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Economically Viable Methods for Wildfire Protection for Homes in Santa Barbara County

Realtors Survey Results:

Santa Barbara County homeowners estimated to be willing to spend **\$25,000** on wildfire protection systems for their home.

Santa Barbara County experiences wildfires often, with fourteen major wildfires occurring in the last thirty years. The California Building Code establishes the minimum building requirements for fire protection in residential construction, but there are many ways to protect a home from wildfires beyond the minimum requirements. This project utilizes a survey sent to Santa Barbara County realtors to determine a realistic estimate for the amount of money that Santa Barbara County homeowners are willing to spend on wildfire protection. From the results of the survey it is determined that homeowners are willing to spend approximately \$25,000 on methods that exceed the building code requirements to protect their homes from wildfires. The most viable methods for wildfire protection that fit within this budget are fire retardant protection systems, home hardening techniques, and the creation of defensible space around a home.

Key Words: Residential, Wildfire, Protection, California, Wildland Urban Interface

Fire Retardant Sprinkler Systems



Home Hardening



Defensible Space

