



# **Wildfire Prevention & Resilience Program Update**

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Presented to the Board of Supervisors

May 13, 2025

Sheriff's Office / Office of Emergency Services

Robyn Rains, Emergency Services Manager



# Wildfire Prevention vs Wildfire Resilience

## Wildfire Prevention: Stop fires before they start

- Fuel management (e.g. defensible space)
- Fire prevention infrastructure (e.g. firebreaks, controlled burns)
- Public education and outreach to raise awareness of fire safety
- Preventative fire bans or restrictions during high-risk periods

## Wildfire Resilience: Stay strong when it happens and come back stronger

- Building code modifications (e.g. fire-resistant building materials, hazard severity zones)
- Landscape and home hardening (e.g. fire-resistant roof, improved water infrastructure)
- Community lead engagement (e.g. Firewise, Fire Safe Councils)
- Recovery planning to help communities rebuild after a fire; while ensuring they are better prepared for future events



# Wildfire Prevention & Resilience Through Collaboration

- Our goal: Reduce wildfire risk and create a culture of readiness across the county.
- How to get there: Work together using a whole community approach.
  - Solano & Yolo Resource Conservation Districts
  - Local Fire Safe Councils
    - Green Valley
    - Pleasants Valley
    - Glen Cove
    - \*New\* Benicia – in process
  - Solano Fire Safe Council
  - Emergency Responders (local and state)
  - Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster (VOAD)
  - County and city departments
  - Utility companies and other private organizations
  - Bay Area UASI (Urban Areas Security Initiative)
  - Other community groups



# Funding Sources Overview

- In an effort to build and sustain core initiatives, attempts have been made to maximize funding opportunities that support the purpose and goals of the program.
- **PSPS/CRC Grant Program**
  - FY19 Public Safety Power Shutoff (PSPS)
  - FY20 Community Power Resiliency (CRC) (formally PSPS)
- **CAL FIRE Fire Prevention Grant Program**
  - FY21 CAL FIRE Fire Prevention Grant Program
  - FY22 CAL FIRE Fire Prevention Grant Program (not awarded)
  - FY22 CAL FIRE Fire Prevention Grant Program (Cordelia FPD awarded for continued shaded fuel break work)
  - FY23 CAL FIRE Fire Prevention Grant Program (Solano & Yolo RCDs awarded for fuels reduction projects)



# Funding Sources Overview continued

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- County Coordinator Grant Program
  - FY21 County Coordinator Grant Program
  - FY22 County Coordinator Grant Program
  - FY25 County Coordinator Grant Program (application submitted)
  
- USDA Community Wildfire Defense Grant Program
  - FY23 USDA Community Wildfire Defense Grant (not awarded)
  - FY24 USDA Community Wildfire Defense Grant (not awarded)
  
- 2019 California Earmark (secured by Senator Dodd)
  
- General funds are used as minimally as possible, typically for items we are unable to fund with grants.



# Program Status Overview

Allocated funding: \$463,843  
Status: Completed

## 2019 Public Safety Power Shutoff (PSPS) Funding

- Purchase of portable generators (\$62,794)
- Installation of generator connections at Lake Solano (\$3,225)
- Purchase of uninterruptable power supply (UPS) (\$119,764) for the County's Criminal Justice Data Center
- Purchase of multi-band portable radios for the Solano County Sheriff's Office (\$78,060)
- Pass-thru funds to the Food Bank of Contra Costa and Solano County to fund an installed generator (\$200,000)



# Program Status Overview

Allocated funding: \$231,921  
Status: Completed

## 2020 Community Power Resiliency Program Funding

- Funds were used as a credit toward the purchase of mobile and portable radios for the fire protection districts in support of the interoperability project. The balance of this radio project was funded through the 2019 California Earmark.



Allocated funding: \$1,095,120  
Status: Completed

# Program Status Overview

## 2021 CAL FIRE Fire Prevention Grant Program

- Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) via contractor (\$214,894)
- Zonehaven Evacuation Software Procurement (\$314,756)
- Contract with Solano RCD (\$222,412)
- Developed a *Solano Fire Preparedness Guide* mailer (\$5,625)
- Local cost share of \$195,120 met with in-kind match using staff time
- Unspent funds of \$142,313 due to several projects coming in under budget. We were not approved for a grant extension.





# Program Status Overview

Allocated funding: \$175,000  
Status: Completed

## 2021 County Coordinator Grant Program

- Funds were used to hire a consulting firm to support the County Administrator's Office and OES in launching the Solano Fire Safe Council and to provide technical assistance identifying mapping of priority locations for fuel break installations, as well as to assist in grant application development for conducting this work.



Allocated funding: \$200,000  
Status: Completed

# Program Status Overview

## 2022 County Coordinator Grant Program

- Living with Wildland Fires Handbook (\$64,495):
  - Finalized from Solano RCD draft and translated into Spanish and Tagalog
- Know Your Zone Mailer Campaign (\$38,520):
  - Countywide outreach
- Fire Safe Council Pop-Ups (\$2,627):
  - Funded a pop-up and accessories to support community events
- New Program Coordinator (\$49,509):
  - OES hired an Emergency Services Coordinator II (ESC) as the Wildfire Prevention and Resilience Program coordinator.
  - Position delayed, resulting in \$44,849 of unused grant funds returned to the State.





Allocated funding: Pending  
Status: Pending

# Program Status Overview

## 2025 County Coordinator Grant Program

- Submitted County Coordinator Grant application (\$151,500)



# Program Status Overview

Allocated funding: \$1,900,000  
Status: 45% Expended

## 2019 State Earmark Funds

Project	Sept. 2023 Allocation	Allocation Adjustments	Current Funding Allocation	Expenditures as of 4/30/25	Remaining Funds
Radios	\$938,079.00	(\$15,017.00)	\$923,062.00	\$923,062.00	
Fuels Reduction	\$520,000.00	(\$20,000.00)	\$500,000.00		\$500,000.00
Dead Tree Removal	\$250,000.00	(\$250,000.00)			
Landowners Handbook	\$36,835.00	\$18,165.00	\$55,000.00		\$55,000.00
Pilot Signage Program / Community Messaging Boards	\$30,000.00	(\$22,500.00)	\$7,500.00		\$7,500.00
Ready, Set, Go Outreach	\$25,000.00	(\$25,000.00)			
Emergency Services Coordinator (E/H)	\$70,000.00	\$14,938.00	\$84,938.00		\$66,575.00
Community Wildfire Events	\$30,000.00	(\$30,000.00)			
Wildfire Community Preparedness Day & Public Outreach		\$95,000.00	\$95,000.00	\$13,483.00	\$81,517.00
Pilot Seasonal Firefighter Program		\$217,000.00	\$217,000.00	\$86,730.00	\$130,270.00
Green Waste Disposal Events		\$17,500.00	\$17,500.00	\$2,617.00	\$14,883.00
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$1,899,914.00</b>	<b>\$86.00</b>	<b>\$1,900,000.00</b>	<b>\$1,025,892.00</b>	<b>\$855,745.00</b>



# Program Status Overview

## Supported by 2019 State Earmark Funds

- Fuels Reduction:
  - Chipping
  - Green & e-waste recycling
  - Defensible space support
  - Hazard tree removal
- Wildfire Community Preparedness Education & Outreach
  - Address signage
  - Community events
  - Mailers
  - Social media outreach
- Pilot Seasonal Firefighter Program
- Emergency Services Coordinator (E/H)





# Program Success

## 2025 Wildfire Community Preparedness Day



May 13, 2025

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# Upcoming Events

**FREE 2025**

**GREEN WASTE DAY**

**May 17<sup>th</sup>, 2025**  
**8:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon**

**REGISTER**

This event is for residents in Green Valley and along Rockville Rd to remove ladder fuels, thin dense vegetation, and remove dead and/or fallen trees to create defensible space and reduce the risk of catastrophic wildfire.

**CONTACT:** Rochelle Sherlock,  
Rochelle@PotentiateLLC.com  
or (707) 718-5637

**TAKE SAFETY PRECAUTIONS, DO NOT USE EQUIPMENT THAT CAN CREATE A SPARK.**

Only Green Waste will be Accepted.

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