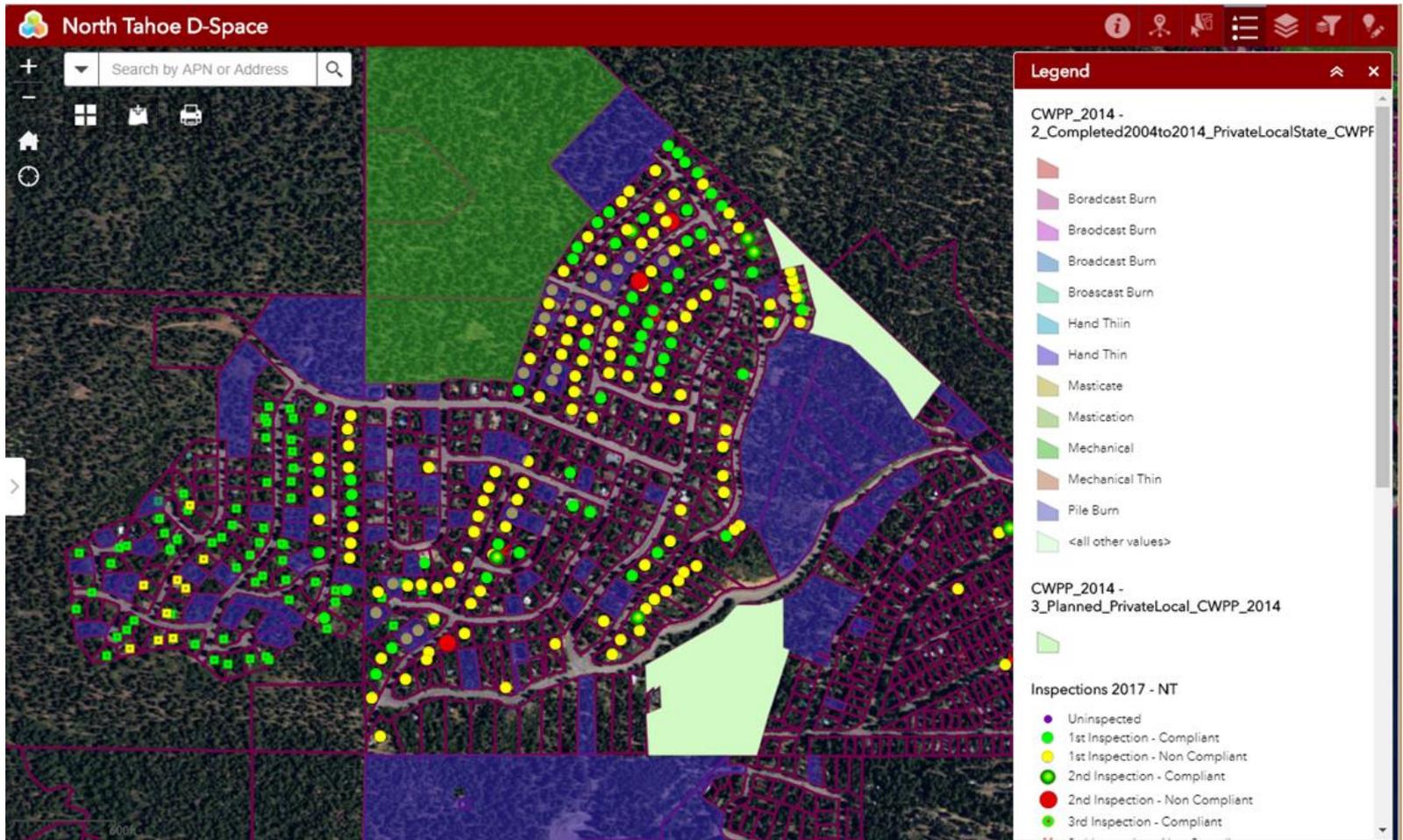
- Managed and maintained by Tahoe RCD staff
 - QA/QC scripts
 - Customized web applications
 - Parcel data



Fire Adapted Communities



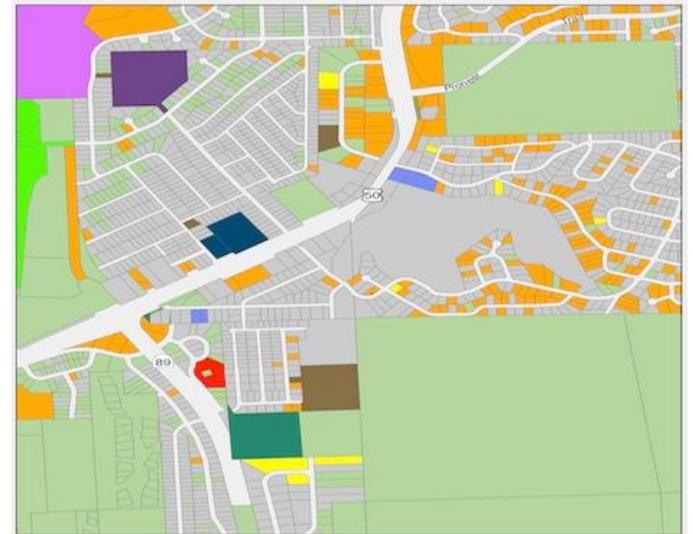
The database





What are our challenges?

- Demographics - year-round residents, 2nd homeowners, vacation rentals, long-term rentals, visitors
- Jurisdictional complexities
- Undeveloped land matrix within every neighborhood
 - 6,500 acres managed by California Tahoe Conservancy (mostly < 1/3 acre)
 - many private, undeveloped
 - USFS manages 'urban lots' as well



Fire Adapted Communities



What can we learn from YOU?





Q & A



Nicole Shaw

Landscape Conservation Program Manager

Office: 530.543.1501 x129

nshaw@tahoercd.org

TahoeRCD.org

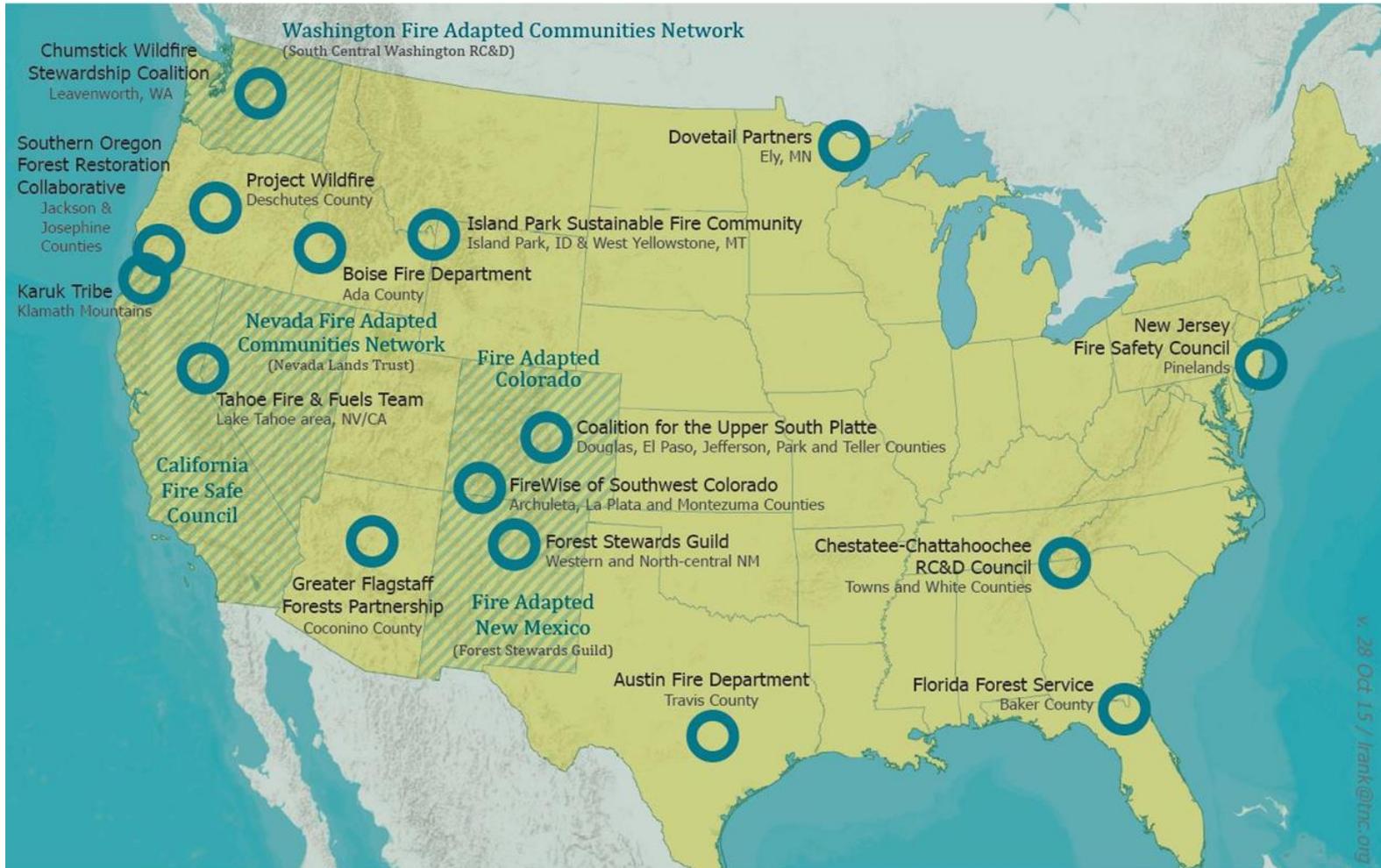


What does SNPLMA 16 TNFAC pay for?

- Fire District services and support
- Education and Outreach
- Neighborhood-level coordination
- Federal grant management for partners (pass-through)
- Tahoe-wide defensible space inspection database
- Rebates to incentivize heavy-lifting defensible space work



Fire Adapted Communities



Fire Adapted Communities



THE NETWORK



The Tahoe Network of Fire Adapted Communities is an alliance of organizations working to reduce wildfire risk in the Lake Tahoe Basin. It is made up of Fire Protection Districts, land management agencies, and engaged communities. The Network focuses on these objectives:

- **Connect** residents and fire protection districts to create defensible space
- **Educate** residents to become knowledgeable and capable citizens in the face of wildfire threat
- **Empower** leaders to organize their neighbors and build resilient communities

Connect

Fire Adapted Communities Coordinator:
info@tahoercd.org
 530.543.1501 ext. 114



TAHOE

Resource Conservation District

870 Emerald Bay Road #108
 South Lake Tahoe, CA 96150
TahoeRCD.org

Fire Protection District Contact Info

The contact information listed is for requesting a defensible space consultation



North Tahoe Fire
 (530)584-2322
ntfire.net



North Lake Tahoe Fire
 (775)831-0351 ext. 8118
ntlfpd.net



Meeks Bay Fire
 (530)525-7548
meeksbayfire.com



Tahoe Douglas Fire
 (775)588-3591
tahoefire.org



Fallen Leaf Fire*



Lake Valley Fire
 (530)577-2447
lakevalleyfire.org



South Lake Tahoe Fire*

*Consultations conducted by Lake Valley Fire



For information on basin-wide fire management efforts visit
tahoelivingwithfire.info



Fire Adapted Communities



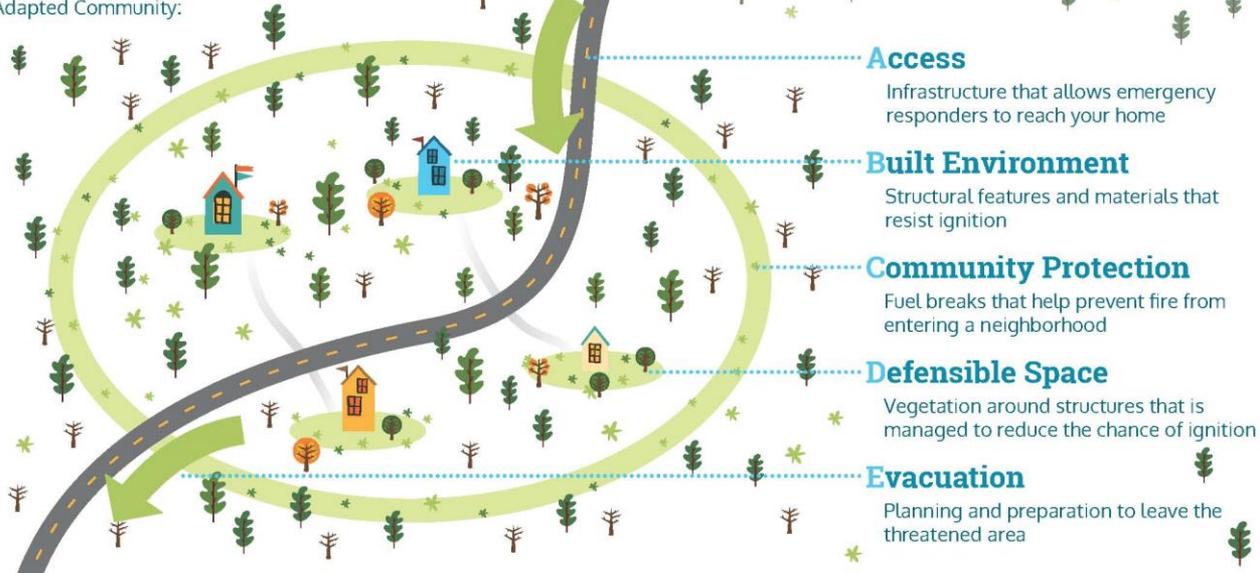
F.A.C. Facts

A Fire Adapted Community is a neighborhood that needs little to no assistance from fire services during a wildfire. The community works together to reduce flammable fuels and develop systems of support in case of disaster. This lowers risk to life and property while allowing emergency services to perform their duty more safely.

There are five elements involved in making your neighborhood into a Fire Adapted Community:

What can I do?

- Call your Fire Protection District for a defensible space consultation and maintain your property to reduce fire threat
- Contact Tahoe Resource Conservation District to become a leader in your neighborhood
- Spread the word! Fire is everyone's responsibility so helping your neighbors makes us all safer



Fire Adapted Communities



What have we learned so far?

- Make it easy
- Make it inexpensive



Fire Adapted Communities



What have we accomplished so far?

Partnerships

- Local fire protection districts
- CAL FIRE
- University of Nevada Cooperative Extension *Living with Fire*

Recruitment

- Neighborhood leaders

Incentives

- Rebates
- More ideas...

The Database..

