



ROCKLIN FIRE DEPARTMENT PREVENTION DIVISION FIRE FUEL REDUCTION & WEED CONTROL REQUIREMENTS

Open spaces are valued for their nature and beauty; if we choose to live within these areas we must do our part to protect our homes and our community. We may not be able to stop wildfires, but we can mitigate the risk that they pose by planning and proper fuel management. Completing fuel reduction activities increases the chances that your home will survive a wildfire, and will reduce danger to firefighters, neighbors, and surrounding natural resources.

Your responsibility:

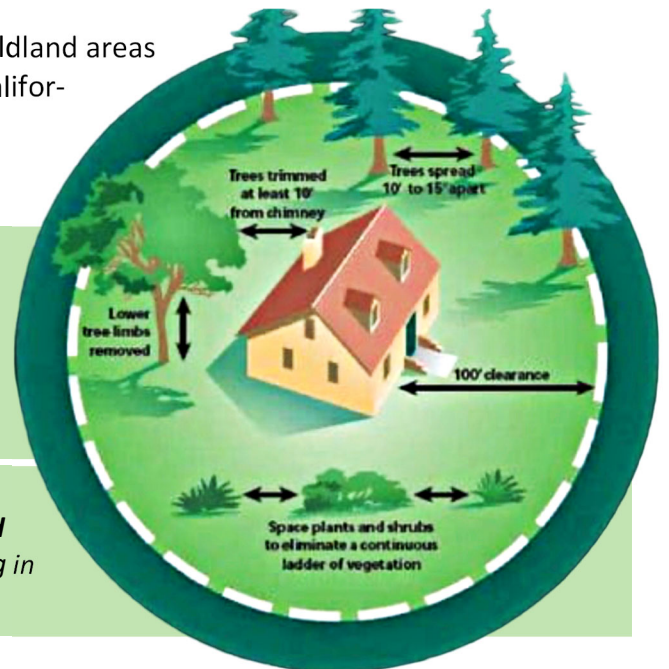
As a resident and/or owner of property near or adjacent to wildland areas (also called **Wildland Urban Interface**), you are required by California's Public Resources Code (PRC) Section 4291, to maintain a **defensible space** around your house and other structures on your property.

What is Defensible Space?

Defensible space is a **perimeter created around a structure where vegetation is treated, cleared or reduced**. This helps to slow the spread of wildfire towards a structure, provides a safe perimeter for firefighters to protect a structure, and reduces the chance of a structure fire burning to the surrounding area.

What is the Wildland Urban Interface (WUI)?

The wildland/urban interface is **any location where a fire can spread from vegetation (wildland fuels) to buildings (urban fuels)**, resulting in multiple house fires that overwhelm fire protection efforts.



Abatement requirements:

The City of Rocklin has developed **requirements** for defensible space. These requirements will give you a better idea of the scope of your project, so you can prioritize your next steps.

There are two main categories: **vacant** parcels and those with **structures**. Lots with structures are further divided by size: **Large lots** (greater than 0.5 acres) and **small lots** (0.5 acres or less).

LARGE LOTS:	SMALL LOTS:	VACANT LOTS:
<p>Lots greater than 0.5 acres must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Remove all flammable (dead or dying) vegetation within 100 feet of any structure, or to the property line, whichever is closer. Grass/weeds must be less than 4 inches highIf property lines extend beyond 100 feet from structures, a 20-foot perimeter at the property's edge must be cleared of flammable vegetation and materialKeep trees trimmed at least 10 feet from chimneys	<p>Lots 0.5 acres or less must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Remove all flammable (dead or dying) vegetation from the propertyMow grass/weeds to a height of less than 4 inchesKeep trees trimmed at least 10 feet from chimneys	<p>Vacant parcels shall be abated on a year-round basis as per the City's Vacant Parcel Standards.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Cut down weedsRemove trash and debrisCreate firebreaks to limit any potential fire hazard and allow access for fire fighting operations

FUEL REDUCTION CHECKLIST

You may keep well-maintained and appropriately-watered lawns, ground cover plants, ornamental shrubbery, and trees that are well-spaced, well-pruned, free of all dead material, and which will not spread fire to structures or other vegetation. You may keep ornamental trees or shrubs which have branches down to the ground, but you must remove all dead material within, beneath, and surrounding them.

Close to the house:

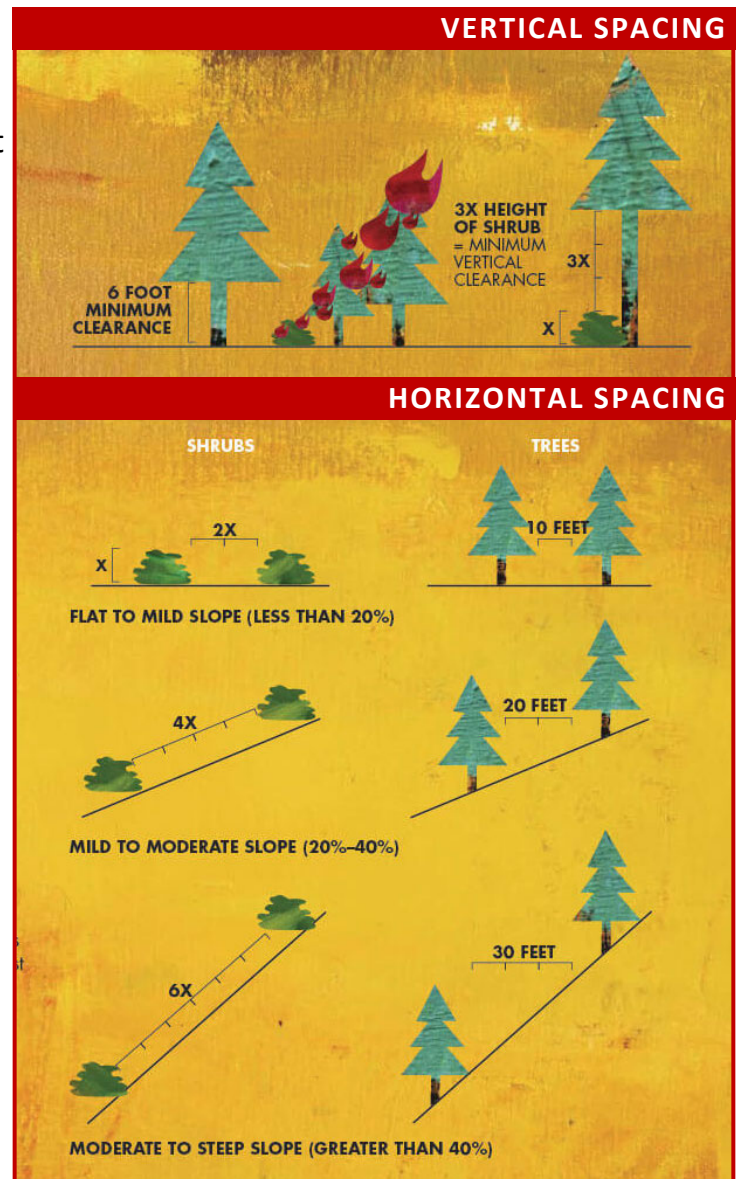
- Maintain any tree, adjacent to or overhanging any building, free of dead or dying wood.
- Remove all limbs within 10 feet of any chimney or stovepipe opening.
- Maintain the roof and gutters of all buildings free of leaves, needles, or other vegetation.
- Remove, or clear around and cover with fire-resistant covering, all flammable non-vegetative material or household debris so that wind-driven firebrands or embers cannot land on or in this material and start a fire.

Dead or dying vegetation:

- Remove all dead or dying brush, trees, limbs and branches within 6 feet of the ground. This includes dead material within dense plants such as juniper or rosemary.
- Remove all dead or dying leaves, needles, and grass.
- Logs or stumps embedded in the soil must either be removed or isolated from other vegetation and structures.

Live vegetation:

- Prune trees (remove limbs), up to at least six feet, (or 1/3 - 1/2 the tree height for small trees), more on slopes.
- If retaining a "continuous forest canopy", where limbs of one tree touch those of another, prune trees to 15 feet (or 1/3 of tree height for trees under 30 feet, whichever is less).
- Create vertical spacing between tops of short plants and any limbs above them, or 3 times the height of the lower plant.
- If possible, break up continuous masses of vegetation by separating trees, bushes, and clumps of ground-cover vegetation with cleared areas.



For more information please contact:

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www.rocklin.ca.us/post/fire-fuel-reduction-and-weed-control