



## Expectations for the Ashland Volunteer Wildfire Risk Assessor

The Ashland Volunteer Wildfire Risk Assessor (WRA) performs wildfire risk assessments within Ashland City Limits and surrounding areas to advise property owners and legal residents on wildfire risks associated with their property. The goal of the WRA is to develop a positive personal relationship with each property owner or legal resident to educate, empower, guide, and support action.

- **Minimum Time Commitment**
  - 32-40 hrs. initial training; 2-hr team meeting every other month; and 2 assessments/month.
- **Required Training**
  - 6 weekly classes ranging from 1.5-3 hrs. long; 7-hrs. self-study; and refresher training.
- **Required Field Training (Mentoring)**
  - Successfully complete a WRA task book to demonstrate competency in performing risk assessments before being certified to work independently.
- **Physical Fitness Level**
  - The WRA must be physically able to attend training sessions, and walk uphill, downhill, and on uneven terrain. Adjustments to the physical requirements may be considered to ensure the volunteer will be successful.
- **Requirements**
  - Background check performed by the City of Ashland before training begins.
  - Sign a liability waiver.
  - Reliable personal transportation to and from assigned risk assessment locations.
  - Reliable internet access and a digital device to enter data (device may be loaned).
- **Essential Knowledge, Skills, and Abilities (after completion of training)**
  - Competent in performing wildfire risk assessments on a broad array of site conditions.
  - Seeks out and collaboratively clarifies work expectations.
  - Provides subject matter expertise in the home ignition zone and home hardening principles, hazard fuels reduction, fire-resistant landscaping, basic wildfire behavior principles, and relevant codes and ordinances.
  - Follows established protocols and seeks out assistance for complex or unusual situations.
  - Practices situational awareness and follows established safe work practices.
  - Solicits information and listens to property owners' / legal residents' concerns before advising them on risks.
  - Develops effective relationships with property owners and other legal residents and serves as their point of contact after the assessment report is delivered.
  - Advises and strives to motivate property owners and legal residents using appropriate communication techniques and interpersonal skills.
  - Provides information in a manner that balances individual judgment with realistic opportunities to address barriers to action.
  - Advocates for risk reduction in a manner that addresses specific vulnerabilities.
  - Documents findings using customized software and forms within prescribed timeframes.
  - Performs follow-up inspections confirming completion of work and condition status.
  - Monitors and documents risk reduction accomplishments on assigned properties.
  - Ability to contribute constructively to a team-run volunteer organization.