

SAFETY TIP – Defensible Space

Information from Martinez Area CERT

Are you ready for fire season? Create defensible space around your home

Zone 1 Immediate 0 – 5'

Clean leaf debris off roof tops, in gutters, or under roof tiles. Seal open areas where embers may enter under the roof line or other small openings such as outside vents. Move firewood to an outer shed. Use fire resistant construction materials.

Zone 2 Intermediate 5' – 30'

Trim and prune vegetation. Cut or thin non-irrigated vegetation to height of 3" but do not remove - the root system prevents erosion. All debris and trimming should be removed from the site or chipped for mulch. Mulch should be spread evenly, but not exceed a maximum 6-inch depth.

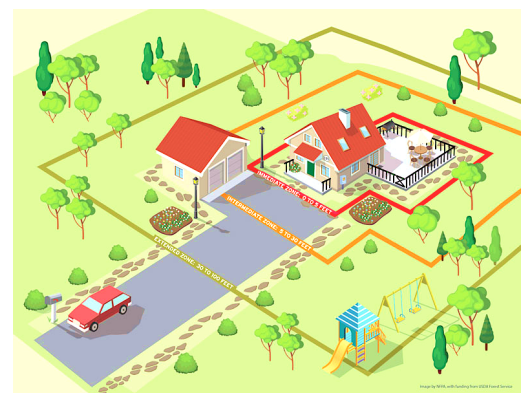
Zone 3 Extended 30' – 100'

Thin flammable vegetation to a safe distance of at least 100'. Canopies of large trees should not form a continuous planting mass. Maintain all plants by removing dead branches, leaves, and needles. Lack of maintenance on fire-resistant plants results in build up of dead twigs, leaves and branches defeating the purpose. Remove smaller "ladder" vegetation under trees.

Your safety depends on your neighbors

- Work together to maintain driveways to allow large emergency vehicles to reach your home
- Clear combustible vegetation 10' from roads and driveways
- Cut back over-hanging trees above the road – minimum clearance for a fire truck is 13' 6"
- Identify at least 2 roads out of your neighborhood for an emergency escape

Visit Contra Costa County Fire Protection District for more information at www.cccfpd.org/wildfireprep



Identify the ignition zones around your house

DOES IT WORK?



Lake Tahoe, 2013



Marin County, 2017

Images/Information: CCCFPD



For preparedness information and schedules of upcoming free classes, visit Martinez Area Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) at www.martinezcert.org

