



GRAND WEST ESTATES FUELS MITIGATION & FOREST RESTORATION



Dear Grand West Estates Owners,

The Arkansas River Watershed Collaborative (ARWC) has received funding from Colorado Springs Utilities to develop a fuels mitigation and forest restoration project within and adjacent to Grand West Estates. The goals of this project are to:

- *Reduce the risk from wildfire to homes and structures*
- *Reduce the potential for large scale wildfire events*
- *Create defensible space to allow firefighters to safely engage wildfires*
- *Create more resilient forest conditions*
- *Create a fuel break between Mountain View Village and Grand West Estates*

We are currently recruiting landowners that are interested in a participating in a 50-50 cost-share program to treat fuels on their property through a combination of thinning and chipping and/or mastication. ARWC will work with landowners to provide consultation on wildfire mitigation and to work together to design a project that meets your goals for the property.

The benefits of fuels mitigation include protection of your home and property, enhanced forest conditions, and protection from forest insect pests. Additionally, fuels mitigation work may be eligible for reduced insurance rates and the wildfire mitigation subtraction from your income taxes.

Please contact Andy Lerch, ARWC Lead Forester, at 719-239-4633 or andy@arkcollaborative.org by **November 1, 2020** to enroll.