



## Terminology

## Wildfire Facts



### Defensible Space:

A 30-100 foot fire-resistant zone surrounding your home. This is the area around your home where potential *fuels* have been reduced to slow the spread of wildfire to your home, significantly decreasing the likelihood that it will ignite.

### Fuels:

Flammable materials and vegetation.



### Ladder Fuels:

*Fuels* which create a direct path for fire to reach your home or spread into trees.

### Fire-Resistant Plants:

Plants that do not readily ignite from a flame or other ignition source.

Learn more at [FireFree.org](http://FireFree.org).

- » It is your responsibility to prepare your home for wildfire.
- » During wildfires, most homes are lost as a result of ember showers that deposit glowing "fire brands" on especially vulnerable areas, like roof valleys, gutters and decks. These embers smolder in gathered pine needles, leaves and even furniture cushions, eventually igniting nearby flammable structures, such as siding, decks and fences.
- » Other homes are lost during wildfires as a result of *ladder fuels* that lead high intensity fire directly to homes.
- » Embers can travel miles from a wildfire, starting spot fires and causing damage.
- » *Defensible space* is not a moonscape, trees and shrubs can be part of a fire-resistant landscape.
- » Juniper, Sage, Bitterbrush and Manzanita are highly flammable. Replace them with *fire-resistant plants*, such as Lilac, Vine Maple or Oregon Grape.
- » By following the 10 FireFree Tips, you will greatly reduce your risk of losing your home to wildfire.



# FIREFREE

## PROTECT YOUR OWN

*Wildfire is a fact of life in Central Oregon. Preparing your home for the threat of wildfire is your responsibility.*

*Use this brochure as a tool in protecting your home from being destroyed or damaged by wildfire - ACT NOW!*

A national model for wildfire mitigation, FireFree teaches residents how to prepare their home and property for wildfire.

**FireFree.org**

61150 SE 27th Street | Bend, Oregon 97702

**Katie Lighthall** PROGRAM COORDINATOR  
klighthall@bendcable.com | 541-322-7129

# 10 Tips

## One Reason



**1 Define Your Defensible Space**  
Create 30 – 100 feet of fire-resistant space around your home to prevent fires from starting near or spreading to your home.

**2 Reduce Flammable Brush Around Your Home and Under Nearby Trees**  
Trim or remove brush to eliminate a direct path for fire to reach your home or spread into trees.

**3 Prune or Remove Trees**  
Prune low hanging branches and thin out dense stands to reduce the potential for fire to reach tree tops and spread to other trees.

**4 Keep Grass and Weeds Cut Low**  
Trim grass and weeds to less than 4" to prevent rapid spread of fire and high flames.

**5 Clear Wood Piles and Building Materials Away from Your Home**  
Keep combustible materials at least 30 feet away from your home and outbuildings. Keep all brush and weeds at least 10 feet away from wood piles and propane and fuel tanks.

**6 Keep Your Yard and Roof Clean**  
Clear pine needles, leaves and debris from your yard, deck, roof and gutters to reduce places where embers can smolder and ignite your home. Remove overhanging and dead tree branches.

**7 Keep Address Signs Visible**  
Post easy-to-read address signs and trim vegetation away from driveways so emergency personnel can find and access your home quickly.

**8 Choose Fire-Resistant Building Materials and Lawn Furniture**  
Use fire-resistant roofing, siding, decking and fencing materials. Choose non-combustible lawn furniture to prevent the spread of fire to your home. Install and maintain spark arrestors on chimneys.

**9 Recycle Yard Debris – Avoid Burning**  
Instead of burning, recycle or compost your yard waste.

**10 Be Prepared to Respond to Wildfire**  
Keep a 72-hour kit handy. Know evacuation routes from your neighborhood and practice them with your family, using a checklist of what to do before leaving.



# ACT NOW

*Follow these tips today to protect your home from being destroyed or damaged by wildfire.*