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WILDFIRE HAZARD NOTICE! CITATIONS WILL BE ISSUED TO ANY PROPERTY OWNER WHO FAILS TO COMPLETE DEFENSIBLE SPACE BY JULY 1, 2009.

*Property owners: Defensible Space is required by law for all property in State Responsibility Areas (SRA). Your property is located in an SRA Wildland/Urban Interface area and is at risk of destruction by wildfire. The attached form **must** be returned by mail, or completed online at www.marincountyfire.org/defensiblespace no later than July 1, 2009. Failure to comply with these requirements within the allotted time period may result in enforcement actions, fines, misdemeanor prosecution, and/or liens against your property for the cost of hazard removal and unpaid fines.*

All property owners must complete all applicable Defensible Space requirements, as required by law, no later than the date specified. This letter is your First Notice. Once complete, detach and return the checklist below by US Mail, or submit the checklist online at www.marincountyfire.org/defensiblespace. You will need your property's Assessor's Parcel Number (APN) from the address label on this mailer in order to fill out the form online. If you feel that this notice was sent in error, or require further assistance, please contact the Marin County Fire Marshal immediately at 415-473-2207, or by email at defensiblespace@marincountyfire.org. Thank you for helping us help your community.

Marin County Property Owner's Defensible Space Self-Inspection Checklist

All property owners MUST detach and return no later than July 1, 2009, or complete online at www.marincountyfire.org

- **Clear defensible space 100' from all structures.**
 - **Remove all leaves and needles from your roof and rain gutters**, and repeat as needed during fire season.
 - **Remove all dead vegetation (leaves, needles, branches, dead plants, etc.) and cut all dry grass** within 100' of any structure.
 - **Post 4" (minimum) reflective address numbers, on a contrasting background**, that are clearly visible from *both directions* on the roadway.
 - **Store all firewood and other combustibles (paper, cardboard, lumber, etc)** no closer than 30' from structures, or in an enclosed, covered, or protected location.
 - **Remove limbs on mature trees within 10'** of the ground, or 1/3 the height of the tree if less than 30' tall.
 - **Remove tree limbs that are within 10' of any chimney or that overhang any part of your roof.**
 - **Clear all combustible vegetation a minimum of 15' from all propane tanks** on your property.
 - **Clear vegetation 5' back from the sides of driveways, and 15' overhead** for fire-engine access and safety.
 - **Remove combustible "ladder fuel" vegetation from beneath large trees.**
 - **Additional measures may be required by the Marin County Fire Marshal** - guidance and timeline will be provided on a case by case basis.
- I have already completed all *applicable* Defensible Space measures. (Some items may not apply to all properties)
- Work is in progress and I will complete Defensible Space no later than July 1, 2009.
- I no longer own this property.
- Print Name _____
- Signature _____ Date _____



Marin County Fire Department Residential Wildfire Hazard Inspection Program

33 Castle Rock Ave • P.O. Box 518 • Woodacre, CA 94973 • (415) 473-2207

www.marincountyfire.org email: defensiblespace@marincountyfire.org

Dear Property Owner: Structures located at the parcel listed on this notice are in an area determined to be at risk from wildfire. It is critical that you take action *today* to protect your family, neighbors, property and firefighters in the event of a wildfire. Creating “Defensible Space” around your home and driveway is proven to greatly improve your home’s chance of survival - **and it is the law!**

Creating Defensible Space does NOT mean removing all vegetation from around your home - it only requires *modifying and maintaining* the vegetation to reduce the intensity and speed of a wildfire. Without Defensible Space, firefighters (and you and your property) are at greater risk, and firefighters *may choose not to protect your property* due to the extreme risk to their lives.

Fire Prevention staff will inspect all properties in wildfire-prone areas of Marin in 2009. Any property not in compliance may face enforcement action or fines. Payment of an administrative citation of \$150 (minimum, plus inspection fees) *will not release you from responsibility*. Continued failure to comply may result in hazard removal performed by the County of Marin, with the cost of work and unpaid fines levied as a lien on your property.

Additionally, insurance companies are actively inspecting properties in Marin County and cancelling policies for homes that do not have Defensible Space. Creating Defen-

sible Space according to the standards outlined here is your best chance for retaining your Homeowner’s Policy.

Please complete your property’s Defensible Space and fill out and return the checklist by mail or online no later than July 1, 2009. To submit online, you will need the Assessor’s Parcel Number (APN) printed above your name on the address label of this card. Fill out one response for each developed parcel you own in a wildland/urban interface area.

Remember that some requirements may not apply to your property (for example, if you do not own a propane tank, those rules do not apply).

Although Defensible Space is **required by law**, it is for your own safety, your property, your neighbors, and firefighters. If all homes had defensible space, California’s fire loss would be reduced by billions of dollars annually, your property insurance would be lower, and lives would be saved.

Additional information on the applicable laws, as well as Frequently Asked Questions and a homeowner’s guide to creating Defensible Space are available online at

www.marincountyfire.org/defensiblespace

Kenneth Massucco
Fire Chief, Marin County Fire Department.

APN: \$apn \$APN_Bar_code (if possible)
\$situs_form
\$situs_city, CA \$situs_zip

Place
Stamp
Here

Marin County Fire Department
Residential Wildfire Hazard Reduction Program
P.O. BOX 518
WOODACRE, CA 94973