

Wildfire Can Happen Here!

Protect Yourself This Summer!

What you do BEFORE a wildfire strikes may determine whether firefighters are able to save your home!

During a wildfire, time is especially crucial and resources are extremely limited. If steps are not taken to make your home and property defensible, firefighters may be forced to make their stand against the raging fire elsewhere.

If you live in a wildfire hazard zone, *Help Us Help You!* Safeguard your home and family by following the safety tips below.

**WILDFIRE
CAN HAPPEN**



Can Firefighters Quickly Find Your Home?

- If your home is set back or not visible from the street, post your address at the beginning of your driveway or road.
- Make sure your street is named or numbered, and a sign is visibly posted at each street intersection.

Can Fire Equipment Safely Access Your Property?

- The road or driveway to your home should be clear of all debris, dense vegetation, and low-hanging branches in order to provide access (and an escape route if needed) for fire equipment. Minimum clearance is 20 feet wide by 15 feet high.
- Turn-out areas are needed if the road or driveway to your home is not large enough for two-way traffic or your home is located at the end of a long driveway or dead-end road.
- The driveway to your home 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 50,000 lbs.

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Is Your Roof Fireproof?

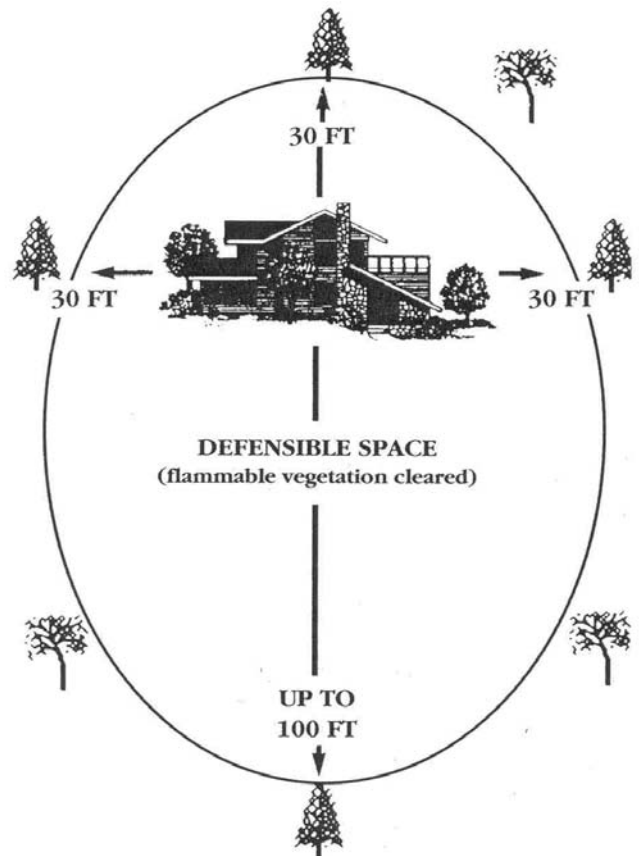
To safeguard your home against stray sparks:

- Consider replacing wood shakes or shingles with non-combustible or fire-resistant materials.
- Keep your gutters and rooftop clear of leaves, pine needles, and other debris.
- Cut back tree limbs that hang over your roof.

Is There “Defensible Space” Around Your Home?

“Defensible space” is a safety zone around your home which may help firefighters SAFELY protect your home from an encroaching fire. The recommended minimum defensible space is 30 feet, while homes located on a slope should have at least 100 feet of defensible space. You can create defensible space by:

- Planting low-growing, fire-resistant plants (*groundcover, perennials, and annuals*) near your home.
- Planting individual shrubs and hardwood trees (*they are less flammable than evergreen, fir, or pine trees*) at least 10 feet from your home.
- Mowing and watering lawns and other green belts regularly.
- Removing brush, dry grass, and leaves from underneath decks and crawlspaces.
- Keeping your landscaping well pruned and watered.
- Storing firewood and other combustibles at least 100 feet from your home.



For More Information Visit Our Website at www.tvfr.com

If you have questions or concerns about your property, please call our North Division Office at (503) 356-4700.

Tualatin Valley Fire & Rescue has pre-identified the wildfire hazard zones within its service area. The hazard zones were identified using criteria such as type and quantity of vegetation, access for firefighters and equipment, and degree of slope. This map is posted on our website at www.tvfr.com.