



Regional Codes Coordinating Committee

Opinion Paper

2018 International Wildland-Urban Interface Code

The Regional Codes Coordinating Committee (RCCC) of the North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG) recommends that jurisdictions having a wildland-urban interface, as defined in the International Wildland-Urban Interface Code (IWUIC), *who may be evaluating the 2018 edition of the IWUIC for possible adoption, carefully review the code and its appendices in order to appreciate its full impact.*

Jurisdictions having a wildland-urban interface, that may be considering the adoption of the development of defensible space for new and existing properties in the geographic area within the jurisdiction having such conditions, should define the development of defensible space according to the criteria in the 2018 edition of the IWUIC.

There are no proposed amendments by the RCCC's Fire Advisory Board to the 2018 edition of the IWUIC. Jurisdictions evaluating IWUIC should fill in the bracketed jurisdictional-specific text (Page VI) and develop any amendments as needed to accommodate the needs of the jurisdiction's wildland-urban interface conditions, which may change over time, especially due to drought condition.

Should a jurisdiction consider adopting the IWUIC, considerations for amendments could include but are not limited to:

- The water supply requirements, such as drafting capability of the responding Fire Department;
- Access, such as assignment of apparatus to that area and capability to utilize 12 ft. driveways as required by that code;
- Defensible space criteria, especially applicability to existing structures;
- Maintenance/inspection going forward for enforcement to ensure water supply, access, and defensible space is maintained;
- Residential construction, such as vent locations and exterior materials.

Should you have questions regarding the contents of this Opinion Paper, please contact the Environment and Development Department at EandD@nctcog.org or (817) 695-9210.