

KJCT News Grand Junction (ABC)

West Region Wildfire Council offers fire risk property checks

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MONTROSE, Colo. (KKCO/KJCT)-- With fire danger lurking, there is a way to protect your home if you live in the Montrose-Delta area. The West Region Wildfire Council offers free home visits, to check out a person's property and assess the risk of a wildfire.



They only work in Montrose, Delta, Gunnison, San Miguel, Ouray and Hinsdale counties.

Fire mitigators check homes for ignitability. They say that includes nearby vegetation, wood decks, flammables near your home and where you store your firewood.

They say it's important for homes that are in more remote, forested areas. "In the case of a fire, response resources are limited so it's important that a homeowner takes action to protect their property," explained Mike Tarantino with The West Region Wildfire Council.

Officials will also take a look at vegetation. They won't remove it all, but say that creating a defensible space will help firefighters if a wildfire does occur.

The visit is free, but any work done can be reimbursed up to 75% through grants with The West Region Wildfire Council cost-share program.

If you live in their boundaries and want to schedule a free home check you can visit their website at <http://www.cowildfire.org/>, or give them a call at (970)615-7300.