



Wildland Fire Risk Reduction Training Program For Neighborhood Ambassadors

Do you want to learn how to reduce wildland fire risk in your neighborhood?

The Tri-Lakes United Methodist Church Emergency Preparedness Group (EPG) is a 2020 national award winner in the wildfire mitigation arena and has conducted numerous risk reduction projects. The EPG is presenting a free course to share the experience they have gained through training Neighborhood Ambassadors on how to inform and organize their neighbors to implement risk reduction projects in their own neighborhoods.

Neighborhood Ambassador training will start with a virtual kick-off meeting at 10:00 am on February 27th. The meeting will take approximately 90 minutes and present an overview of the program and answer questions.

The program will begin by presenting a virtual training module each week for seven weeks in March and April and one on-site module to train and certify group members to perform Wildfire Risk Assessments. The virtual modules will cover topics such as organizing a neighborhood project, identifying resources for fire, forestry, and home-hardening services, how to involve your neighbors, planning for rolling chipping days, and instruction on preferred vegetation for wildfire risk areas.

May 1st is National Wildfire Preparedness Day and will feature either a virtual or in-person event (depending on COVID-19 restrictions) open to the public and program participants.

The last virtual module will provide Neighborhood Ambassadors with information on how to connect with the local resources needed to support their project. The next events are an on-site demonstration of a rolling chipping day for all participants followed by individual neighborhood-led chipping day with EPG on-site guidance. Based on requests and availability, a sawyer safety class (not a formal certification course) may be presented.

This training program is being presented in association with the Pikes Peak Regional Office of Emergency Management and Colorado State Forest Service. Instruction adheres to guidelines from the National Firewise program. Email epg@tlumc.org to sign up for the kick-off event and go to tlumc.org/outreach/epg for more information on the program.