

N.C. Cooperative Extension

Yancey County Center
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NEWS RELEASE

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Help protect your home and community from wildfire with firescaping. Free advanced training for volunteers offered by NC State Extension Master Gardener Program in partnership with University of Georgia Warnell School of Forestry and Natural Resources. This six-week online training starts June 26th, 2021.

Burnsville, N.C. –

Every year, hundreds to thousands of wildfires occur across the southeastern US, threatening homes and communities. Yancey County is at risk due to the high number of homes intermixed with forests. Fortunately, there are actions homeowners can take to reduce their wildfire risk, such as fire-resistant landscaping or firescaping.

Through videos and self-guided activities, the online Preparing for Wildfires with Firescaping training teaches Extension Master Gardeners and other volunteers how to create a firescape. By completing this training, participants will gain knowledge to reduce their home's wildfire risk and can help educate their communities about the importance of firescaping.

The course contains 6 subject unit, with each unit containing video presentations and an activity. Participants are expected to complete one unit a week at their own pace. Each unit takes 1-2 hours to complete. After completing all units, a 20-question test of knowledge quiz, and participation in a live Q&A during week 6, participants are awarded a certificate of completion.

In this training participants will learn about:

- Wildland Fire History and Fire Behavior
- Plant Flammability
- Firescape Design and Maintenance
- Home Wildfire Risk Assessment
- Combining Firescaping with Other Landscape Goals
- Firescaping Volunteer Ideas

This six-week online training starts June 26th, 2021. Register by June 14th by filling out this form: <https://go.ncsu.edu/x4bmh40> or by contacting Sara Runkel at 828-682-1873, Sara_runkel@ncsu.edu

ABOUT N.C. COOPERATIVE EXTENSION

N.C. Cooperative Extension is a strategic partnership of NC State University, N.C. A&T State University, USDA's National Institute of Food and Agriculture, and local governments statewide. Extension professionals in all 100 counties, and with the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians, connect millions of North Carolinians with research-based information and technology from the universities. Educational programs specialize in agriculture, food and nutrition, 4-



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