

Free ‘Firewise’ landscape program in Abilene offers timely tips for homeowners

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ABILENE - Record high temperatures, wind, dry weather, and white smoke on the horizon are constant reminders of the eminent fire danger many Texans live with daily. What can homeowners do to protect their property?

Melissa Clifton Sturdivant, a Texas AgriLife Extension Service horticulturist in Taylor County, will offer homeowners options by conducting “Be ‘Firewise,’” a free home landscape educational program that shows how to plan landscapes to lessen the chance of losing it all to a wildfire.

The program is set from 6-9 p.m. March 11 at the AgriLife Extension office Taylor County, 1982 Lytle Way, Abilene.

“Our aim is to help participants learn to select fire-resistant plants and to teach them how to properly place them in the landscape to create defensible zones around the home,” Sturdivant said.

Sturdivant has teamed up with the Firewise state office and the Wildland Urban Interface program of the Texas Forest Service to present the program as fire danger remains high throughout the region. She said Firewise is an international program that teaches how to lessen the risks of property loss due to wildfires.

For more information call Sturdivant at the AgriLife Extension office in Taylor County at 325-672-6048.

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