

April 2003

Grand Teton National Park

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Grand Teton National Park Fire Management: Teton County Workshop

The Teton County Cooperative Extension Service hosted their annual Lawn and Garden Workshop last month in Jackson, Wyoming. The agenda offered a variety of presentations covering topics such noxious weeds, aquatic ecosystem health, native grasses, and soil composition. This year's workshop included both a session and a display addressing wildland fire.



Chris Fallbeck, Assistant District Forester for Wyoming State Forestry Division, led a session entitled "Wildland Fire Mitigation." The presentation included an introduction to fire behavior and fire terminology, defining the wildland-urban interface and vegetation management. Participants were shown a series of preand post-treatment photos of work done

on private property to reduce fire behavior. The session emphasized to homeowners that objectives and aesthetics do not have to be compromised when creating defensible space.

A display in the registration area offered wildland fire information to all workshop participants throughout the day. Teton Interagency's Fire Education and Information Specialist staffed an exhibit that provided literature on landscaping for wildland fire prevention. A drawing was held for a copy of a locally produced video entitled "A Homeowner's Guide to Wildland Fire Protection." The film, funded through the Western States Wildland-Urban Interface Grant Program, highlights topics such as home design, building materials, landscaping, and zone management practices.

