

F.L.A.M.E. Initiative Overview

The F.L.A.M.E. initiative is a proactive wildfire mitigation program launched by Travis County Emergency Services Districts No. 2, 11 and 12, the Austin/Travis Wildfire Coalition and the Travis County Fire Marshal's Office. Its purpose is to engage leaders and residents in housing, design, landscaping, emergency services, insurance and property management to reduce wildfire risk across eastern Travis County. The program provides hands-on guidance, property assessments and practical strategies to strengthen wildfire resilience.

The Five Pillars of F.L.A.M.E.:

- **Fortify structures** – Use fire-resistant materials and construction techniques to strengthen homes and buildings
- **Landscape defensively** – Design and maintain yards and open spaces to prevent fire spread using defensible space principles
- **Address spark entry** – Block embers from entering homes by securing roof vents, eaves and other vulnerable points
- **Maintain clean zones** – Keep properties clear of debris, dead vegetation and other combustible materials
- **Educate and equip** – Provide resources and training to empower homeowners, builders and property managers to act early and effectively

Why Wildfire Mitigation Matters in Central Texas

- Although Travis County's wildfire risk is considered moderate compared to other regions, the danger is real. Wildfires account for about 6% of emergency incidents in Travis County. Growth in eastern Travis County, combined with dry conditions and increased development in rural areas, makes wildfire prevention a critical community need.

Key Benefits of Adopting F.L.A.M.E. Principles

- Reduce property and home loss during wildfire events
- Improve safety for residents, emergency responders and wildlife
- Lower potential insurance costs through risk reduction
- Support community-wide collaboration on fire safety
- Foster long-term sustainability in housing and land management

Suggested Actions for Homeowners and Developers

- Install ember-resistant vents and fire-rated roofing materials
- Clear vegetation within 30 feet of structures
- Store firewood and flammable items away from buildings
- Maintain emergency evacuation plans
- Use the Insurance Institute for Business & Home Safety (IBHS) guidelines for construction and maintenance best practices

For wildfire readiness support, property evaluations or additional resources, contact:

- Travis County Fire Marshal's Office
 - Contact fire.marshall@traviscountytexas.gov or by phone at (512) 854-4621
- Travis County Emergency Services District No. 2
 - Contact info@pflugervillefire.org or by phone at (512) 251-2801
- Travis County Emergency Services District No. 11
 - Contact the Fire Prevention Division at prevention@traviscountyfire.org
- Travis County Emergency Services District No. 12
 - Contact Interim Fire Chief Chris McKenzie cmckenzie@tcesd12.com or by phone at (512) 272-4502

