



## WILDLAND URBAN INTERFACE (WUI) DEFENSIBLE SPACE

### Scope:

This guideline provides the requirements for open space land and parcels within the City of Rocklin to reduce the impact of wildland fire. For the purpose of this guideline, certain terms are defined as follows:

### Definitions:

*Defensible Space.* Defensible space is the buffer you create on your property between a structure and/or property line and the grass, trees, shrubs, or any wildland area that surround it. This space is needed to slow or stop the spread of wildfire and it helps protect your home from catching fire—either from embers, direct flame contact or radiant heat.

*Wildland Urban Interface.* The WUI is the zone of transition between unoccupied land and human development. It is the line, area or zone where structures and other human development meet or intermingle with undeveloped wildland or vegetative fuels.

### References:

Rocklin Municipal Code chapter 8.10 – Fire Safe Vegetation and Debris Management  
Public Resources Code 4291

### Operational Standards:

Zone 1 – Within 30 feet of the property line or structures:

- Cut, mow, graze annual grass down to a maximum height of 4 inches.
- Create horizontal space between shrubs and trees. (See diagram)
- Create vertical space between grass, shrubs and trees. (See diagram)
- Remove branches that hang over property line.
- Trim trees regularly to keep branches a minimum of 10 feet from other trees.
- Create a separation between trees, shrubs. Trees less than 4” DBH removed.

Zone 2 – Extends from 30 feet to 100 feet from structures:

- Cut, mow, graze annual grass down to a maximum height of 4 inches.
- Create horizontal space between shrubs and trees. (See diagram)
- Create vertical space between grass, shrubs and trees. (See diagram)



Example: A five-foot shrub is growing near a tree.  $3 \times 5 = 15$  feet of clearance needed between the top of the shrub and the lowest tree branch.

