ENVIRONMENTAL BMPs
FOR FIREWISE LANDSCAPING

Presented by:
Pollution Prevention and Reduction
Protecting Water Quality in Austin through:

• Emergency Spill Response
• Investigating Pollution Incidents
• Inspections for environmental compliance at commercial and industrial facilities.
• Manning Austin’s 24/7 Pollution Hotline
How did Watershed Protection get involved?

- Already had a close working relationship with AFD through spill response duties.
- Following the 2011 wildfires, the community turned to Watershed for environmental expertise.
Development of Environmental BMPs

www.AustinTexas.gov/WildfireEnviroBMPs
Wildfire is a natural occurrence in Central Texas

Many local ecosystems actually depend on fire
It's not a matter of if the next wildfire will occur...but when.

Wildfire will happen.

But, in a fire-adapted community, wildfire is not catastrophic.

Fire-adapted community: “A community of informed and prepared citizens that collaboratively take action to safely co-exist with wildland fire”
Firewise Principles and Environmental BMPs
Working Together

Firewise Principles

A Resilient, Healthy Landscape

Environmental Stewardship
Harden the Structure
Effective Defensible Space and the Home Ignition Zone
Account for Topography
Limit Fuel Continuity

Good Examples
Limit Fuel Continuity
Bad Examples
Plant Selection
Dead Wood, Snags, Brush Piles
It's not a matter of if the next wildfire will occur… but when.

Wildfire will happen, but get ready.

Stay ready.

Property management activities are limited to your property.
It's not a matter of if the next wildfire will occur... but when.

Wildfire will happen, but get ready. Stay ready.

If you have concerns about potentially hazardous conditions on adjacent property, contact the respective landowner.
Critical Environmental Features
Creeks
and associated
Setbacks
Hill Country Roadway Corridors
Threatened and Endangered Species
Brush Disposal
The Fight Against Catastrophic Wildfire Continues!

Presented by:
Ryan J. Hebrink, LEED AP, CPESC
Ryan.Hebrink@AustinTexas.gov
(512) 974-1910