



## 2026 Mountain Pine Beetle Landowner Assistance Program Guidelines and Instructions

**GUIDELINES** - Please read these guidelines carefully.

Cost-share monies are available for treatment of green pine trees infested with live mountain pine beetle (*Dendroctonus ponderosae*). Trees that died in prior seasons are not eligible.

1. Treated property must be privately owned and wholly within Jefferson County. Priority for cost-share funding will be for owners of property of 39 acres or less.
2. The application deadline is 5:00 PM, Thursday, April 23, 2026. Funds are limited and the application window may be closed earlier if all funds are committed.
3. Applications will be reviewed on a first-come, first-served basis in the order they are received. Incomplete applications will not be considered.
4. Applications must be made by the owner of record or their designated representative and only one application per owner will be considered.
5. Cost-share monies may be awarded -
  - Up to 50% reimbursement for eligible mitigation with a maximum annual amount of \$7,500 per owner.
  - Only approved methods and timing will be eligible (See attached).
  - The amount of funding available will depend on the level of interest among the affected landowners. Jefferson County reserves the right to cap the amount on a per tree or per acre basis.
6. ***If your application is accepted for consideration***, Jefferson County Invasive Species Management (JCISM) staff will visit the site to inspect and verify the infested trees. We will email you and give you instructions on how to schedule a site visit.
7. No reimbursement will be made for work done before application approval.
8. For this cost share funding program, all funding decisions are final and not subject to appeal or dispute.

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### INSTRUCTIONS

1. Choose a Contractor
  - a. Have them inspect your property and clearly mark the infested trees with paint or marking tape.
  - b. Ensure they will be able to complete the work for you by the required dates.
  - c. Obtain a written quote.

Note: When choosing a Contractor, you should verify that they meet industry standards. CSFS recommends that you ask about areas such as insurance, licensing, references and referrals, and professional qualifications.

1. Complete and submit the application through the online form at [www.jeffco.us/jcism](http://www.jeffco.us/jcism) or mail a paper copy to the address on the application. Funds are limited and the application window may be closed earlier if all funds are committed.
  - a. Include all the required information;
  - b. Include a map of the property showing parcel boundaries, structures, access points, and the trees that will be treated.
  - c. Include the Contractor's written quote;
2. Applications are due by 5:00 PM, Thursday April 23, 2026. Mailed applications must be postmarked by April 23, 2026.
3. Applications will be reviewed on a first-come, first-served basis in the order they are received.
4. The application must include all the required information and documentation. Only complete applications submitted on the required form and in the required manner shall be considered. **Emailed applications will not be accepted.**
5. Applications must be submitted prior to treatment. Allow up to 3 weeks for review.
6. Jefferson County and the online application system are not responsible or in any way liable for any computer hardware or software malfunction which may affect your application or the application process. reCAPTCHA is used as part of the form submittal process and applicants should ensure their devices support use of reCAPTCHA beforehand.
7. If your application is accepted for consideration, JCISM will visit the site to inspect and verify the infested trees. We will email you with instructions on how to schedule a site visit.
8. If your application is accepted for funding, you will need to work with the Contractor to schedule and oversee the work.

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9. All work must be completed by the Contractor by the required date to be eligible for cost share payment. Payment for work completed after the required date will be the sole responsibility of the landowner.
10. Reimbursement
  - a. Landowner will submit a Request for Reimbursement by no later than July 15, 2026 including:
    - i. Request for Reimbursement Form
    - ii. A copy of the Contractor's paid invoice
    - iii. A W9 form
11. A follow-up site visit By JCISM may be required to verify the completion of the work prior to reimbursement being made.
12. For this cost share funding program, all funding decisions are final and not subject to appeal or dispute.

Please phone Jefferson County Invasive Species Management at 303-271-5989 or email [wpinfo@jeffco.us](mailto:wpinfo@jeffco.us) if you have questions.



## **2026 Mountain Pine Beetle Landowner Assistance Program**

### **Treatment Options**

1. Solar Treatment
  - Fell the tree
  - Cut logs and limbs greater than 6 inches in diameter into lengths of 4 feet or less
  - Lay the logs and limbs out in the sunniest portion of the property, no more than one layer high.
  - Must be completed by April 15, 2026.
  
2. Solar Treatment with Plastic
  - Fell the tree.
  - Cut logs and limbs greater than 6 inches in diameter into lengths of 4 feet or less
  - Lay the logs and limbs out in the sunniest portion of the property, no more than one layer high.
  - Cover with clear plastic at least 6 mils thick.
  - Bury the edges of the plastic with soil to create a seal.
  - Must be completed by May 15, 2026
  
3. Debark
  - Fell the tree.
  - Remove the bark from the trunk of the tree and any limbs greater than 6 inches in diameter.
  - Must be completed by June 15, 2026.
  
4. Chip on Site
  - Fell the tree.
  - Chip the logs and limbs to no more than 2 inches in any diameter.

- Contractor shall distribute chipped material across the property, with a desired average chip depth of less than or equal to 1 inch and a maximum average of 2 inches. No one area within any property shall have chipped material at a depth greater than 4 inches, except no material will be deposited or spread within the ignition zone of structures.
- Must be completed by June 1, 2026.

5. Chip Offsite

- Fell the tree.
- Transport the logs to a pre-approved site.
- A compliance agreement is required for this option.
- Must be completed by June 1, 2026.

6. Mastication

- Mastication shall be performed to meet or exceed CSFS mastication operational guidelines (<https://static.colostate.edu/client-files/csfs/pdfs/masticationoperationalguidelines.pdf>).
- Masticated material must be spread across the property, with a desired average depth of 2 inches and a maximum average of 4 inches allowed. No one area within any property shall have masticated material at a depth greater than 6 inches except no material will be deposited or spread within the ignition zone of structures.
- Must be completed by June 1, 2026.

7. For All Methods Listed Above - Slash Management

- Contractor shall lop and scatter, chip, or masticate all slash material less than 6 inches in diameter within the individual property, or may dispose of it at a bio-recycling site or landfill.
- Work must be completed by the due date specified for each method listed above.
- Contractor shall distribute lop-and-scatter material across the property, with a desired average depth of 6 inches. No one area within any parcel shall have lop-and-scatter material at a depth greater than 8 inches.

- If chipping is done onsite, Contractor shall distribute chipped material across the property, with a desired average chip depth of less than or equal to 1 inch and a maximum average of 2 inches allowed. No one area within any property shall have chipped material at a depth greater than 4 inches.
- If mastication is done, Contractor shall distribute masticated material across the property, with a desired average depth of 2 inches and a maximum average of 4 inches allowed. No one area within any property shall have masticated material at a depth greater than 6 inches.
- Contractor shall direct chips/masticated material away from all structures, roads, and designated ignition zones within the project area.
- Slash may be transported offsite to a bio-recycling site or landfill.

#### 8. Stump Height

- Contractor shall cut or grind stumps as low as possible. An average stump height of 6 inches will be acceptable as measured on the uphill side.
- Work must be completed by the due date specified for each method listed above.