

# OUTSIDE



## 1 Design/Construction

(For new Wildland Urban Interface Construction or Remodels)

- ❑ Use ignition resistant construction (effective January 1, 2008) for roofs/roof assemblies, gutters, vents, decks, exterior walls, exterior windows.
- ❑ Enclose the underside of eaves, balconies and above ground decks with fire resistant materials
- ❑ Show your 100 foot Defensible Space on plot plan
- ❑ Build your home away from ridge tops, canyons and areas between high points of a ridge
- ❑ Consider installing residential sprinklers
- ❑ Make sure that electric service lines, fuse boxes and circuit breaker panels are installed and maintained per code
- ❑ Contact qualified individuals to perform electrical maintenance and repairs

## 2 Access

- ❑ Make sure that your street name sign is visibly posted at each street intersection
- ❑ Post your house address so it is easily visible from the street, especially at night
- ❑ Address numbers should be at least 3 inches tall and on a contrasting background
- ❑ Identify at least two exit routes from your neighborhood
- ❑ Clear flammable vegetation at least 10 feet from roads and five feet from driveways
- ❑ Cut back overhanging tree branches above access roads
- ❑ Construct roads that allow two-way traffic
- ❑ Make sure dead-end roads, and long drive ways have turn-around areas wide enough for emergency vehicles
- ❑ Design bridges to carry heavy emergency vehicles
- ❑ Post clear road signs to show traffic restrictions such as dead-end roads, and weight and height limitations

## 3 Roof

- ❑ Install a fire resistant roof. Contact your local fire department for current roofing requirements
- ❑ Remove dead leaves and needles from your roof and gutters
- ❑ Remove dead branches overhanging your roof and keep branches 10 feet from your chimney
- ❑ Cover your chimney outlet and stovepipe with a nonflammable screen of 1/2 inch or smaller mesh

## 4 Landscape

- ❑ Create a **Defensible Space** of 100 feet around your home. It is required by law
- ❑ Create a **"LEAN, CLEAN and GREEN ZONE"** by removing all flammable vegetation within 30 feet immediately surrounding your home
- ❑ Then create a **"REDUCED FUEL ZONE"** in the remaining 70 feet or to your property line  
You have two options in this area:
  - A. Create horizontal and vertical spacing between plants.** The amount of space will depend on how steep your property is and the size of your plants.
  - B. Large trees do not have to be removed as long as all of the plants beneath them are removed.**
- ❑ Remove lower tree branches at least six feet from the ground
- ❑ Landscape with fire resistant plants
- ❑ Maintain all plants with regular water, and keep dead braches, leaves and needles removed.
- ❑ When clearing vegetation, use care when operating equipment such as lawnmowers. One small spark may start a fire; a string trimmer is much safer

## 5 Yard

- ❑ Stack woodpiles at least 30 feet from all structures and remove vegetation within 10 feet of woodpiles
- ❑ Above ground Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LP-gas) containers (500 or less water gallons) shall be located a minimum of 10 feet with respect to buildings, public ways, and lot lines of adjoining property that can be built upon. - CFC 3804.3
- ❑ Remove all stacks of construction materials, pine needles, leaves and other debris from your yard
- ❑ Contact your local fire department to see if debris burning is allowed in your area; if so, obtain a burning permit and follow all local air quality restrictions

## 6 Emergency Water Supply

- ❑ Maintain an emergency water supply that meets fire department standards through one of the following:
  - a community water/hydrant system
  - a cooperative emergency storage tank with neighbors
  - a minimum storage supply of 2,500 gallon on your property (like a pond or pool)
- ❑ Clearly mark all emergency water sources
- ❑ Create easy firefighter access to your closest emergency water source
- ❑ If your water comes from a well, consider an emergency generator to operate the pump during a power failure

California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection

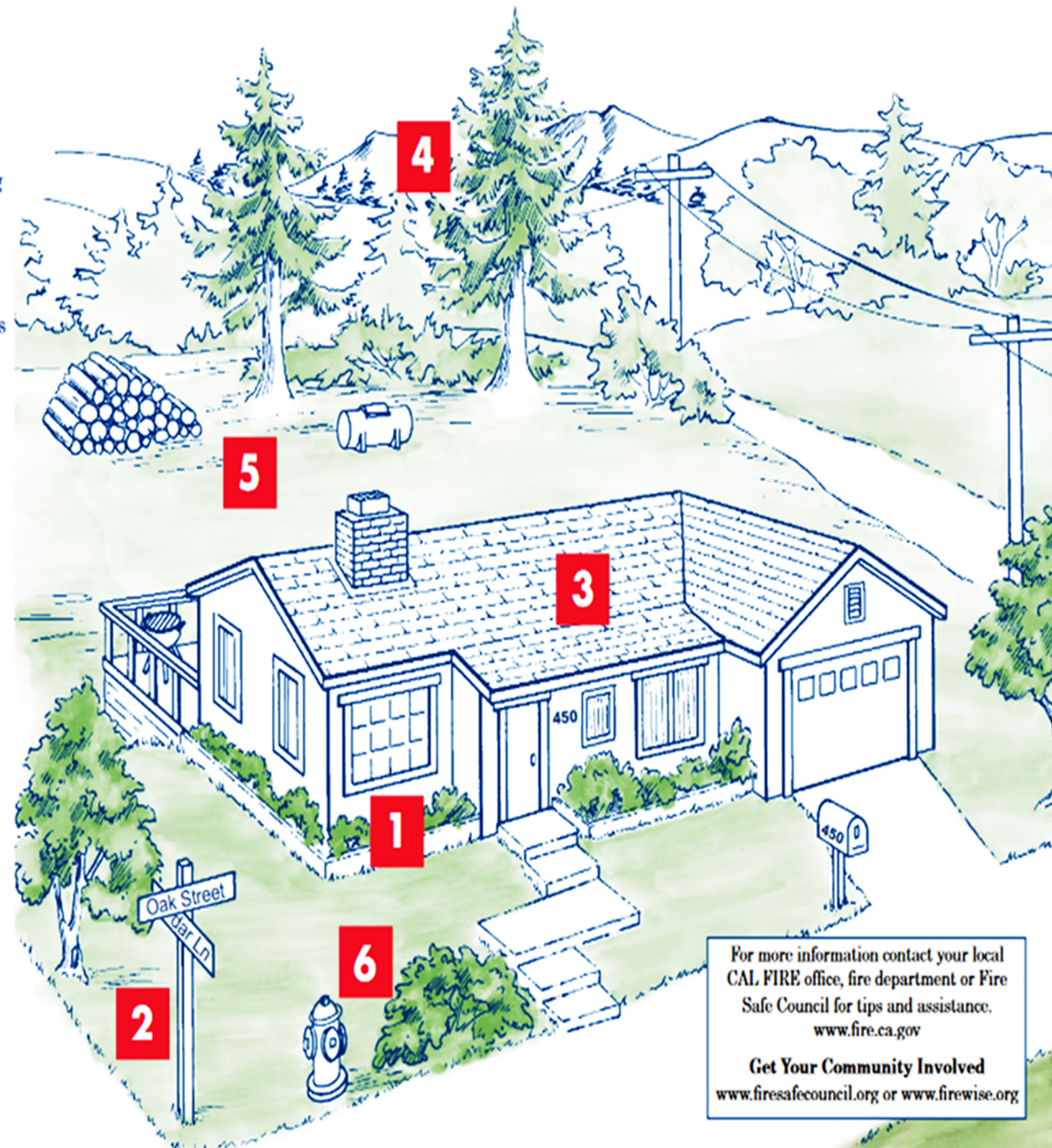
# Homeowners Checklist



## How To Make Your Home Fire Safe



www.fire.ca.gov



For more information contact your local CAL FIRE office, fire department or Fire Safe Council for tips and assistance.  
www.fire.ca.gov  
**Get Your Community Involved**  
www.firesafecouncil.org or www.firewise.org

The best option you have, to save yourself and your property before an emergency strikes, is to have properly prepared and created safe zones/ Defensible space. Prepare as if you have no choice but to shelter in place!

Registered your cell number with  
**Aware and Prepare Here?**  
<https://member.everbridge.net/index/892807736723794#/signup>  
Get updates directly to your phone on emergency situations!

