

Home Ignition Zone Checklist

First to **KNOW**
Ready to **GO**
Be Wildfire Ready 



Immediate Zone (0–5 feet)

Goal: Nothing that can catch embers right next to the house.

- Clear of pine needles, leaves, and other debris from roofs, gutters, decks, and stairs
- Remove all combustible ground cover (wood mulch, dry plants) in the first 5 feet and replace with gravel, rock, pavers, or bare soil.
- Don't store firewood, lumber, propane cylinders, or other combustibles against the house, under decks, or on porches.
- Remove porch cushions or other flammable material from the porch.

Intermediate Zone (5–30 feet)

Goal: Keep fire low and slow so it can't climb into the house.

- Mow grass and weeds regularly to 4 inches or less and maintain a "lean, green" landscape with irrigated plants and breaks (paths, driveways, patios).
- Prune tree branches that hang over the roof or chimney, and remove lower branches so there's a 6–10 foot gap between the ground and the crown (or no more than one-third of the tree's height on shorter trees).
- Separate shrubs and small trees so they aren't touching each other or the house; remove "ladder fuels" under trees (tall grasses, shrubs right under branches).

Extended Zone (30–100+ feet, to property line)

Goal: Interrupt fire's path and keep flames smaller.

- Thin trees so their crowns are separated (often 6–12 feet between tops, depending on slope and distance from the home).
- Remove dead trees, brush piles, and heavy accumulations of needles, cones, and downed branches; chip or haul slash at least 30 feet away from buildings.
- Use roads, driveways, and natural openings as fuel breaks, and keep buildings and propane tanks cleared of vegetation within at least 10 feet.