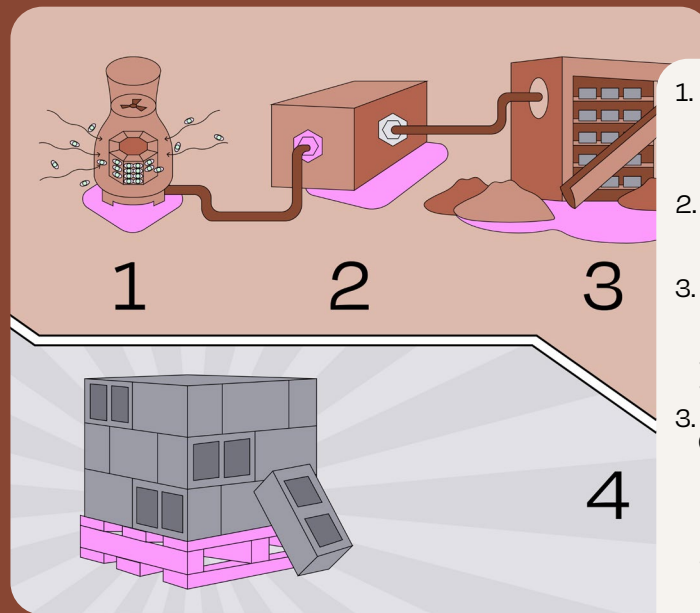


Scaling Carbon Removal Across the West

Since 2021, local governments in the “four corners” region have been assessing and investing in projects to test and scale innovative carbon removal efforts.



- 1. Direct Air Capture**
Removes carbon dioxide (CO₂) from the air & makes it available for industrial use.
- 2. CO₂ Processing**
CO₂ is prepared for use in a concrete curing chamber.
- 3. Concrete Plant**
Products are made from a mix containing calcium-rich waste materials and cured with CO₂.
- 3. Ultra-Low Carbon Concrete**
Concrete made through this process both removes and avoids carbon emissions. Compared to other traditionally-made building products, its carbon output is 70-100% less!

CDR only works if projects start at the local level, then scale up. Knowing this, municipal and county governments across Arizona, Colorado, New Mexico, and Utah formalized the 4 Corners Carbon Coalition (4CCC) to assess, support, and scale promising carbon removal projects.

4CCC is technology-neutral, and focuses on projects that will achieve long-term storage, are measurable and verifiable, do not impose burdens on communities anywhere, and can deliver other economic, social, or ecological benefits.

[The 4 Corners Carbon Coalition](#)

Become a CDR Expert



In 2023, Boulder County and Carbon Direct released a playbook to help local governments develop CDR strategies, including best practices and case studies of different project structures. [Read the Playbook.](#)

Stay in the Loop



Grant opportunities come and go, but CDR is (ideally) forever. 4CCC shares project updates, funding opportunities, and more on their website. [Visit the 4CCC Website.](#)

Join a Collective



You don't need to be a materials scientist or government climate office to make an impact. Networks like OpenAir bring people together to drive research & development, citizen science, policy advocacy, and activist business development. [Join the Network.](#)



Fire Resilience

As climate change increases the frequency and intensity of wildfires, fire resilience becomes crucial for adapting to these changes.

The Opportunity

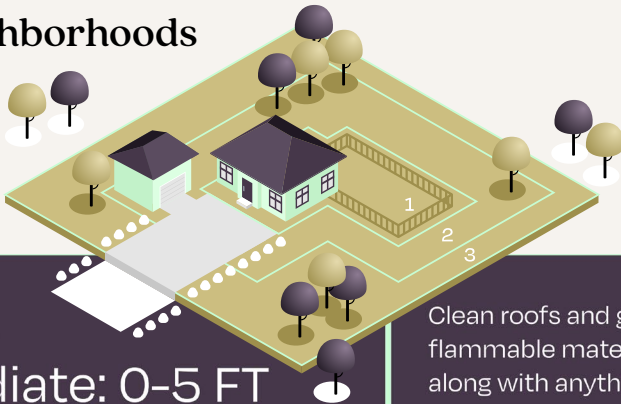
Decades of fire suppression, beetle infestations, decreasing snowpack, drought, and rising temperatures are causing more frequent and more severe wildfires. One devastating example took place on December 30, 2021—several months after the typical fire season—when the Marshall Fire burned down over 1,000 of our neighbors' homes.

As we adapt to this increasing wildfire risk, it's critical to make changes that both immediately safeguard our built environment, but also that systemically prevent this cycle of worsening fires from continuing.



www.blog.ucsus.edu/pablo-ortiz/californias-thirsty-future-the-role-of-vapor-pressure-deficit-in-our-changing-climate-and-drought/

Creating Greater Fire Resilience in our Neighborhoods



Zone 1

Immediate: 0-5 FT

Clean roofs and gutters of debris that could catch embers and move flammable material from exteriors (mulch, plants, leaves, firewood) along with anything stored under decks and porches.

Zone 2

Intermediate: 5-30 FT

Create fuel breaks with driveways, paths, and patios. Keep lawns mowed to a height of 4in., prune trees 6-10 ft. from the ground, space a minimum of 18ft. apart, and clear vegetation from under propane tanks.

Zone 3

Immediate: 30-100 FT

Remove dead plants, tree material, ground debris, small conifers, and vegetation by storage sheds. Ensure trees 30-60 ft. away have 12 ft. between & 60-100 ft. away have 6 ft. between canopies.

Wildfire Partners, supports collective and personal action to create wildfire-resilient communities across Boulder County and offers yard design suggestions that are less susceptible to fire risk.

<https://wildfirepartners.org/rebate/>

Mushroom Networks are Decreasing Fire Risk

Boulder County Climate Innovation Fund recipient uses fungi to break down waste wood & build soil moisture.



Decreasing tree density and increasing moisture retention are two tested ways to decrease devastation from wildfires—but they can be time, money, and resource-intensive. Boulder Mushroom, a local mycology center, has found a new way to achieve these goals with less labor and less heavy machinery. Rather than hauling out waste lumber with highly emissive trucks, their process involves wood-chipping waste wood, then spraying it down with mushroom spores that break down waste and increase soil moisture by up to four times.

See: [Wildfire Prevention Mushroom Composting](#), [Fungi Firefighters](#), and [Mushrooms Deployed Against Wildfires In Boulder](#)

Make a Plan



Boulder County Wildfire Partners offers free resources to prepare your family and your home for emergencies. [Visit the Wildfire Partners Website.](#)

Protect Your Health



Boulder County Public Health offers resources and recommendations for managing your health during smoke events like wildfires. [Visit the BCPH Website.](#)

Rebuilding Better



Rebuilding Better - Learn how Boulder County residents are building high performance homes that reduce climate impacts and are healthier and help your families adapt to wildfire impacts like poor air quality. [Visit the Rebuilding Better Website.](#)

