DEFENSIBLE SPACE

ZONE 1: 0 - 5 FT
Reduce the chance of wind-blown embers igniting materials near your home, thereby exposing it to flames.

- Choose noncombustible materials like rock or gravel mulches. Use brick or concrete walkways in this area.
- Use noncombustible materials. If vegetation is used, select low growing plants such as irrigated flowers or lawn.
- Do not store firewood, lumber or other combustibles under the entire footprint of any attached deck.

ZONE 2: 5 - 30 FT
Create a landscape that will not readily allow fire to burn to the home.

- Remove shrubs underneath trees, and thin trees to create a between-tree spacing of about 10 ft. Spacing should increase on slopes. Remove dead vegetation and branches overhanging your home. Keep plants healthy.
- Move RVs/trailers into the 30 – 100 ft. zone. If unable to move, create defensible space around each. Create defensible space around each outbuilding.

ZONE 3: 30 - 100 FT
Reduce the energy and speed of the wildfire.

- Remove dead trees, shrubs and other dead material within plants.
- Thin and separate trees/shrubs. Trim trees and remove shrubs to eliminate ladder fuels under trees. Branch removal from the trunk should not exceed more than 1/3 of tree height.
- Extend zone to 150 - 200 ft. if home is near or at the top of a steep slope.
Focus on your roof and gutters

- Install a Class A fire-rated roof.
- If used, gutter covers should be noncombustible.
- Routinely remove debris from the roof and gutters, which can be ignited by embers blown by the wind.

Consider your windows

- Replace single-pane windows with dual- or multi-pane windows, preferably ones with tempered glass, and close them when wildfire threatens.
- Install window screens. Both plastic-clad fiberglass and metal screening will reduce radiant exposure to the glass and protect against ember entry, but neither will protect against flames.

Maintain and choose noncombustible materials for decks

- Remove debris and vegetation from your deck.
- Do not store wood on or underneath your deck. If you have no other option, installing a noncombustible siding product around the deck perimeter may be an option.
- When it’s time to replace deck boards, choose a noncombustible product or a combustible product that complies with the requirements of the California Building Code, as provided in the Office of the State Fire Marshal Building Materials Listing Program.

Consider exterior walls

- Ensure the start of siding is a minimum of 6 inches above the ground.
- Avoid untreated wood shingle and vinyl siding.

Reduce fence risks

- Burning fencing can generate embers and cause direct flame contact to your home. Use noncombustible fences and gates.

Keep embers out of eaves and vents

- Use 1/8-inch mesh screening over all vents.
- Box-in open eaves to create a soffited eave.