



COMMUNITY OUTREACH PRESENTATION



Who is MCFSC?



- The California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CDF) formed the California Fire Safe Council with the intent of seeing that local fire safe councils were formed with the single charge of educating the local public about fire abatement practices that can save their homes in the event of a fire.
- The Mountain Communities Fire Safe Council (MCFSC) was formed in 2001 and became a 501(c)(3) corporation in 2002. We quickly saw that while the single CDF charge was certainly necessary, it did not go far enough.



The Woodies

- We are a diverse group of retired & active firefighters, nurses, school teachers and administrators, social workers, law enforcement, hairdressers, authors, art historians & illustrators
- Woodies donate thousands of hours in labor each year. Brush clearing, weed whacking, raking & hauling debris is essential in keeping our communities fire-resistant & Woodies are part of that effort!
- Our primary activity is cutting and splitting donated wood from local tree companies & other organizations then providing that wood to the Help Center clients
- In 2024, Woodies processed 51 cords of wood and contributed nearly 1500 hours in community service

The Woodies

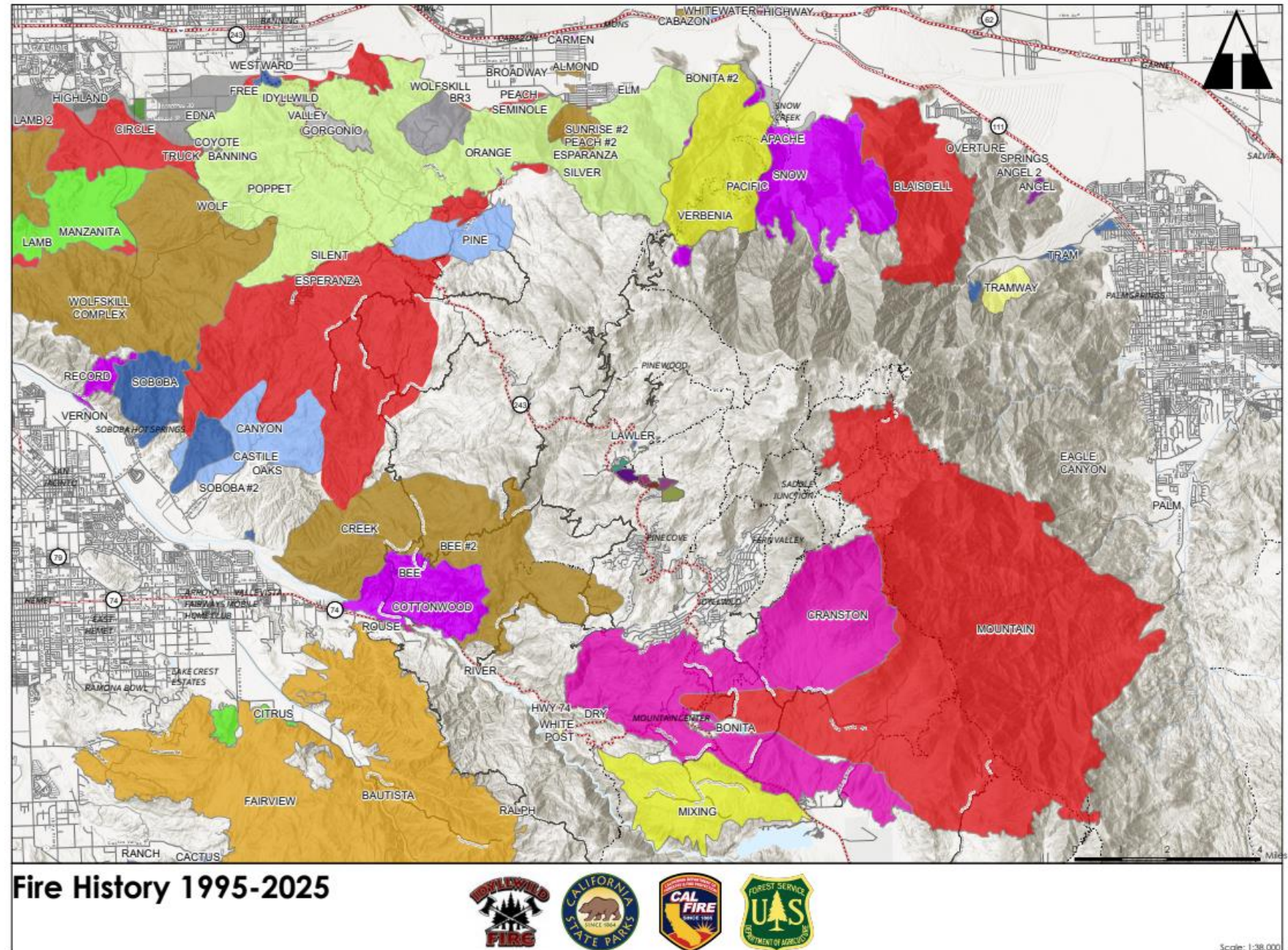
Want to join?
Email kim@mcfsc.org
Or call
951-659-6208



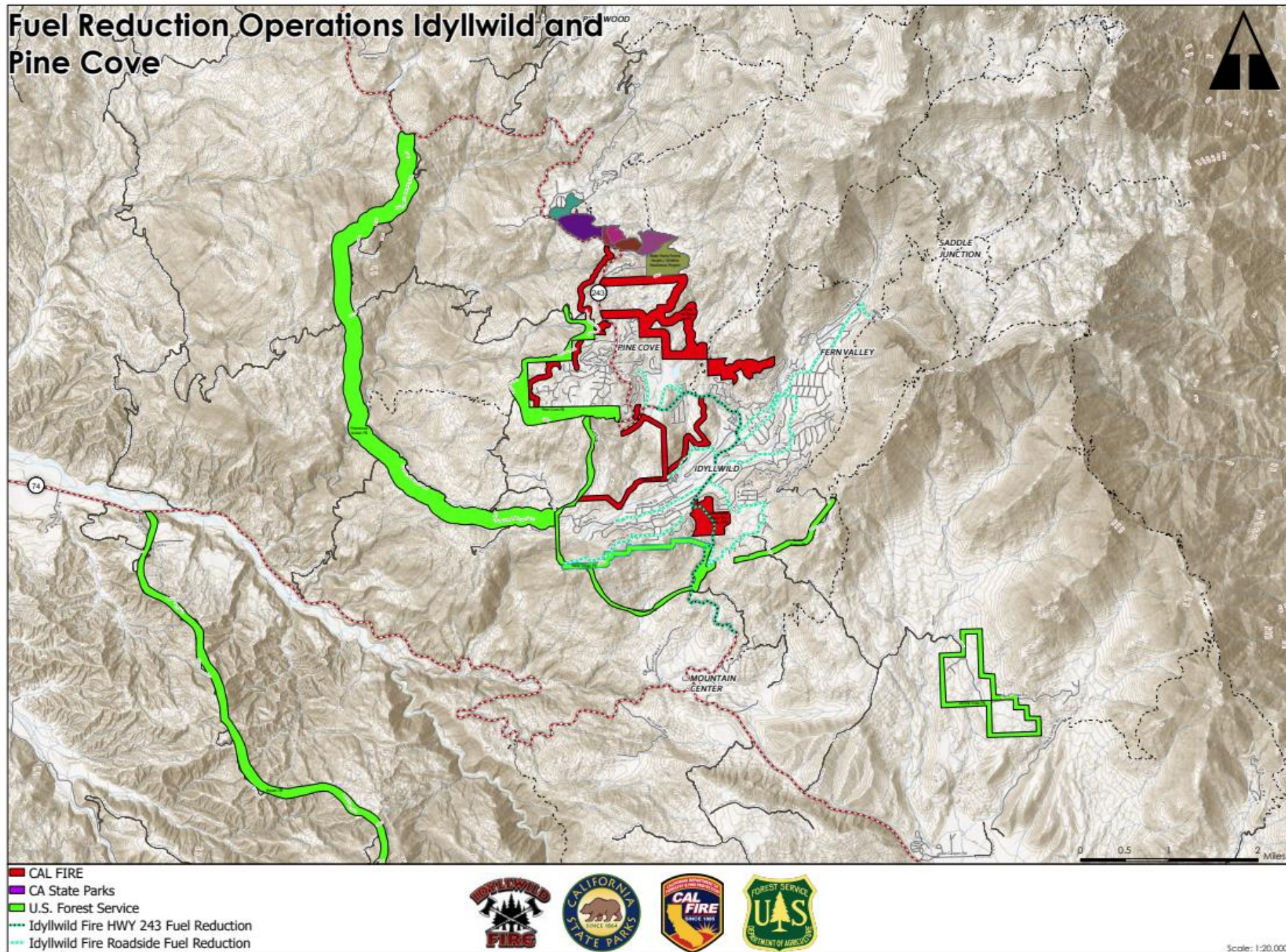
The Wildland-Urban Interface

- The wildland–urban interface is a zone of transition between wilderness and land developed by human activity – an area where a built environment meets or intermingles with a natural environment.
- The US Forest Service defines the wildland–urban interface qualitatively as a place where "humans and their development meet or intermix with wildland fuel."
- A quantitative definition is provided by the Federal Register, which defines WUI areas as those containing at least one housing unit per 40 acres (16 ha).

Fire History

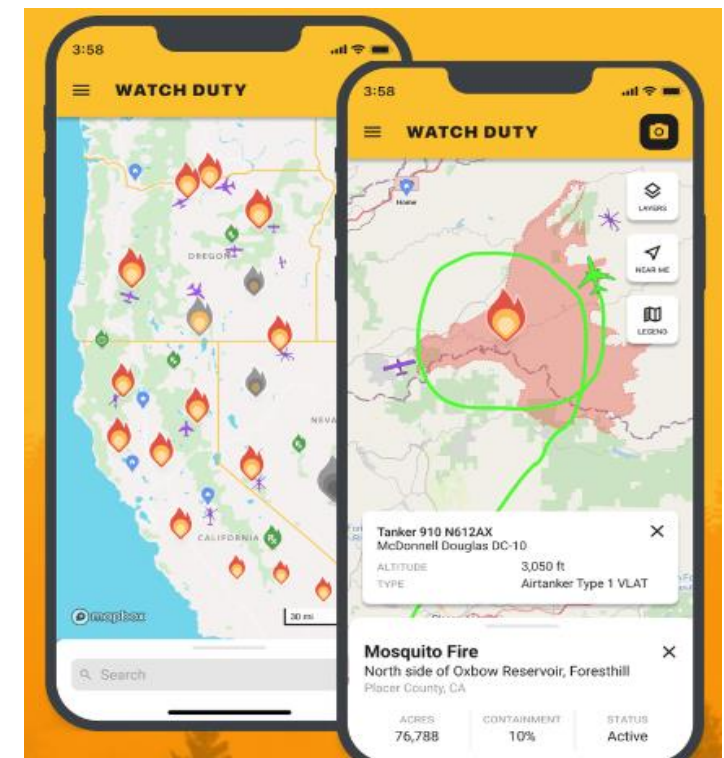


Fuel Breaks



Fire and Evacuation Alerts and Info

- [Watch Duty App](#)
- [Genasys Protect App](#)
- [RivCoReady.org](#)
- [AlertCalifornia.org](#) live webcams
- [WNKI 1610 AM](#)



Defensible Space – why do it?



Settlements in a WUI are at greater risk of catastrophic wildfire



We create Defensible Space to reduce the fuel load on private lands, to help reinforce the work being done by public agencies on public lands



“Fuel” means any combustible material, including petroleum-based products, cultivated landscape plants, grasses, and weeds, and wildland vegetation



PRC 4291

- California state law regarding the establishment and maintenance of “defensible space” is found in Public Resources Code (PRC) Section 4291.
- <https://law.justia.com/codes/california/2022/code-prc/division-4/part-2/chapter-3/section-4291/>

LE 100 Defensible Space Inspection

State of California, Natural Resources Agency
Department of Forestry and Fire Protection
Notice of Defensible Space Inspection
LE-100a (2/22)

Date: _____

NOTICE OF DEFENSIBLE SPACE INSPECTION

A fire department representative has inspected your property for fire hazards. You are hereby notified to correct the violation(s) indicated below. Failure to correct these violations may result in a citation and fine.

OWNER/TENANT: _____ INSPECTION ADDRESS: _____

INSPECTOR NAME: _____ CONTACT NUMBER: _____ Inspection No. 1 2 3 No Violations Observed ☐

Zone 1 / Within 30 feet of all structures or to the property line (Refer to illustration below):

- ☐ A. Remove all branches within 10 feet of any chimney or stovepipe outlet, pursuant to PRC § 4291(a)(2) and 14 CCR § 1299.03(a)(2).
- ☐ B. Remove leaves, needles or other vegetation on roofs, gutters, decks, porches, stairways, etc. pursuant to PRC § 4291(a)(4) and 14 CCR § 1299.03(a)(1).
- ☐ C. Remove all dead and dying trees, branches and shrubs, or other plants adjacent to or overhanging buildings, pursuant to PRC § 4291(a)(3) and 14 CCR § 1299.03(a)(2).
- ☐ D. Remove all dead and dying grass, plants, shrubs, trees, branches, leaves, weeds and needles, pursuant to 14 CCR § 1299.03(a)(2).
- ☐ E. Remove or separate live flammable ground cover and shrubs, pursuant to PRC § 4291(a)(1) and BOF General Guidelines item 1.
- ☐ F. Remove flammable vegetation and items that could catch fire which are adjacent to, or below, combustible decks, balconies, and stairs, pursuant to 14 CCR § 1299.03(a)(4).
- ☐ G. Relocate exposed wood piles outside of Zone 1 unless completely covered in a fire-resistant material, pursuant to 14 CCR § 1299.03(a)(3).

Zone 2 / Within 30–100 feet of all structures or to the property line (Refer to illustration below):

- ☐ H. Cut annual grasses and forbs down to a maximum height of 4 inches, pursuant to 14 CCR § 1299.03(b)(2)(B).
- ☐ I. Remove fuels in accordance with the Fuel Separation or Continuous Tree Canopy guidelines (see back), pursuant to BOF General Guidelines item 4.
- ☐ J. All exposed woodpiles must have a minimum of 10 feet clearance, down to bare mineral soil, in all directions, pursuant to 14 CCR § 1299.03(b)(2)(C).
- ☐ K. Dead and dying woody surface fuels and aerial fuels shall be removed. Loose surface litter, normally consisting of fallen leaves or needles, twigs, bark, cones, and small branches, shall be permitted to a maximum depth of 3 inches, pursuant to 14 CCR § 1299.03(b)(2)(A).

Defensible and Reduced Fuel Zone / Within 100 feet of all structures or to the property line (Refer to illustration below):

- ☐ L. Logs or stumps embedded in the soil must be removed or isolated from other vegetation, pursuant to BOF General Guidelines item 3.

Other Requirements:

- ☐ M. Outbuildings and Liquid Propane Gas (LPG) storage tanks shall have 10 feet of clearance to bare mineral soil and no flammable vegetation for an additional 10 feet around their exterior, pursuant to 14 CCR § 1299.03(c)(1).
- ☐ N. Address numbers shall be displayed in contrasting colors (4" min. size) and readable from the street or access road, pursuant to 2016 CFC § 505.1.
- ☐ O. Equip chimney or stovepipe openings with a metal screen having openings between 3/8 inch and 1/2 inch, pursuant to 2016 CBC § 2113.9.2.

COMMENTS: _____

IMPORTANT All violations marked must be addressed by the owner/tenant. A re-inspection of the property will occur on or after _____

KNOW THE LAW BE FIRE SMART

100 feet of Defensible Space is required under the Public Resources Code (PRC) 4291. California Building Code Chapter 7A requires certain construction materials and methods for homes in wildland areas. Be sure to contact your local fire department for additional requirements to ensure your home is compliant with the law.

READYFORWILDFIRE.ORG/THELAW

PRC § 4119. The department, or its duly authorized agent, shall enforce the state forest and fire laws. The department may inspect all properties, except the interior of dwellings, subject to the state forest and fire laws, for the purpose of ascertaining compliance with such laws.

WILDFIRE IS COMING. ARE YOU READY?

HARDENING YOUR HOME

Flying embers can destroy homes up to a mile ahead of a wildfire. Prepare (harden) your home now before a fire starts.

Priority list for building or remodeling with ignition-resistant* materials:

- Roof (Above all else your roofing is the most important hardening feature)
- Eaves and Soffits
- Walls
- Decks
- Patio Cover
- Fencing

Other priority activities:

- Vents: Cover and protect all openings.
- Windows: Protect against blow-outs and install double-pane windows.
- Rain Gutters: Screen or enclose.
- Chimney: Cover outlets with non-combustible screens.
- Garage: Have an accessible fire extinguisher.
- Driveways: Ensure access to your home complies with local fire codes.
- Water Supply: Have multiple garden hoses that are long enough to reach all areas of your home.

*Visit ReadyForWildfire.org/hardening-yourhome for detailed information on ignition-resistant building materials and all home hardening activities.

VERTICAL SPACING

Eliminate opportunities for a vertical "fire ladder" by:

- Removing branches beneath large trees for a 6-foot minimum clearance.
- Creating proper vertical spacing between shrubs and the lowest branches of trees by using the formula shown.

6-FOOT MINIMUM CLEARANCE

3X HEIGHT OF SHRUB = MINIMUM VERTICAL CLEARANCE

HORIZONTAL SPACING

The spacing between grass, shrubs, and trees is crucial to reduce the spread of wildfire. The spacing needed is determined by the type and size of the shrubs and trees, as well as the slope of the land. For example, a property on a steep slope with larger plant life will require greater spacing between trees and shrubs than a level property that has small, sparse vegetation.

FIRE-SAFE LANDSCAPING

Fire-safe landscaping isn't necessarily the same thing as a well-maintained yard. Fire-safe landscaping uses fire-resistant plants that are strategically planted to resist the spread of fire to your home.

Dead Tree Removal

If you have dead or dying trees on your property the entire tree needs to be removed to reduce wildfire risk. Visit ReadyForWildfire.org/dead-tree-removal to learn about permit requirements.

FLAT TO MILD SLOPE (LESS THAN 20%)

- SHRUBS: 2X
- TREES: 10 FEET

MILD TO MODERATE SLOPE (20%–40%)

- SHRUBS: 4X
- TREES: 20 FEET

MODERATE TO STEEP SLOPE (GREATER THAN 40%)

- SHRUBS: 6X
- TREES: 30 FEET

DOWNLOAD THE READY FOR WILDFIRE APP

It's never been more important to keep on top of preparing your family, home and property for a wildfire. Fires are on the rise, and are burning hotter, faster and more unpredictably than ever before. Download the app to:

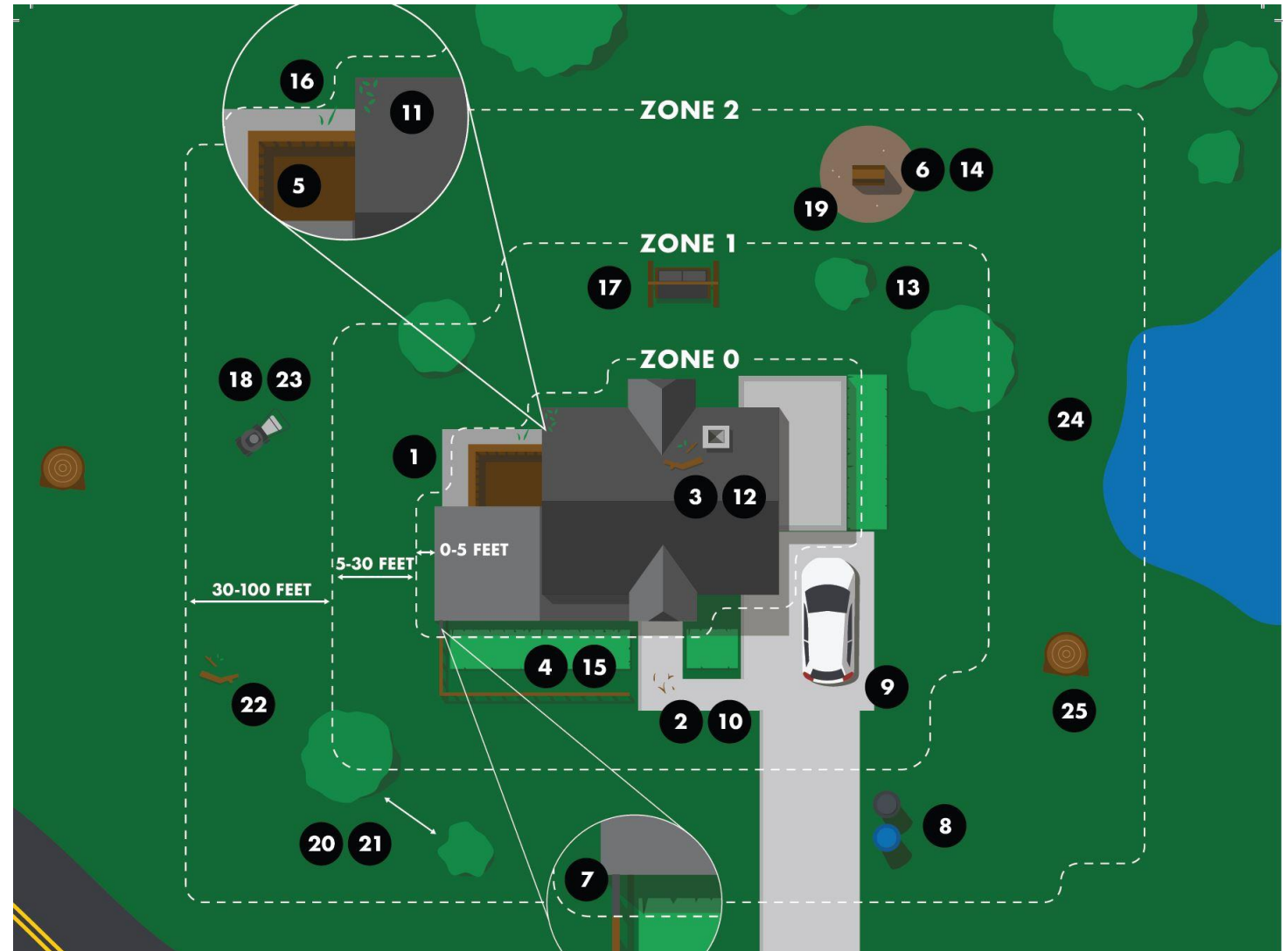
- Get custom wildfire alerts
- Track your progress
- Get detailed action steps

1. 2. 3.

Get the app on the App Store or Google Play

Zones Overview

- Zones 1 and 2 currently make up the 100 feet of defensible space required by law.
- Assembly Bill 3074, passed into law in 2020, requires a third zone for defensible space. This law requires the Board of Forestry and Fire Protection to develop the regulation for a new ember-resistant zone (Zone 0) within 0 to 5 feet of the home by January 1, 2023.
- The intensity of wildfire fuel management varies within the 100-foot perimeter of the home, with more intense fuels' reduction occurring closer to your home. Start at the home and work your way out to 100 feet or to your property line, whichever is closer.



Zone 0: Ember-Resistant Zone

- *Zone 0 extends 5 feet from buildings, structures, decks, etc.*
- Science has proven the ember-resistant zone to be the most important of all the defensible space zones. This zone includes the area under and around all attached decks, and requires the most stringent wildfire fuel reduction. The ember-resistant zone is designed to keep fire or embers from igniting materials that can spread the fire to your home. The following provides guidance for this zone, which may change based on the regulation developed by the Board of Forestry and Fire Protection.
- Use hardscape like gravel, pavers, concrete and other noncombustible mulch materials. No combustible bark or mulch
- Remove all dead and dying weeds, grass, plants, shrubs, trees, branches and vegetative debris (leaves, needles, cones, bark, etc.); Check your roofs, gutters, decks, porches, stairways, etc.
- Remove all branches within 10 feet of any chimney or stovepipe outlet
- Limit combustible items (outdoor furniture, planters, etc.) on top of decks
- Relocate firewood and lumber to Zone 2
- Replace combustible fencing, gates, and arbors attach to the home with noncombustible alternatives
- Consider relocating garbage and recycling containers outside this zone
- Consider relocating boats, RVs, vehicles and other combustible items outside this zone

Zone 1: Lean, Clean and Green Zone

- *Zone 1 extends 30 feet from buildings, structures, decks, etc. or to your property line, whichever is closer.*
- Remove all dead plants, grass and weeds (vegetation)
- Remove dead or dry leaves and pine needles from your yard, roof and rain gutters
- Remove branches that hang over your roof and keep dead branches 10 feet away from your chimney
- Trim trees regularly to keep branches a minimum of 10 feet from other trees
- Relocate wood piles to Zone 2
- Create a separation between trees, shrubs and items that could catch fire, such as patio furniture, wood piles, swing sets, etc

Zone 2: Reduce Fuel Zone

- *Zone 2 extends from 30 feet to 100 feet out from buildings, structures, decks, etc. or to your property line, whichever is closer*
- Cut or mow annual grass down to a maximum height of 4 inches
- Create horizontal space between shrubs and trees. (See diagram)
- Create vertical space between grass, shrubs and trees. (See diagram)
- Remove fallen leaves, needles, twigs, bark, cones, and small branches. However, they may be permitted to a depth of 3 inches
- All exposed wood piles must have a minimum of 10 feet of clearance, down to bare mineral soil, in all directions



More info:

- “Outbuildings” and Liquid Propane Gas (LPG) storage tanks shall have 10 feet of clearance to bare mineral soil and no flammable vegetation for an additional 10 feet around their exterior
- The spacing between grass, shrubs, and trees is crucial to reduce the spread of wildfires. The spacing needed is determined by the type and size of brush and trees, as well as the slope of the land. For example, a property on a steep slope with larger vegetation requires greater spacing between trees and shrubs than a level property that has small, sparse vegetation

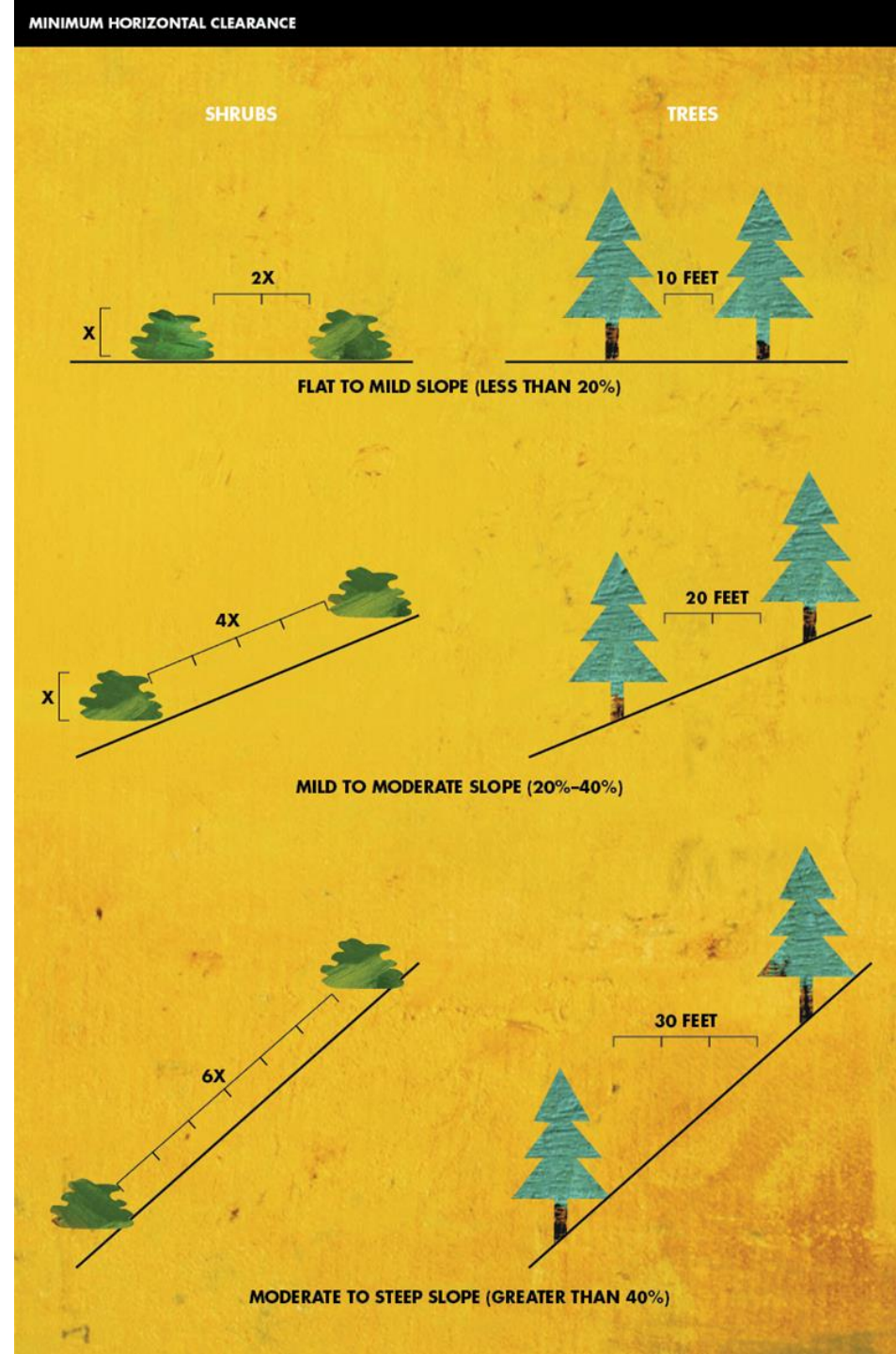
Vertical Spacing

- Remove all tree branches at least 6 feet from the ground.
- Allow extra vertical space between shrubs and trees. Lack of vertical space can allow a fire to move from the ground to the brush to the treetops like a ladder. This leads to more intense fire closer to your home.
- To determine the proper vertical spacing between shrubs and the lowest branches of trees, use the formula below.



Horizontal Spacing

- Horizontal spacing depends on the slope of the land and the height of the shrubs or trees. Check the following chart to determine spacing distance.





Home Hardening

- There are three ways your home can be exposed to wildfire:
 - direct flames from a wildfire or burning neighboring home;
 - radiant heat from nearby burning plants or structures;
 - and flying embers. Flying embers from a wildfire can destroy homes up to a mile away and are responsible for the destruction of most homes during a wildfire
- Taking the necessary measures to harden (prepare) your home can help increase its likelihood of survival when wildfire strikes
- List of low-cost retrofits: http://www.readyforwildfire.org/wp-content/uploads/Low-cost-Retrofit-List-Update-2_17_22-2.pdf

Current & Future Grant Opportunities

- 5GA22225 – Abatement for All
 - 25% Cost Share for parcels with structures
 - Open to non-primary residences
 - NO socio-economic criteria to be met:
 - ~~Low income~~
 - ~~Over 65 years old~~
 - ~~Have a disability~~



Current & Future Grant Opportunities

- COMING SOON – VACANT LOTS
 - 15% Cost Share for vacant or undeveloped parcels
 - NO socio-economic criteria to be met:
 - ~~Low income~~
 - ~~Over 65 years old~~
 - ~~Have a disability~~



GSOB

- **Goldspotted Oak Borer (GSOB) *Agrilus auroguttatus*** is an invasive pest contributing to the on-going oak tree mortality on our mountain



How to Apply



Fill out an interest slip right here, right now!



Call 951-659-6208



Text 951-429-0792



Email
info@mcfsc.org



Online at
mcfsc.org/afs



Visit our office!
52380 Franklin Drive