



# Napa County Fire Department Defensible Space Chipping Program



The Napa Communities Firewise Foundation (NCFF), in cooperation with the Napa County Fire Department (NCFD), provides a free chipping service to all Napa County residents who live in a designated fire hazard zone – meaning most all of rural Napa. The intent of the program is to encourage residents to comply with defensible space requirements of both the State and County, in addition to being Firewise. The program is not intended for commercial activities or general land clearing.

- \* *County of Napa*
- \* *Napa County Fire Department*
- \* *CAL FIRE*
- \* *California Fire Safe Council*
- \* *Napa County Fire Wise*



## DO'S

- ◆ **PILES MUST BE WITHIN 5 FEET OF A ROAD OR DRIVEWAY**
- ◆ **CHIPPING VEHICLES ARE TO STAY ON COMPACTED SURFACES, AND WILL NOT GO OFF-ROAD OR ACROSS FIELDS TO ACCESS THE PILES**
- ◆ **PILES MUST BE ON LEVEL GROUND, OR ON THE UPHILL SIDE OF THE ROAD**
- ◆ **ALL BLUNT ENDS MUST FACE TOWARDS THE ROAD/DRIVEWAY**
- ◆ **MAXIMUM HEIGHT OF EACH PILE MUST NOT EXCEED 6 FEET**
- ◆ **MATERIAL CAN BE NO GREATER THAN 6 INCHES IN DIAMETER,**
- ◆ **ALL PILES MUST BE FREE OF ALL ROOTS, STUMPS, ROCKS, AND DIRT**

## DON'TS

**PILES WILL NOT BE CHIPPED IF THEY CONTAIN ANY OF THE FOLLOWING MATERIALS:**

- ◆ **ALL VARIETIES OF BROOM**
- ◆ **POISON OAK**
- ◆ **BLACKBERRIES/VINES/ANYTHING WITH THORNS**
- ◆ **FOREIGN MATERIALS/NON-VEGETATIVE ITEMS**
- ◆ **ROOT BALLS, STUMPS, DIRT, OR TWIGS**
- ◆ **PILES OF LEAVES, PINE NEEDLES, OR YARD CLIPPINGS**
- ◆ **THE NCFD WILL NOT CHIP FOR TIMBER HARVEST PROJECTS, OR COMMERCIAL PROJECTS**
- ◆ **NO HEAVY MATERIAL ON TOP OF SMALLS**

**Either go to [www.napafirewise.org](http://www.napafirewise.org) or complete the work order form on reverse when ALL piles are stacked and ready for chipping.**

**Mailing Address:** Napa County Fire Department  
1125 Third St. HOJ 2<sup>nd</sup> floor  
Napa, CA 94559

**Website** <http://services.countyofnapa.org/chippingForm/>



# DEFENSIBLE SPACE CHIPPING PROGRAM

(Chipping is completed in Napa County regions only)

## CONTACT INFORMATION

Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_ First Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone Number: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_  
Property Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
Are You the Property Owner? ☐ Yes ☐ No If Not, State Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Mailing Address (If Different): \_\_\_\_\_  
Nearest Cross Street: \_\_\_\_\_ Locked Gate? Please Provide Access Code: \_\_\_\_\_  
Driving Directions: \_\_\_\_\_

## PILE INFORMATION

Total Number of Piles: \_\_\_\_\_ (Anything more than what is stated here, will need another request)  
For multiple pile locations, please provide a map/drawing indicating location of each pile on the property. Map Enclosed.  
Average Pile Size: Length: \_\_\_\_\_ ft. Height: \_\_\_\_\_ ft. Depth: \_\_\_\_\_ ft.  
(side to side, Max 50') (top to bottom, max 6') (front to back, max 10')  
Location of Piles: ☐ Driveway ☐ County Road ☐ Private Road Other: \_\_\_\_\_  
Are there any special precautions to take on the property? \_\_\_\_\_  
Is there room to turn the chipper around? ☐ Yes ☐ No (Piles must be placed along a road/driveway with adequate turnaround area of at least 40 feet)

## BY SIGNING BELOW, I AGREE TO THE FOLLOWING TERMS & CONDITIONS:

1. I agree to permit the NCFD chipping crew on my property.
2. Maximum pile size is 50' Length X 6' Height X 10' Depth.
3. No limit on number of number of piles, but must have minimum of 10' separation between each pile.
4. All piles must be placed along a road accessible by truck and chipper. Also far enough away from a main road or highway for the chipping crew to safely work.
5. Piles are to remain on homeowner's property.
6. Piles shall be stacked with cut (butt) end towards road.
7. Stem diameter is limited to maximum of 6 inches.
8. I agree to comply with the NCFD's decision on where to place the chips, as safety is their number one concern.
9. I understand that this is a drive-by service that may take several weeks to complete.
10. This free chipping service is for residential use only.
11. I understand if on-site conditions prove to be a concern, NCFD staff may refuse service.
12. Piles shall not have any burned or charred material, as the dust created during the chipping process is hazardous and a safety concern to the NCFD chipping crew.
13. Piles shall not be mechanically stacked.
14. The chipping service is used for defensible space only.

SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

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# **TIPS TO HARDEN YOUR HOUSE AGAINST WILDLAND FIRES**



## **DEFENSIBLE SPACE**

Go to this link for a great description of Defensible Space.

[http://www.napafirewise.org/DS%20Download/defensable-space-live/04\\_defensiblespace.html](http://www.napafirewise.org/DS%20Download/defensable-space-live/04_defensiblespace.html)

## **THE THREE R'S OF DEFENSIBLE SPACE LANDSCAPING**

Information on your vegetation management or landscaping.

[http://www.napafirewise.org/DS%20Download/defensable-space-live/05\\_defensiblespace.html](http://www.napafirewise.org/DS%20Download/defensable-space-live/05_defensiblespace.html)



*Fire hardening adds form and function.*



*Defensible space can enhance the natural landscape.*

## **TIPS TO FIRE HARDEN YOUR HOUSE**

How to help protect your house from an approaching wildland fire.

[http://www.napafirewise.org/DS%20Download/defensable-space-live/13\\_defensiblespace.html](http://www.napafirewise.org/DS%20Download/defensable-space-live/13_defensiblespace.html)

To see all the Fire Prevention information available, go to <http://www.napafirewise.org/> the Napa Firewise website.

## **ANOTHER ITEM TO HELP PROTECT YOUR HOUSE**



During the October, 2017 fires, the incoming fire engines from other areas outside Napa County had difficulty accessing the water sources from our local water tanks. The current standard for all new buildings is for a 4.5" discharge on all wet draft hydrants. Engines from other counties do not have this size adapter so they could not get water from the available water sources. A solution is to purchase a 4.5" female to 2.5" male adapter to place on your 4.5" wet draft hydrant. A 2.5" cap is also recommended. The 2.5" discharge side of the adapter is a common size for all fire engines. You can search for this item online. This one costs \$98.69 and has free shipping and it is worth every penny. You may find a less expensive version in your search.

**VERY IMPORTANT!! MAKE SURE THE THREADS ARE NATIONAL HOSE THREADS OR IT CAN'T CONNECT TO A FIRE ENGINE HOSE.**