



Suburban Wildfire Adaptation Roadmaps

A Path to Coexisting with Wildfire

An IBHS Online Disaster Dynamics Academy
December 8–10, 2020

Overview

This virtual Disaster Dynamics Academy event will blend virtual teaching sessions with live streamed laboratory demonstrations from the IBHS Research Center. We will explore how IBHS developed the suburban adaptation roadmaps, examine the critical action steps for homeowners. We will survey the components of a home and its surroundings, focusing on moving from high risk to best practices and making homes and communities more resistant to wildfire threats.

Each day will end with four small group discussion sessions to give you an opportunity for interactive participation with the research staff. Registration for these groups is limited.

December 8: The Path to Resilience

Keynote (11:00 – 11:35 am)

Keynote presentation by IBHS CEO Roy Wright.

Laboratory demonstration (11:45 am – 12:05 pm)

This demonstration will show the importance of a well-maintained home ignition zone to inhibit fire from spreading to a wall and ultimately upward to a home's eaves.

Daniel Gorham

Teaching session (12:10 – 12:40 pm)

Tanya Brown-Giammanco

This session tells the story behind the development of the suburban adaptation roadmaps. You will learn how the current state of wildfire science was translated into clusters of actions that can help suburban homeowners reduce their vulnerability to wildfire.

Discussion sessions (12:45 – 1:15 pm)

Breakout groups for question and answer discussion of related topics with IBHS researchers.



December 9: Critical Actions

Teaching session (11:00 – 11:40 am)

Murray Morrison

This will be an in-depth presentation on the critical actions that must be completed to change a home's risk curve before all other mitigation steps. This session will explore how IBHS identified these as the most critical areas:

- Roof cover
- 0–5 ft home ignition zone
- Under deck maintenance
- Vents

Laboratory demonstration (11:45 am – 12:00 pm)

Demonstration of the E108 test for roof material. This demonstration will show how roofing materials receive their fire rating and why the roof cover and its fire resistance is more important than most homeowners believe.

Daniel Gorham

Discussion sessions (12:05 – 12:30 pm)

Breakout groups for question and answer discussion of related topics with IBHS researchers.

December 10: Roadmaps—High risks to best practices

Teaching session (11:00 – 11:35 am)

Daniel Gorham

This session will explore the roadmap paths for a home and its surroundings by highlighting the riskiest practices and how current science has identified the most effective areas for risk reduction.

Laboratory demonstration (11:40 am – 12:00 pm)

A demonstration highlighting new findings for improved deck construction by using metal joists and the effect on fire intensity.

Veronica McNear

Discussion sessions (12:05 – 12:30 pm)

Breakout groups for question and answer discussion of related topics with IBHS researchers.