



Firewise Self Assessment

Within 10 feet of structure

- Remove all conifers and dry or dead vegetation
- Edge the building with small plants, flowers or gravel.

From 10-30 feet of structure

- Thin or clump conifer trees to ~15 feet between extending branches.
- Prune limbs of mature conifers to 8 feet or less
- Remove shrubs beneath trees
- Remove all dry or dead vegetation

From 30 - 100 feet of structure (increase distance if slope is >30%)

- Thin conifers to 10 -15 feet between extending branches.
- Thin black spruce in clusters <10 feet in diameter with 15 feet between clusters.
- Prune limbs of remaining conifers to 8 feet or less
- Remove shrubs beneath trees
- Remove all dry or dead vegetation

General Landscaping

- Maintain lawn at 3" or less and keep well watered.
- Keep trees healthy with frequent watering
- Dispose of flammable debris from your property.
- Keep areas under stairs and decks free of debris. Enclose with non-combustible screens.
- Clean the roof and gutters of needles, leaves, and branches.
- Provide a 15 foot clearance between your chimney and nearest tree branches.
- Prune trees after August 1 to prevent bark beetle infestation.
Refer to the spruce bark beetle reference guide at www.fs.fed.us/r10/spf/fhp

Building Materials

- Cap chimney with spark arrester.
- Roof should be fire resistant. If not, keep clear of leaves, mosses and lichens.
- Screen all exterior vents, such as attic openings.

Access and Signs

- Address marked with reflective numbers at least 4" high on house and driveway.
- Clear vegetation alongside driveway and road edge.
- Driveway should be 12 feet wide with a turnaround for emergency vehicle access.

General

- Keep garden hoses and fire tools (shovels, rakes, or pulaskis) readily available.
- If you have a well, consider installing a pump and generator.
- Keep storage areas clean. Do not accumulate combustibles such as oily rags and newspapers.
- Check spark arresters on all motorized equipment. Store 30 feet away from structures or inside garage.

Hazardous Material

- Use non-combustible cribbing for fuel tanks with a 10 foot area cleared around the tank.
- Stack firewood at least 30 feet from house and clear 10 feet around pile.
- Do not stack firewood under trees or on downhill side of property.

Fire Plan Inside

- Locate nearest fire station and post emergency numbers by several home telephones.
- Test smoke and CO alarms monthly and change batteries twice a year. Fire extinguisher current.
- Clean chimney and stovepipe regularly.
- Identify emergency action plan for entire family & pets.
- Identify Safety Zone where family meets in an emergency.
- Prepare emergency supplies for transport (food, water, valuables and important documents)