



Apply for Funds for Firewise Practices

Cook County has received a \$225,000 State of Minnesota Firewise Grant. The purpose of the grant is to assist property owners within the county in improving defensible space around their homes and also to improve access for emergency vehicles. The grant will pay up to \$900 per property owner, with the owner matching the Firewise funds with their labor or hired labor.

Following are the practices and rates of possible reimbursement for each:

- Fuels Modifications
 - Evergreen Tree Thinning \$200/acre
 - Evergreen Tree Planting \$100/acre
 - Brush and Tall Grass Chipping \$ 50/acre
 - Ladder Fuel Pruning \$100 each
- Fire Break Installation \$150 each
- Access Improvements
 - Driveway Widening (Brush Removal)
 - Less than 150' \$100
 - More than 150' \$200
- Brush Disposal
 - One-time brush chipping \$100
 - Off-site brush disposal \$100

There also may be funds available for Special Access Projects, such as improvements and brushing on roads that enable access to multiple properties. Receipts are required for reimbursements.

All properties affected by the project are required to have a Level 2 Firewise Assessment completed. There is a 50/50 cost share for all approved costs incurred on approved projects. Reimbursable expenses incur once the project coordinator has been to your property and has created a plan for you. Expenses incurred before that time are NOT reimbursable.

To apply for this grant you may call the Firewise Hotline at 218-387-3688 or send an email to firewise@co.cook.mn.us.