


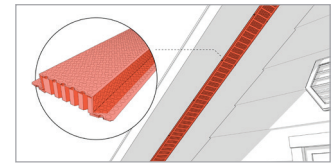


# Creating a **WILDFIRE STRONG** HOME



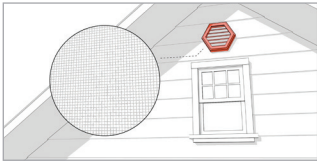
## **VERIFY THAT THE FOLLOWING METHODS AND FIRE-RESISTANT PRACTICES ARE IN PLACE**

- ▶ Woven wire mesh spark arrestors in each chimney or stovepipe to prevent large embers from entering or escaping
  - ▶ Eaves are either closed or made from fire-resistant materials
  - ▶ Soffit vents are ember-resistant and/or protected with 1/8-inch metal wire mesh
  - ▶ Minimal roof overhangs, preferably flat vs. sloped, to avoid trapping hot gases
  - ▶ Underground utility and equipment connections
  - ▶ Fire-resistant defensible space and non-combustible landscaping within 100 feet of the home, including 0 to 5 feet from the house with zero ignitable material
  - ▶ If utility and equipment connections aren't underground, gaps and penetrations in exterior walls and roofs are sealed with fire-resistant materials
  - ▶ Indoor fire sprinklers. Note: sprinklers qualify your home for insurance discounts
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## MAKE STRUCTURAL UPGRADES TO INCREASE WILDFIRE RESISTANCE

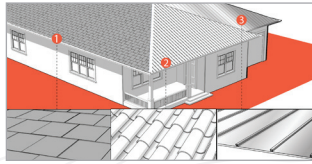
- 01** Replace non-metal vent materials



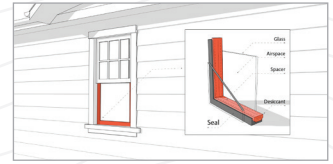
- 02** Cover vents with wire mesh



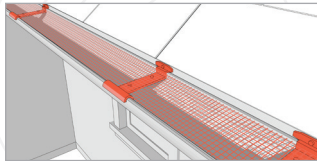
- 03** Upgrade to non-combustible siding



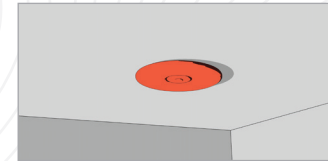
- 04** Install a fire-resistant roof cover



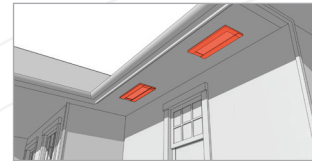
- 05** Upgrade to heat and flame resistant windows



- 06** Install non-combustible (metal) leaf guards over gutters



- 07** Install residential house sprinklers



- 08** Protect eaves, overhangs, and soffits



- 09** Place fuel tank 30 feet away

# Prioritize defensible space and keep your home wildfire-ready



## Immediate Zone

(0-5 feet from the home)

- ▶ Clean roofs and gutters of dead leaves, debris, and pine needles.
- ▶ Replace or repair any loose or missing shingles or roof tiles.
- ▶ Install 1/8" metal mesh screening to reduce embers from passing through eaves and soffit vents.
- ▶ Clean debris from exterior attic vents and install 1/8" metal mesh screening to block ember entry.
- ▶ Cover deck undersides and crawl spaces with non-combustible materials or metal mesh to

prevent the accumulation of combustible debris and slow the entry of embers, especially if your home is above-grade

- ▶ Repair or replace damaged or loose window screens and any broken windows.
- ▶ Move flammable material away from wall exteriors, e.g., mulch, plants, leaves, pine needles, firewood piles, etc.
- ▶ Remove anything stored underneath decks or porches.
- ▶ Do not store propane grills, propane cylinders, or other flammable liquids next to your home.



## Extended Zone

(30-100 feet from the home)

- ▶ Dispose of heavy accumulations of ground litter or debris.
- ▶ Remove dead plants and tree material.
- ▶ Remove small conifers growing between mature trees.
- ▶ Remove vegetation next to storage sheds or other outbuildings within this area.
- ▶ Trees 30 to 60 feet from the home should have at least 12 feet between canopy tops; trees 60 to 100 feet should have at least 6 feet between the canopy tops.

**Note:** The distances listed for crown spacing are suggested based on NFPA 1144. However, the crown spacing needed to reduce crown fire potential could be significantly greater due to slope, tree species, and other site-specific conditions. Check with your local forestry professional for advice on what is appropriate for your property.



## Intermediate Zone

(5-30 feet from the home)

- ▶ Clear vegetation from under large stationary propane tanks.
- ▶ Create fuel breaks with driveways, walkways/paths, patios, and decks.
- ▶ Keep lawns and native grasses mowed to a height of four inches.
- ▶ Remove ladder fuels (vegetation under trees) so a surface fire cannot reach the crowns.
- ▶ Prune trees up to 6–10 feet from the ground.
- ▶ For shorter trees, don't exceed 1/3 of the overall tree height.
- ▶ Space trees with a minimum of 18 feet between crowns, increasing the distance with the percentage of slope.
- ▶ Plan tree placement to ensure the mature canopy is no closer than 10 feet from the edge of the home.
- ▶ Limit trees and shrubs to small clusters of a few each to break up the continuity of the vegetation across the landscape.

