

## *Why* 100 *Feet* ?

Following these simple steps can dramatically increase the chance of your home surviving a wildfire!

A Defensible Space of 100 feet around your home is required by law.<sup>1</sup> The goal is to protect your home while providing a safe area for firefighters.

## 1 "Lean, Clean and Green Zone."

 Clearing an area of 30 feet immediately surrounding your home is critical. This area requires the greatest reduction in flammable vegetation.

## 2 "Reduced Fuel Zone."

– The fuel reduction zone in the remaining 70 feet (or to property line) will depend on the steepness of your property and the vegetation.

Spacing between plants improves the chance of stopping a wildfire before it destroys your home. You have two options in this area:

- 2 Create horizontal and vertical spacing between plants. The amount of space will depend on how steep the slope is and the size of the plants.
- b Large trees do not have to be cut and removed as long as all of the plants beneath them are removed. This eliminates a vertical "fire ladder."

When clearing vegetation, use care when operating equipment such as lawnmowers. One small spark may start a fire; a string trimmer is much safer.

Remove all build – up of needles and leaves from your roof and gutters. Keep tree limbs trimmed at least 10 feet from any chimneys and remove dead limbs that hang over your home or garage. The law also requires a screen over your chimney outlet of not more than ½ inch mesh.

Here's hot news: You can reduce your chances of losing your home to a wildfire. Every summer wildfires threaten residents and property owners in our area. In an effort to help landowners take responsibility for preparing their homes from the risk of wildfire, you can begin to reduce your risk by participating in the Jefferson County Fuels Reduction project and earn \$500 cash. The probability of your home surviving a wildfire is greatly increased when you remove hazardous fuels from around your home. This cash incentive program is open to all residents within the Jefferson County Fire Protection Districts.







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