

What is the Fire Adapted Communities

Learning Network?

The Fire Adapted Communities Learning Network (FAC Net) is a national network of people working to build sustainable wildfire resilience capacity in fire-prone communities. The Network is the result of a partnership among the Watershed Research and Training Center, The Nature Conservancy, the USDA Forest Service and Department of Interior as well as the many wildfire resilience practitioners who make up our membership.

Why do we need to build wildfire resilience?

For the last 100 years, fire suppression policies have kept fire from playing its natural role. As a result, many of our fire-dependent ecosystems are overgrown--limiting their function and posing a threat to communities. Fire is a natural and necessary element for most of our natural areas; when it is excluded, landscapes are prone to unnaturally severe and damaging wildfires that are getting worse. We need to find ways to restore fire to people and places while also ensuring our homes and communities are capable of withstanding its impacts.

What is FAC Net working toward?

FAC Net's mission is to connect and support people and communities who are striving to live more safely with wildfire. The existing wildfire suppression model is costly and insufficient alone to safeguard our places. Fire adaptation is an alternative which allows communities to prepare for wildland fires, mitigate their impacts, and recover more effectively when they inevitably occur. The Network has the following objectives:

- Demonstrate fire adaptation in a variety of contexts representative of the diversity of communities with wildfire risk in the US;
- Innovate and experiment with new practices to enhance fire adaptation before, during and after wildfires;
- Share and spread knowledge and practice among Network members; and
- Spark and support the fire adaptation efforts of other practitioners in locations outside the Network.

By modeling a viable alternative to the current fire management paradigm, FAC Net members are leading the change toward fire resilience in the United States.

How Can I Join FAC Net?

We welcome individuals and organizations actively working on fire adaptation to join FAC Net as affiliate members. When you become a member, you commit to advancing the practice of fire adaptation and to sharing and learning with other community wildfire resilience practitioners.

Join FAC Net as an affiliate member and:

- connect with others working on fire resilience;
- access resources and tools;
- communicate with state and national leaders, program staff and decision-makers; and
- learn from others through training and learning groups, peer connections and professional staff support. Visit <https://fireadaptednetwork.org/join/> to learn more!



This document was created by the Fire Adapted Communities Learning Network. FAC Net is a community of wildfire practitioners across the nation that is supported by the United States Forest Service, Departments of the Interior, The Nature Conservancy and the Watershed Research and Training Center. Visit www.fireadaptednetwork.org to subscribe to our weekly blog to get stories of community wildfire resilience straight to your inbox.