



FIREWISE USA®

Residents Reducing Wildfire Risks

The town of Greer was recognized as a Firewise Community in November, 2025.



Firewise USA is a grassroots program designed to engage and encourage residents in a community to band together through collaboration and joint efforts to reduce wildfire risk. Each participating resident has a responsibility to perform wildfire risk reduction work within their property parcel.

Firewise USA is focused on home hardening and vegetation mitigation starting from the structure/home and extending to property boundaries.

The two main concerns for wildfire infiltration to a home are:

1. Embers that blow to the home from a wildfire or structure fire nearby or even miles away and cause a fire.
2. Surface fires within 0-5' of a structure/home.

Greer homeowners are actively working to reduce the wildfire risks to their homes by creating more defensible spaces and being ember aware.

Creating a defensible space means reducing fire hazards in the three home ignition zones around your home:

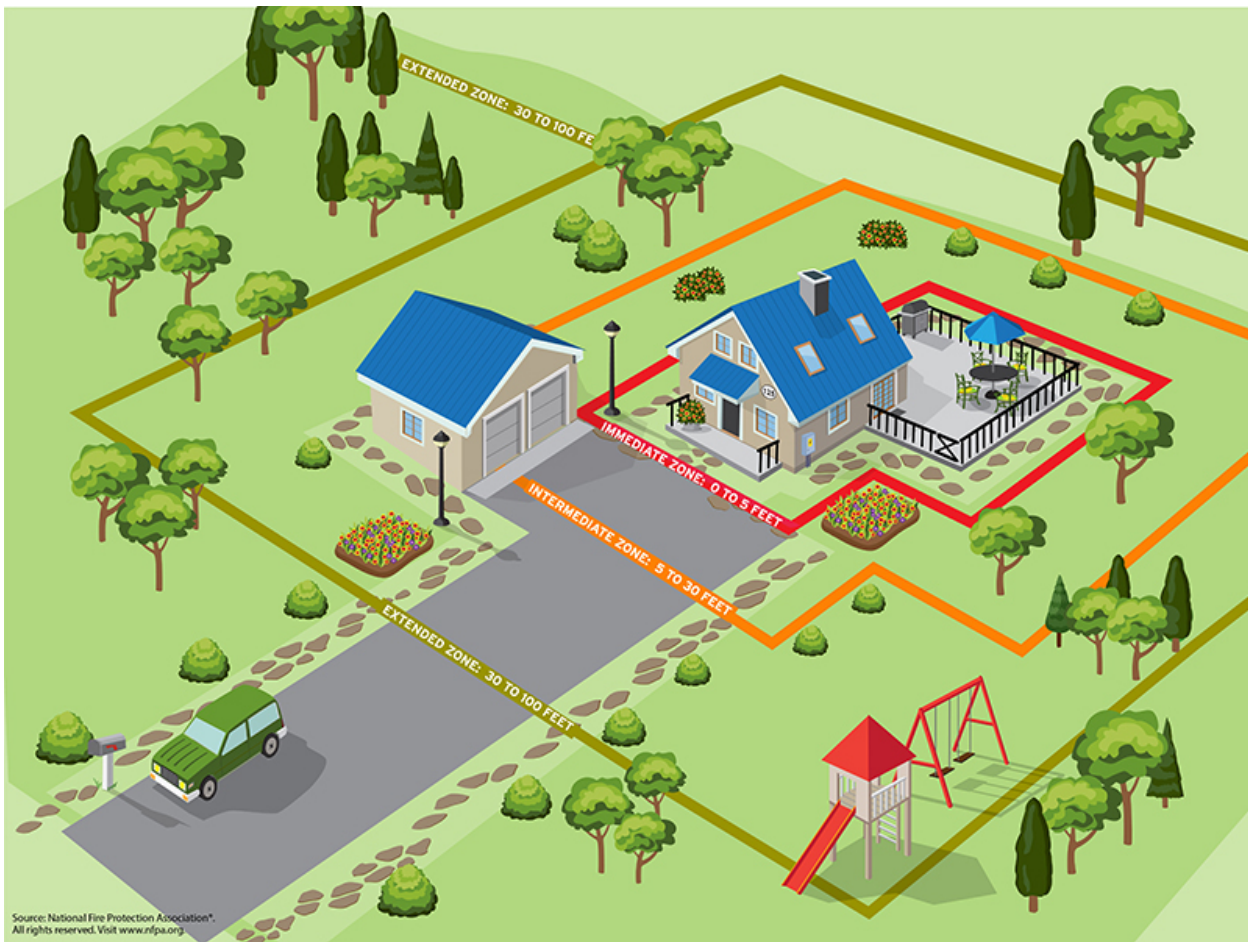
1. Keep the first **0–5** feet clear of all combustibles, creating a "lean, clean, and green" zone and assessing the home's ember vulnerability.
2. From **5–30** feet clear deadfall and limb up trees **5-6'**.
3. Manage the extended zone from **30–100** feet by creating space between trees and shrubs and keeping them well-maintained.

The goal is to create a buffer that slows or stops wildfire spread and gives firefighters a safer area to work.

Other recommendations include but are not limited to: noncombustible siding, roofing or decking materials, noncombustible landscaping and vegetation.

BE EMBER AWARE

It is usually not a wall of fire that will ignite a home but embers from a wildfire miles away will blow with the wind and land on something flammable that ignites and spreads. Regular maintenance and spot checks should focus on roof tops, gutters, skylights, chimneys and eaves. Roofs are particularly vulnerable to fire embers because of their large surface area and the accumulation of debris. Also be aware of flammable doormats, brooms and outdoor cushions.



For more information on Firewise USA please visit:

<https://www.nfpa.org/education-and-research/wildfire/firewise-usa>

To reach out to the Greer Firewise Board please email:

greerfirewise@gmail.com

Join our Facebook Group:

Town of Greer Firewise & Wildfire Mitigation

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1282599119877599/>