

# Wildland Fire Mitigation Project

## What is the pink flagging and blue paint about?



The pink flagging and blue paint is part of an ongoing wildland fire mitigation project conducted by the Pinebrook Master Association to reduce the fuels buildup around the neighborhood. The pink flagging marks project boundaries, and the blue paint is for trees to be cut in aspen stands. The White Fir along with Aspen in our neighborhood is suffering serious forest health issues brought on by stress from drought and competition, leading to an insect infestation. Fuel treatments are intended to mimic fire, were it allowed to play its natural role: reducing the threat of large, devastating wildfires and creating more resilient landscapes.

Last year's Parleys Canyon Fire was a reminder we live in fire dependent ecosystems in what is called the Wildland/Urban Interface (WUI). Were a wildfire to occur in untreated stands, it is more likely a large fire would climb into the tree crowns, threaten the neighborhood and be difficult for firefighters to suppress. Within the treated stands - where dead and dying trees (snags), young conifers, ladder fuels, and dead branches on the ground are cut and removed - the larger and more resilient trees will be able to survive a low intensity surface fire and firefighters should have a greater chance of keeping the fire small, out of the crowns of the trees, and under control.

Pinebrook received a special grant from the Utah Watershed Restoration Initiative along with PMA funds to help manage the forest stands in the neighborhood. Contractors hired by the PMA will be working in our forests thinning and piling slash this fall, and burning last year's piles this winter when there is snow on the ground. For more information about Pinebrook's fire safety initiatives or actions you can take around your home and property, please visit [www.pinebrookmasterassn.org/fire-safety](http://www.pinebrookmasterassn.org/fire-safety). Email the Pinebrook Fire Safety Committee to join its email distribution list to get important fire safety updates and to learn about our community education and volunteer events: [pinebrookfiresafety@gmail.com](mailto:pinebrookfiresafety@gmail.com).

