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Vail Fire Working to Keep You and Your Property Safe

This summer is shaping up to be an active fire season. Vail Fire and Emergency Services has been busy advancing the Fire Adapted Vail Initiative. Over the winter there were several notable projects completed. The Vail Town Council adopted new requirements for both landscaping and building construction which will increase the ignition resistance of buildings. These provisions only apply to new construction and substantial remodels. A summary of the code amendments can be found here. These requirements are vitally important since embers are responsible for the destruction of most buildings during a wildfire. The Vail Town Council also adopted the Community Wildfire Protection Plan. This document provides a roadmap for future wildland fire mitigation projects both within the Town of Vail and on surrounding lands.

The Vail Fire and Emergency Services Wildland Fire Crew will begin their season in June. Not only does this program augment the fire suppression capabilities of Vail Fire and Emergency Services, it also conducts important activities that make our community become more fire-adapted. These activities include:

- Free curbside chipping, see www.vailgov.com/wildfire for more information
- Curbside defensible space evaluations; this year's evaluations will focus on the area from the east side of the Village parking structure to the East Vail exit.
- One-on-one defensible space evaluations; call 970.477.3509 to schedule an evaluation
- Forest thinning projects; the crew will be working in the Intermountain area and the Bald Mountain area

Although Vail Fire and Emergency Services go to great lengths to protect the community from the threat of wildfire, we can only be successful with your help. Please do your part by taking the following steps:

- Create a defensible space around your home. Learn How
- Be prepared for an evacuation www.vailgov.com/evac
- Register for the EC alert notification system <u>www.ecalert.org</u>, if you have previously registered, log in to verify your notification preferences and contact information

Best Regards,

Mark Novak Fire Chief