

- Non-resinous woody material (for example, avoid conifers)
- Low volume of total vegetation
- High moisture content in leaves
- Drought tolerance
- Slow growth, requiring less frequent pruning

Know your elevation and microclimates as you select plants.

Use Sunset Western Gardening & MG website to select plants for your climate zone(s).

Realize that plants are not fire-retardant; they can be fire-resistive.

Irrigation is a key – understanding its importance is crucial in fire safe landscaping.

Flowers and Groundcovers

Yarrow	Rock Rose
Candytuft	Periwinkle
Creeping Rosemary	Perennial Verbena

Shrubs and Vines

Star Jasmine	Toyon
<i>Ceanothus</i>	Escallonia
<i>Clematis armandii</i>	

REMOVE, REDUCE, REPLACE

STEP 6 - MAINTENANCE is crucial.

- Simple, well maintained landscapes are safer than elaborate landscapes that are neglected.
- Prune deadwood from beneath ground covers and shrubs.
- Clean up ground litter (pine needles & leaves).
- Keep your landscape safe and improve your landscape's appearance at the same time.
- Consider new fire safe plants that still add color to your landscape.

RESOURCES – The 4th R

UCCE/El Dorado Master Gardeners	http://ceeldorado.ucdavis.edu/	(530) 621-5512
California Dept. of Forestry and Fire Protection	www.fire.ca.gov	(530) 644-2345
El Dorado Fire Safe Council	www.edcfiresafe.org	(530) 644-1098
Firewise	www.firewise.org	
U.C. Forest Products Lab	www.ucfpl.ucop.edu	
Sunset Magazine	www.sunset.com	
<u>California Wildfire Landscaping by Maureen Gilmer</u>		
<u>Will Your Home Survive? By R. D. Harrell & William C. Teie</u>		

How does your house rank according to an insurance company's assessment?

Grass, weeds, small shrubs	+1	20 – 40 degree slope	+3	Rough terrain in the area	+1
Shrubs, small trees	+2	+40 degree slope	+4	History of fire in area	+1
Timber woodland	+3	Less than 1 home/10 ac.	+1	Extreme fire weather	+1
1 – 10 degree slope	+1	1 home per 5 - 10 ac.	+2	Good water, roads, signs	-1
10 - 20 degree slope	+2	1 home per 0 – 5 ac.	+3	Strict local fire ordinances	-1

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