

## Home Ignition Zones

**Immediate Ignition Zone** - 0-5 feet from structure, and any overhang or deck attached to the structure.

1. Remove all dead & dying vegetation.
2. Keep vegetation within this zone to the Approved Plantings List.
3. Maintain trimming of trees so branches are at least 10 feet horizontally from an active wood burning chimney or structure.

**Intermediate Ignition Zone** – 5-30 feet from structure

Includes items 1-3 from Immediate Ignition Zone.

1. Mow grasses to no more than 4" high.
2. Remove vegetation under trees to avoid the ladder effect.
3. Limb up trees taller than 10 feet but less than 15 feet, to 4 feet from the ground, measured from the highest point of ground to below canopy.
4. Limb up trees taller than 15 feet, to 6 feet from ground, measured from the highest point of ground to below canopy.
5. Cluster trees and shrubs at least 18 feet from the next cluster.
6. Tree clusters should not exceed 5 trees or cover more than 15% of the Intermediate Ignition Zone, whichever is less.

**Extended Zone** – 30-100 feet from structure

1. Remove all dead & dying vegetation.
2. Remove small conifers growing between tree clusters using clumping, clustering and thinning.
3. Limb up trees taller than 15 feet, to 6 feet from ground, measured from the highest point of ground to below canopy.
4. Cluster trees and shrubs at least 12 feet from the next cluster.
5. Tree clusters should not exceed 5 trees or cover more than 25% of the Intermediate Ignition Zone, whichever is less.

## Home Hardening & Maintenance

1. Keep roofs and rain gutters free of pine needles, leaf litter and all other debris.
2. Do not use areas under decks or roof overhangs for storage of any combustible material, including wood piles.
3. Maintain the areas under decks so they are clear of all dead or dry vegetation and debris.
4. Regularly remove deadwood and litter from trees.
5. Keep non-fire resistive vegetation clear of structures through clumping, clustering, pruning and thinning.
6. Continue to maintain all outdoor areas according to the Home Ignition Zone guidelines as they apply to your property.

## Additional Home Hardening Concepts

1. Cover vents with metal screens having a mesh no larger than 1/8 inch.
2. Box in eaves or construct with non-combustible material.
3. Fence components within the Immediate Ignition Zone should be made of non-combustible materials and/or the structure should be non-combustible at the connection point (to the home.)
4. Use windows made of double or triple pane or tempered glass.
5. Cover roofs with Class A roof covering.
6. Change out old wood shingle or wood shake roofing materials. (They are now prohibited in new construction and re-roofs.)

## Definitions

**Clumping or Clustering** – The process of grouping trees and/or brush together and maintaining space between those groupings to prevent the spread of fire.

**Defensible Space** – An area where material capable of allowing a fire to spread has been cleared or modified to slow the rate and intensity of an advancing wildfire and to create an area for fire suppression to occur.

**Fuel Modification** – Reduces the amount of non-fire resistive vegetation or alternates the type of vegetation to reduce the fuel load. To be considered a fuel modification, continuous maintenance of the clearance is required.

**Home Hardening** – Addresses the most vulnerable components of a dwelling unit with techniques and materials that increase resistance to heat, flames, and embers.

**Ladder Fuels** – Live or dead vegetation that allows a fire to climb up from the landscape grade to the tree canopy. Includes tall grasses, shrubs & tree branches.

**Thinning** – The process of removing selected trees and leaving others. Separation reduces the probability of fire spreading laterally from one tree to another.