

Make Your Home FIRE SAFE



100' DEFENSIBLE SPACE It's the LAW!

Contact Marin County Fire Department for tips, hazard inspections, and assistance.

www.marincountyfire.org/defensiblespace



2008 is already the most devastating fire season on record in Northern California - and fire danger will be at its worst in September and October. More than 2000 structures are destroyed by wildfire each year in California. Marin County is home to some of the most fire-prone landscapes on earth, and is long overdue for another destructive wildfire. Don't become a statistic. Defensible Space will help us save you, your home, and your community!

Wildfire Survival Checklist!

These simple steps are *required* by California Law, and will dramatically increase the chances that you and your home will survive a wildfire!

- Create a **DEFENSIBLE SPACE** of 100' around your home, or to your property line.
- Space plants** 10 to 15 feet apart. If you have plants underneath trees, remove limbs up the tree at least 10 feet from the top of the surrounding plants.
- Cut dry grass** to at 3" or less. Do not have ANY combustible plants or grass within three feet of your home.
- Use irrigated fire-resistant plants** where possible. Green lawn, rock, stone, and other materials can be used to create an attractive, fire safe landscape.
- Make decks and balconies fire-safe** by clearing vegetation and combustible materials like lumber, trash and firewood from beneath your deck and enclose undersides of decks with fire resistant building materials.
- Apply 1/4 inch mesh screen** to all roof and basement vent openings.
- Keep trees limbed up 10'**, and cut back at least 10' from your chimney. Trim all dead limbs, and remove limbs hanging over your house or garage.
- Clean all needles and leaves from the roof**, eaves, and rain gutters continually during fire season.
- Maintain your landscaping** with regular watering, weeding and dead leaf and needle removal.
- Maintain fire engine access** to your home by clearing vegetation 5' from the sides of your driveway 15' high. Provide room for fire engines to turn around.
- Make your address visible** from the street in both directions, with 4" (minimum) reflective numbers on a contrasting background.

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