

## Wildfire mitigation basics

Maintain defensible space around structures by clearing vegetation. The goal is to reduce or eliminate trees, leaves, needles and vegetation within the first 15 feet or more of a structure (Zone 1), depriving wildfires of fuels. Landscaping and plants in and around the zone should be kept well irrigated, and dead vegetation should be removed, along with flammable debris.

Reduce intensity of approaching fires by thinning shrubs and trees beyond Zone 1. Thin them so that at least 10 feet is between crowns. This zone, Zone 2, may extend 100 feet or more from the home, depending on fuel type and property slope.

A third zone can extend all the way to the property line. Prune trees and large shrubs to prevent a ground fire from climbing into the crowns of trees, and remove dead and fallen debris.

Defensible space helps firefighters safely defend a structure, or in the event that firefighters cannot get there, defensible space improves a structure's chances of not being burned.

Source: West Region Wildfire Council