

PREPARE YOUR YARD FOR FIRE SEASON



The best practice in vegetation management is to remove all vegetation within five feet of your home. Even if this is not currently feasible for you, taking protective measures in your yard will increase your home's chance of surviving a wildfire and reduce risk to our whole community. Use this checklist to prepare your yard.

CREATE SPACE

Maintaining adequate space between plants, structures, and other objects on your property makes it harder for a fire to spread.

- Trim trees so that the lowest branches are at least 6 feet from the ground, or 3 times the height of any shrubs beneath the tree.
- Trim trees so that branches are 10 feet apart from other trees.
- Remove branches within 10 feet of your chimney.
- Remove branches that hang over your roof.
- Remove or prune plants and shrubs near windows.
- Move patio furniture, wood piles, etc. away from plants.

CLEAR DEBRIS & FLAMMABLE MATERIAL

- Clear leaves, pine needles, and other debris from roofs, gutters, and the ground.
- Remove all dead plants, grass, and weeds around your property.
- Remove plant debris and other flammable materials, such as propane containers and paint from under decks.

KEEP PLANTS WELL MAINTAINED

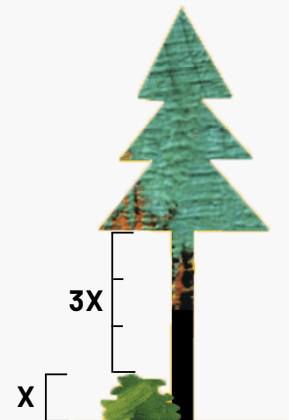
Whether you have natives or non-natives, the most important thing is to keep all plants in your yard watered and well-maintained.

- Trim any dead or dying material from plants.
- Keep plants watered - especially any plants located within five feet of your home.
- If you have Eucalyptus trees, remove any shedding bark and leaves.

Minimum Vertical Clearance: Avoid Fire "Ladders"



Lack of vertical space between shrubs and trees allows fire to move from the ground to treetops like a ladder, leading to more intense fires.



Trim trees so the lowest branches are 3 times the height of shrubs below.

For example, if a 5 foot shrub is growing near a tree, the lowest branch should be 15 feet above it - 20 feet from the ground.