

3. Development and retrofit strategies incorporating Firewise construction and landscaping techniques...

Additionally, Bradford County should consider as mitigation strategies:

1. Implement programs to increase public awareness of prescribed burning and require management plans for conservation easements that address the reduction of wildfire fuels.
2. Consider more fully participating in Community Wildfire Protection Plans (CWPP) and the Firewise Community USA recognition program to reduce risks within the Wildland-Urban Interface.
3. Issue notices of proximity to be recorded in the deed or rental agreement on all properties adjacent to wildland areas where prescribed fire is commonly used as a land management technique. “

When updating the Local Mitigation Strategy (LMS), Bradford County can consider the following wildfire mitigation categories when prioritizing projects for Pre-Fire Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) eligibility: Defensible Space for Wildfires, Application of Ignition-Resistant Construction and Hazardous Fuel Reduction. For detailed guidance on FEMA Mitigation Policy MRR-2-0801 visit [www.fema.gov](http://www.fema.gov)

**Local Mitigation Strategy (LMS) Working Group:** Bradford County has an active and strong Local Mitigation Strategy (LMS) program. Meetings are very well attended with active participation and dialog being the norm. The Florida Forest Service representative and the Bradford Fire Coordinator are the primary members with wildfire expertise, but given the wildfire history in the county, most members have a strong appreciation of the risks. The Bradford County Building and Zoning Department plays a significant role in the Local Mitigation Strategy Working Group as well as in the CWPP process. The members of the LMS working group are listed above in the Planning Process section.

## Wildland Fuel Management Capabilities

### Best Management Practices

The Florida Forest Service shall promote natural resource management and fuel reduction through the use of prescribed fire and other fuel reduction measures.

The resources of The Florida Forest Service (FFS) are available to the County. The FFS Regional Wildfire Hazard Mitigation Team actively seeks opportunities to support local residents and communities with their hazardous fuels reduction programs on nearby woodlands. Inclusive would be WUI buffers of 1.5 miles around actual places where people live, as well as significant infrastructure, utility corridors and major evacuation routes.

### Open Burning

The Florida Forest Service (FFS), other public agencies, individuals and land managers certified and authorized to do so by the FFS, have active Prescribed Fire and Hazardous Fuel Reduction programs within their respective forests and rangelands. Results are best illustrated by the following fire management information: