



# 2022 CAL FIRE Defensible Space Assistance Grant

September 2023

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California Fire Safe Council (CFSC) is pleased to announce that eleven (11) organizations have been selected to receive grant awards for defensible space assistance projects. With funding from a 2022 CAL FIRE master grant, the CFSC will award more than \$5 million to these applicants through the Defensible Space Assistance Grant Program.

The Defensible Space Assistance Program provides funding to organizations to assist vulnerable populations (i.e., low-income, disabled, senior/elderly, disadvantaged), in High and Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zones, with defensible space treatment on their property. Defensible space, coupled with home hardening, is essential to improve a home's chance of surviving a wildfire. Projects will implement a coordinated approach to defensible space compliance with CAL FIRE and other stakeholders, with priority for vulnerable populations.

We look forward to working with the award recipients to enhance each county's wildfire resilience through defensible space efforts, while working toward our shared vision of a more fire-resilient California!

Thanks to our partner, CAL FIRE, for providing the funding for the 2022 Grants Clearinghouse master grant.



# 2022 CAL FIRE Defensible Space Assistance Grant Award Announcements

## 11 PROJECTS AWARDED

GRANT AWARDS PROVIDED: \$5,250,000

September 2023

### El Dorado

**Grantee:** El Dorado County Fire Safe Council

**Project:** El Dorado Defensible Space Program

**Grant Amount:** \$500,000

**Tracking #:** 442534

**Project Description:**

EDCFSC's Defensible Space Financial Assistance Program for seniors, veterans, and low-income households creates defensible space around the primary homes of qualifying property owners on the western slope of El Dorado County.

### Humboldt

**Grantee:** County of Humboldt

**Project:** Southern Humboldt Defensible Space Project

**Grant Amount:** \$500,000

**Tracking #:** 443243

**Project Description:**

The County of Humboldt, in partnership with the Briceland Volunteer Fire Department, proposes to develop a defensible space assistance program for disadvantaged residents in rural Southern Humboldt County.

### Lake

**Grantee:** Lake County Resource Conservation District

**Project:** Lake County Defensible Space Program

**Grant Amount:** \$500,000

**Tracking #:** 443732

**Project Description:**

LCRCD will lead Lake County's first defensible space program offering fuels clearing specifically for low-income homeowners. The need is driven by 28% of the county being in a Very High FHSZ, and 82% of residents qualifying as low-income.

### Lassen

**Grantee:** Lassen Fire Safe Council

**Project:** Lassen County Defensible Space Program

**Grant Amount:** \$500,000

**Tracking #:** 442839

**Project Description:**

LFSC's defensible space program includes no-cost property assessments, homeowner education, and treatment of eligible properties for vulnerable residents (i.e., low-income, disadvantaged, seniors, disabled, or veterans) throughout Lassen County.



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### Madera

**Grantee:** Eastern Madera County Fire Safe Council

**Project:** Eastern Madera County Defensible Space Referral Program

**Grant Amount:** \$500,000

**Tracking #:** 443715

#### **Project Description:**

EMCFSC will fund a defensible space referral program, working in partnership with CAL FIRE, to get residential properties into code compliance. EMCFSC will also host defensible space workshops to include information on code, zone zero, and fire-resistant landscaping.

### San Bernardino

**Grantee:** Mountain Rim FSC

**Project:** Do It NOW Defensible Space Program

**Grant Amount:** \$500,000

**Tracking #:** 442650

#### **Project Description:**

This project is a proactive approach to defensible space not previously implemented by MRFSC. Teams performing on-site assessments, thinning of live trees and access to new technology will bring MRFSC and County defensible space projects to the forefront.

### San Diego

**Grantee:** RCD of Greater San Diego County

**Project:** San Diego County Community Wildfire Resilience Programs

**Grant Amount:** \$500,000

**Tracking #:** 443779

#### **Project Description:**

This new pilot program will encompass outreach, in-person home assessments, education, and assistance with implementation for elderly, disadvantaged, disabled, and low-income residents in targeted areas throughout the county.

### Santa Barbara

**Grantee:** Santa Barbara Fire Safe Council

**Project:** Santa Barbara County Vulnerable Residents Defensible Space Assistance Program

**Grant Amount:** \$250,000

**Tracking #:** 443317

#### **Project Description:**

This project is developed to identify residents in need, provide skilled work and labor to those who are unable to conduct the fuels reduction themselves, and provide education and resources that empowers vulnerable residents to create their own defensible space.



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### Sonoma

**Grantee:** Fire Safe Sonoma Inc.

**Project:** Fire Safe Sonoma Collaborative

D-Space Project 2024

**Grant Amount:** \$500,000

**Tracking #:** 443895

#### **Project Description:**

In partnership with North Bay Jobs with Justice and the Resilience Force, this pioneering project will employ trained underserved workers with a family sustaining wage to create defensible space around homes of underserved residents.

### Tulare

**Grantee:** Tulare County Resource Conservation District

**Project:** Tulare County Defensible Space

**Grant Amount:** \$500,000

**Tracking #:** 442986

#### **Project Description:**

The Tulare County RCD project will provide defensible space for vulnerable populations including disadvantaged, infirmed, elderly or those who are unable due to financial hardships.

### Ventura

**Grantee:** Central Ventura County Fire Safe Council (DBA Ventura Regional Fire Safe Council)

**Project:** Unity and Preparedness through Defensible Space

**Grant Amount:** \$500,000

**Tracking #:** 443541

#### **Project Description:**

VRFSC will conduct outreach to vulnerable residents and communities and implement defensible space work for these groups on the individual and communal level.