



# Truckee Fire Protection District Home Hardening Rebate

Visit [www.TruckeeFire.org/HardenYourHome](http://www.TruckeeFire.org/HardenYourHome) for web-based information and resources.

## INTRODUCTION

The Truckee Fire Protection District is offering rebates for home hardening upgrades. Home hardening addresses the most vulnerable components of a structure with building materials and installation techniques that increase resistance to wildfire heat, flames, and embers.

## OVERVIEW

Eligible residents must have had Defensible Space Inspection within the past 12 months in order to apply. Rebates can only be awarded as reimbursement for home hardening upgrades that were identified in the inspection. Upon successful completion of the project, TFPD will issue a rebate of up to 50% of the project cost, not to exceed \$500. Home hardening and defensible space go hand in hand; therefore, applicants must also resolve defensible space issues in Zone Zero prior to applying. See further details below.

## HOW TO PARTICIPATE

### 1. Schedule a defensible space inspection

- Sign up online or call 530-582-7888
- Already had an inspection? Access your report online or call us for a printed copy. Confirm that inspection was completed within the past 12 months.

### 2. Complete upgrades

- Make as many eligible home hardening upgrades as possible.
- Take before and after photos of upgraded item(s).
- Resolve ALL defensible space issues within Zone Zero (the first five feet of your structure). Zone Zero must be free of:
  - Combustible mulch and firewood
  - Pine needles / leaf litter on the roof, in the gutters, on or under the deck, or on the ground within the first 5 feet of the structure
  - Tree limbs overhanging or touching the roof, eaves, or siding
  - Construction material or other combustibles under decks or within the first 5 feet of the structure
  - High fire hazard plants
  - Unmaintained vegetation (with dead branches, or collecting dead leaves and pine needles underneath)

### 3. Confirm resolutions

- Submit photos and comments on your report online.  
OR
- Schedule a reinspection online or by calling 530-582-7888.
- In some cases, a re-inspection may be required after photos are submitted.

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#### 4. Request rebate

- Complete rebate application online.
  - Attach receipts/invoices/photos to the online application.
- OR
- Use the physical application at the end of this document.
    - Deliver your supporting documents and completed application to Fire Station 91 located at 10049 Donner Pass Road Truckee, CA 96161.

#### REBATE APPLICATION

Access the rebate application online or use physical application at the end of this document.

#### APPLICATION REVIEW PROCESS

- Applications are reviewed on an ongoing basis in the order in which they're received. Please allow 2-4 weeks for review and response.
- You will be notified when the application is approved, or if additional information is required.
- Rebates will be issued in the form of a check, in the name of the registered property owner and mailed to the address provided on the rebate application.
- Rebate checks will be mailed within 30 days of approval of your application.

#### REQUIRED DOCUMENTS

- Receipts and labor/service invoices. These must be legible and clearly identify:
  - the date
  - the cost specific to the home hardening upgrade
  - and, where applicable:
    - the property where work was completed
    - the name of the contractor
- Project Photos
  - These must be clear photos that show the work area from the same angle BEFORE and AFTER the work has been completed.

#### ELIGIBILITY

##### Eligible Property/Participant

- Property must be within the Truckee Fire Protection District boundaries.
- Property must have a Defensible Space Inspection from Truckee Fire (or designee) within the past 12 months.
- Existing, permitted structures only (no new construction; no outbuildings or sheds).
- ZONE ZERO (the first five feet surrounding your home) must be free of:
  - Combustible mulch and firewood,
  - Pine needles / leaf litter on the roof, in the gutters, on or under the deck, or on the ground within the first 5 feet of the structure,
  - Tree limbs overhanging or touching the roof, eaves, or siding,
  - Construction material or other combustibles under decks or within the first 5 feet of the structure,
  - High fire hazard plants,
  - Unmaintained vegetation (with dead branches, or collecting dead leaves and pine needles underneath).

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- Upgraded item(s) must be noted on Defensible Space Inspection Report.

### Eligible Upgrades

TFPD is supporting upgrades to existing structures that will improve wildfire resiliency and may improve insurability or qualify residents for insurance discounts. Eligible upgrades:

- Must be identified on a Defensible Space Inspection Report within the past 12 months.
- Purchases and work must be completed on or after the start date of this rebate program (August 14, 2023).
- The applicant is responsible for obtaining any permits and design approvals to complete the work:
  - Contact your Homeowners Association.
  - Contact your jurisdiction for permitting information: [Nevada Co.](#), [Town of Truckee](#), [Placer Co.](#)

### Priority Upgrades

Feature	Eligible Upgrade	★	\$-\$\$\$
<b>Vents</b>	Install 1/8"-1/16" metal mesh on vents or install ember/flame resistant vents	★	\$
<b>Tarps</b>	Fully cover your wood pile in a fire-resistant tarp (Must display the California State Fire Marshal seal permanently attached to the tarp material)		\$
<b>Fences</b>	Replace 5 feet of combustible fencing closest to house with non-combustible materials	★	\$\$
<b>Eaves</b>	Box in eaves with ignition-resistant or non-combustible materials	★	\$\$\$
<b>Windows</b>	Replace single-pane with multi-pane, tempered glass windows	★	\$\$\$

key: ★ eligible for insurance discounts \$-\$\$\$ range of relative cost

### Eligible Expenses

- Materials affixed to the structure for home hardening or tarps that will enclose firewood.
- Labor/services for the installation of home hardening materials.
- NOT ELIGIBLE:** purchases and labor completed before the start date of this rebate program (August 14, 2023).
- NOT ELIGIBLE:** purchase/rental of tools/equipment

## ONLINE RESOURCES

Some resources are available in print format upon request; contact us at 530-582-7850.

#### Upgrades

- [CAL FIRE's Low Cost Retrofit List](#)
- [UNR Extension's Home Retrofit Guide](#)
- [UC ANR's Preparing Your Home](#)
- [IBHS Wildfire Ready Home Upgrades](#)
- [NIST Home Hardening Construction Guidance](#)

#### Tarps

#### Insurance

CA Dept of Insurance new legislation: [Safer from Wildfires](#)  
Guide to [Understanding](#) Safer from Wildfires

#### Products/Supplies/Services

#### [WUI Products Handbook](#)

Retailer List [COMING SOON!]

Contractor List [COMING SOON!]

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# Home Hardening Rebate

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

QUESTION	ANSWER
I'm a long-term renter, am I eligible?	Currently, only a registered owner may submit for and receive the rebate.
I'm a beneficiary of the trust that owns the property, am I eligible?	Yes, just submit evidence of ownership along with your receipts.
The home hardening upgrade I want to do is an eligible upgrade but doesn't appear on my inspection report	Schedule a reinspection and let's get it on your report!
How recent must the inspection be?	Within 12 months of the work being done.
How do I access my inspection?	Go to <a href="http://www.defensiblespacereport.org/truckee">www.defensiblespacereport.org/truckee</a> ; enter your address and the 6-character code (combination of letters and numbers) you received on your door hanger. If this is your first time accessing the report online, you'll need to enter your contact information. If you don't know your code, or have any difficulty, click the button to submit a request or contact us at 530-582-7888.
I don't have a computer / internet access / an email address, how do I participate?	Use the printable rebate application at the end of this document, or pick up a paper copy at 10049 Donner Pass Road. Call our office to request your inspections at 530-582-7888. Return your completed rebate application with copies of your receipts/invoices to 10049 Donner Pass Road.
How do I see the Home Hardening recommendations on my report?	Go to <a href="http://www.defensiblespacereport.org/truckee">www.defensiblespacereport.org/truckee</a> ; enter your address and the 6-character code (combination of letters and numbers) you received on your door hanger. (If this is your first time accessing the report online, you'll need to enter your contact information.) Click on the grey text "Home Hardening".
What is Zone Zero?	The area nearest your house, from 0' to 5', including the surfaces of the structure itself and the area under attached decks and stair landings. This is the most vulnerable area. We call this "ZONE ZERO," because it's ground-zero when it comes to protecting your home from embers. There should be ZERO combustibles in this zone!
How do I resolve my outstanding Zone Zero defensible space violations?	There should be ZERO combustibles in this zone! Review the defensible space requirements on your report, and address the ones that occur within 5 feet of your structure (including under decks, on/above roofs, etc.)
Does this mean I can't have any outstanding defensible space violations?	Zone Zero is the most vulnerable area around your house. Home hardening and defensible space go hand in hand, so Zone Zero should be addressed at the same time as upgrading your structure.
How do I know if I was inspected?	If you received a tag on your door or a notice in the mail, you likely had a "curbside" inspection, and the first page of your report will say so. Go to <a href="http://www.defensiblespacereport.org/truckee">www.defensiblespacereport.org/truckee</a> to submit a request for your access code, or <a href="http://www.truckeefire.org/HardenYourHome">www.truckeefire.org/HardenYourHome</a> to schedule a full inspection.
What is home hardening?	Home hardening prepares your home for wildfire. While no home is completely fireproof, a hardened home has a reduced risk of ignition. Home hardening addresses the most vulnerable components of your

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	<p>house with building materials and installation techniques that increase resistance to heat, flames, and flying embers.</p> <p>Embers are pieces of burning material produced by a fire that are light enough to be carried by the wind for long distances. They are also the primary reason that homes and properties ignite when there is a wildfire nearby.</p>
<b>What are embers?</b>	<p>During a wildfire, thousands of embers can rain down on your roof and pelt the side of your home like hail during a storm. If these embers become lodged in something easily ignited on or near your house, the home will be in jeopardy of burning. Embers coming into contact with flammable material is the major reason why homes are destroyed during wildfire. Common materials that become embers during wildfire include pinecones, branches, tree bark, and wooden shingles. Depending on fire intensity, wind speed, and the size of materials that are burning, embers can be carried more than a mile ahead of the fire. Consequently, even homes located a good distance from the actual flame front are vulnerable to ignition and complete destruction.</p>
<b>Is there a limit to how much I can get?</b>	<p>\$500 total per property from the Home Hardening Rebate Program. If you receive a rebate for \$40 this year, you are still eligible for \$460 rebate next year. A property is defined by an APN by the County Assessor's Office.</p>
<b>When do funds run out?</b>	<p>Rebates are available on first come, first served basis until they run out. The program is budgeted for each fiscal year.</p>
<b>When does the program end?</b>	<p>The program is open for the duration of Measure T.</p>
<b>What's a 50% rebate? What's a 1 to 1 rebate?</b>	<p>This is a "cost-sharing" or "matching" rebate program. You spend \$100 to install mesh on your vents. You may be eligible for a rebate up to \$50. You spend \$4000 to replace your wooden fence with a metal fence. You may be eligible for a rebate up to \$500.</p>
<b>What is acceptable proof of payment?</b>	<p>Receipts/invoices must be itemized, and list the costs related to eligible work separately. Tax will be excluded from the total rebate amount if non-related items are included in the receipts.</p>
<b>Why would I need to provide proof of ownership?</b>	<p>This is only needed if the name of the registered owner of the property on county records is different from the person submitting and receiving the rebate. This may be the case if you recently purchased/inherited the property; the ownership is in the name of a company or trust.</p>
<b>Is this taxable income? Will you send me a 1099?</b>	<p>The rebate amount is under the CA taxable threshold, and no 1099 will be issued. Consult a tax professional with questions.</p>
<b>Does my dumpster rebate count toward my total eligible rebate amount?</b>	<p>No, this rebate program is separate from the dumpster rebate program. You can receive your dumpster rebate of \$75 and still be eligible for up to \$500 in home hardening rebate.</p>
<b>I lost my receipts, what do I do?</b>	<p>Submit your rebate application, and then email <a href="mailto:HardenYourHome@TruckeeFire.org">HardenYourHome@TruckeeFire.org</a> with an explanation of the circumstances or call 530-587-7888.</p>
<b>I spent less than \$500, can I receive a rebate for 100% of my costs?</b>	<p>No, this is a "cost-sharing" rebate program; we share the cost with you, matching your expense dollar for dollar, up to \$500.</p>
<b>I did the work myself; can I submit for rebate for my own time spent?</b>	<p>No, however you can still submit for the cost of your materials.</p>
<b>I forgot to take "before" photos, what do I do?</b>	<p>Submit your rebate application, and then email <a href="mailto:HardenYourHome@TruckeeFire.org">HardenYourHome@TruckeeFire.org</a> with an explanation of the circumstances or call 530-587-7888.</p>



How is this program being funded?	This rebate program is funded by the Community Wildfire Prevention Fund, which was created with the passage of Measure T in 2021.
I have an ADU in addition to my primary structure, can I submit for the upgrades on that?	Yes, as long as it's a permitted structure.
I'm building a home / ADU, is that eligible?	No.
My wooden fence isn't ATTACHED to my house but abuts it. Is that eligible?	Yes.
Is my fire-retardant gel or sprinkler system eligible?	No.
Is landscaping work eligible?	No.
Is hardscaping eligible?	No.
My siding/roof/vents were identified as "in need of repair", are those repairs eligible?	No.
My vents/deck/roof/fence sustained damage this winter, is this eligible?	No.
What does ember resistant / ignition resistant mean?	Ignition-resistant building materials are those that resist ignition or sustained burning when exposed to embers and small flames from wildfires. Examples of ignition-resistant materials include "noncombustible materials" that don't burn, exterior grade fire-retardant-treated wood lumber, fire-retardant-treated wood shakes and shingles listed by the State Fire Marshal (SFM) and any material that has been tested in accordance with SFM Standard 12-7A-5.
Does this work require a permit? How do I get it permitted?	Please check with the local Building Department for more information. Compliance with applicable state or county building codes and associated fees are the landowner's responsibility. Contact the Building Department of your relevant jurisdiction for permitting information: Nevada County: 530-265-1222 Town of Truckee: 530-582-7700 Placer County: 530-745-3010



# Home Hardening Rebate Application

You must be authorized to sign the rebate application on behalf of this property. Rebate is issued in the name of the registered property owner.

1. Address where the work was performed \*: \_\_\_\_\_

2. Applicant Name (First & Last) \*: \_\_\_\_\_

3. Applicant Phone Number \*: \_\_\_\_\_

4. Applicant Email \*: \_\_\_\_\_

5. Relationship to Property \*:

- Owner
- Long-term Renter
- Family Member
- Other

6. Mailing address for rebate check (check will be issued in the name of the owner) \*:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Street Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
City

\_\_\_\_\_  
State / Province

\_\_\_\_\_  
Postal / Zip Code

7. Which rebate-eligible upgrades did you perform? (select all that apply) \*:

- Vents: upgraded to fire-resistant vents OR covered existing vents with appropriate mesh
- Tarps: fully enclosed woodpile in an approved fire-resistant tarp
- Fences: replaced wood with metal fencing within 5 feet of the structure
- Eaves: installed soffits under unenclosed eaves
- Windows: upgraded from single-pane to multi-pane windows
- Other:

8. Describe the work completed\*:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

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TFPD will issue a rebate of up to 50% of the project cost, not to exceed \$500.

Eligible Expenses:

- Materials affixed to the structure for home hardening or tarps that will enclose firewood.
- Labor/services for the installation of home hardening materials.
- **NOT ELIGIBLE:** purchases and labor completed before the start date of this rebate program (August 14, 2023).
- **NOT ELIGIBLE:** purchase/rental of tools/equipment

9. How much are you requesting for rebate? (50% of the eligible expenses) \*: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

10. How much money did you spend on this project? \*: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

11. How many HOURS did you spend on this project? \*: \_\_\_\_\_

Check the  boxes to confirm:

12. My upgrades were confirmed in an in-person reinspection\*

13. Zone Zero (the first five feet surrounding your home) is free of:

Combustible mulch and firewood\*

Pine needles/leaves on the roof, in the gutters, on/under the deck, or on the ground within the first 5 feet of the structure\*

Tree limbs overhanging or touching the roof, eaves, or siding\*

Construction material or other combustibles under decks or within the first 5 feet of the structure\*

High fire hazard plants\*

Unmaintained vegetation (with dead branches, or collecting dead leaves and pine needles underneath)\*

14. I have attached/enclosed copies of the relevant receipts/invoices/photos to support my rebate application\*

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature\*

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date\*

**The completion of work and/or submission of an application doesn't guarantee approval for rebate**