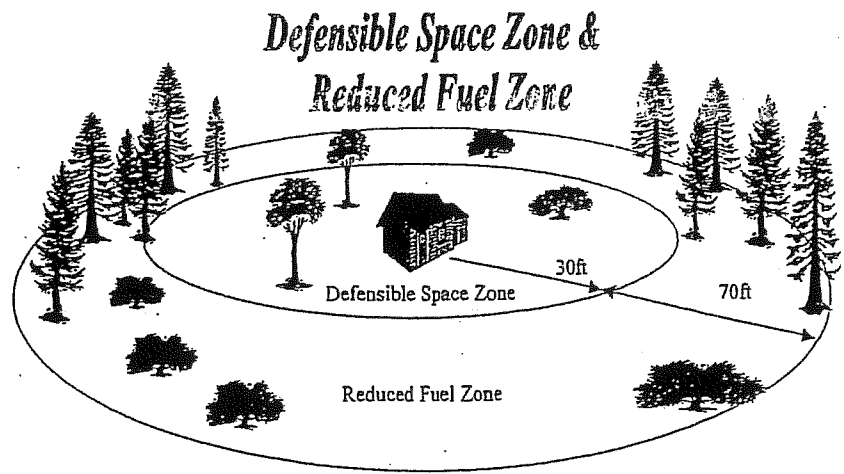




MAKE OUR COMMUNITY FIRE SAFE



Fire once played its natural role in California, keeping vegetation thinned out and healthy, which in turn kept fires small and beneficial. As humans moved into wildland areas and began suppressing all fires, vegetation increased to the dangerously overgrown levels we see now, resulting in extremely destructive wildfires. To maintain the safety of our homes, families, community, firefighters, and natural resources, we must replicate fire's traditional role by removing the excess vegetation around our homes and neighborhoods.

CLEARING 100 FEET

(or to your property line, whichever is nearest – Public Resources Code 4291 made easy)

1. Remove dead vegetation.
2. Thin out live vegetation.
3. Prune up your trees.

1. Remove Dead Vegetation:

- **The First 30 Feet:** Remove everything that is **DEAD**: dead trees, branches, brush, all dry grass, leaves, and pine needles within 30 feet of all buildings, on roofs, gutters, decks, porches, and ground - including spaces under decks, porches, buildings on pier blocks, RV's, vehicle parking areas, etc.
- **Chimneys:** Remove all limbs within 10 feet of chimney. Install ½" screening on chimney outlets.
- **Propane Tanks:** surround with 10' bare soil or very low, well-irrigated groundcover, and remove overhanging limbs.
- **The Next 70 Feet:** Remove all dead trees and brush. Dry, cut grass, leaves, and pine needles may stay on the ground, 3-4" deep. Clearing beyond 100 feet will increase the safety of your home and property.

2. Thin and Separate Live Vegetation:

- **Separate** trees and bushes from each other and from dry, dead ground fuels such as mowed dry grass, pine needles, ground covers, according to possible flame heights and length (see guidelines on reverse).
- **Surround** clumps of vegetation with cleared areas.
- **Maintain** a vertical clear space of at least "3 times the height of the shrub" between any shrub and overhanging tree branches.
- **Interrupt** fire's path by breaking up continuous shrub masses. Remove "ladder fuels" – the vegetation that lets fire climb from ground level to treetops and roofs...
- **Minimize** the number and size of plants beside your house. Avoid dense 'privacy screens' that could endanger your home.
- **Replace** highly flammable plants with fire resistive ones.

3. Prune Your Trees:

- Prune up at least 6 feet, more on slopes. Be able to walk freely under your trees.
- Prune up to ⅓ - ½ the tree height, to a maximum of 15 feet if there is other vegetation growing under the trees, or to retain a continuous forest canopy (limbs of one tree touching those of another), increase the pruning to half the height of the trees, up to 15 feet.