



WILDFIRE MITIGATION BASICS FOR BOULDER COUNTY

GRASS: READY. SET. MOW!

How to Manage Grass on Private Land



Why?

Grass is an important part of the natural environment, providing food, habitat, shelter, and breeding ground for many of our beloved birds, mammals, and insects.

Healthy native grasses also help with fire mitigation by preventing the drier and bulkier weeds from growing in our open spaces.

Manage grasses near homes, out-buildings, and communities. That's where private landowners and communities can make a difference.



How?

Use a mower or weed whacker. Mow grass to 4-inches tall or less if using a mower. Trim grass to 6-inches or less if weed whacking.

Create a 30-foot perimeter around your home or outbuildings.

- This will minimize fire intensity from radiant heat and direct flame and slow fire spread.
- Tall grass will create more embers than short grass.



When?

Avoid mowing during the driest times of the day. Sparks from rocks shooting out of a mower or weed whacker can cause grass to ignite.

Protect ingress and egress routes. Mow along private driveways when your grass is dried out so emergency responders can pass while residents evacuate.

Don't mow your grass all the way down.

The right grasses offer benefits and can help prevent the wrong type of vegetation from growing, drying out, and becoming a fire hazard

DO YOU KNOW?

Sparks from machinery, lit cigarettes tossed out a car window, and the hot undercarriage of a car parked in tall grass can ignite a grass fire.



Learn more: <https://wildfirepartners.org>