

## **Speaker biography – Will Boettner Texas A&M Forest Service:**

Will Boettner, P.G. is the Texas A&M Forest Service Wildland Urban Interface Specialist (WUI) for Central Texas. His region encompasses 47 counties and stretches from Mills County in the north to the Rio Grande River in the south. As a Wildland Urban Interface Specialist, he provides wildland fire prevention and mitigation training to communities and their first responders, responds to wildland fires, and conducts wildland fire risk assessments for both individual homes and communities up to county in scale.

After a career as a geologist working throughout the U.S. and the world, he joined the Texas A&M Forest Service to apply skills and experience as a Texas licensed Professional Geoscientist, his volunteer work as a firefighter and EMT as well as drawing upon his background as a small city Councilman, County Planning Commission Chair, and member of city, county and statewide boards charged with public safety, education and environmental protection.

He is a graduate of the University of Texas and has practiced geology for more than 30 years. He is married with one son who is a Task Force Wildland firefighter with the Texas A&M Forest Service.

Good information on the Texas Firewise program is at [www.texasfirewise.org](http://www.texasfirewise.org). Will has provided subject matter expert support to the Colony Firewise project (information at [www.colonyfirewise.com](http://www.colonyfirewise.com))