IAFF WILDFIRE RESPONSE

Protecting communities from wildfires is no longer a job limited to certain regions in the United States and Canada. As the line separating urban, suburban, and rural communities has blurred, wildfires are a threat spanning coast to coast.

The wildland urban interface — the zone of transition between unoccupied land and human development — is growing at an astronomical rate, causing enormous loss of property and significant risk to human lives.

According to the National Fire Protection Association, 88 percent of fire departments respond to urban interface fires, but only 40 percent of these departments provide urban interface fire training. Even when training exists, it is often inconsistent and inadequate for the level of response needed.

The IAFF is committed to providing effective, consistent training for structural fire fighters who are now responding to urban interface fires.

For more information about the IAFF’s Responding to the Interface (RTI) program, contact RTI@iaff.org or visit IAFF.org/wildfire.

COURSES AVAILABLE

RESPONDING TO THE INTERFACE AWARENESS (ONLINE)

This free, 10-hour, online training program is designed to provide fire fighters and company officers a basic understanding of safety, command and control, and strategy and tactics to use when defending structures from wildfires.

Go to lms.iaff.org to register for this course.

RESPONDING TO THE INTERFACE TRAIN THE TRAINER

The Train the Trainer program is a four-day (32-hour), grant-eligible class designed to train fire department instructors on how to deliver consistent, effective urban-interface response training. At the conclusion, fire fighters and company officers will have the ability to teach their fellow colleagues.

The program includes:

- Classroom review of online material and final exam
- Program overview and teaching-skills methodology
- Field training to practice and apply skills learned in the classroom portion of the course. The training is guided by subject-matter experts and delivered in the local jurisdiction.

PREREQUISITES

- IAFF’s Responding to the Interface Awareness online course
- FEMA’s S-190 Introduction to Wildland Fire Behavior

SUGGESTED

- FEMA’s S-130 Fire Fighter Training

For more information on grant funding for this course, visit IAFF.org/grants.