

Join the effort to **PREVENT** WILDFIRES



For more safety information, visit www.tvfr.com.

It's important for property owners living in rural or urban interface areas to take steps to assist in helping protect your home and land from potential wildfires.

During a wildfire, time is crucial, and resources are extremely limited. What you do **before** a fire strikes may determine whether firefighters are able to save your home and other structures on your property.

YOU CAN HELP

- Ensure firefighters can quickly find your home by posting your address at the beginning of a long driveway.
- Make sure your street is named or numbered and a sign is posted at each street intersection of your driveway or road.
- If you need a rural address sign, please call 503-697-9418.

PROPERTY ACCESS IS KEY

- To ensure crews can safely respond, cut back low-hanging tree limbs and clear dense vegetation and debris from the road or driveway.
- Driveways should be 20 feet wide and have a minimum clearance of 15 feet overhead.
- Turn-out areas are needed if the road or driveway to your home is not large enough for two-way traffic or if your home is located at the end of a long driveway or dead-end road.
- The driveway should be designed without sharp curves or steep grades.
- If crossing a bridge is necessary to access your home, it must be able to support 60,000 pounds and clearly posted for fire service vehicles.

PRACTICE FIRE SAFETY

Use extreme caution with smoking materials, barbecues, and other open flames. Always keep a hose or water supply close at hand in case of an emergency.



Establish a defensible space

Now is the perfect time to create a 30-foot defensible space or safety zone around your home. Having a defensible space can help firefighters safely protect your home from an encroaching fire.

HELP PROTECT YOUR PROPERTY

- De-limb trees at least 10 feet up from the ground and cut back tree limbs hanging over your roof. Trim branches that are within 10 feet of a chimney.
- Consider replacing wood shakes or shingles on the roof with non-combustible or fire-resistant materials.
- Remove leaves, brush, and other debris from gutters, the roof, stairs, and underneath decks and crawlspaces.
- Regularly mow and water lawns and other green belts on your property. Keep landscaping well pruned and watered.
- Plant low-growing, fire-resistant plants such as groundcover, perennials, and annuals near your home. Plant individual shrubs and hardwood trees at least 10 feet from structures.
- Store firewood and other combustibles at least 100 feet from your home.