

Protect Your Home

7 Ways Residents Can Reduce the Risk that their Homes & Property Will Become Fuel for a Wildfire

#1

Clear

Clear off pine needles, dead leaves & anything that can burn from your rooflines, gutters, decks, porches, patios & along fence lines. Falling embers will have nothing to burn.

#2

Store Away

Store away furniture cushions, rattan mats, potted plants & other decorations from decks, porches & patios. These items catch embers and help ignite your home if you leave them outside.

#3

Screen & Seal

Wind-borne embers can get into homes easily through vents & other openings and burn the home from the inside out. Walk around your house to see what openings you can screen or temporarily seal up.

#4

Rake

Embers landing in mulch that touches your house, deck or fence is a big fire hazard. Rake out any landscaping mulch to at least five feet away.

#5

Trim

Trim back any shrubs or tree branches that come closer than 5 feet to the house and attachments, and any overhanging branches.

#6

Remove

Walk around your house and remove anything within 30 feet that could burn, such as woodpiles, spare lumber, vehicles and boats – anything that can act as a large fuel source.

#7

Close

If ordered to evacuate, make sure all windows & doors are closed tightly, and seal up any pet doors. Many homes are destroyed by embers entering these openings and burning the house from the inside out.



NFPA has many more tips and safety recommendations on its websites, including www.firewise.org.