FireWise Properties

**HOME HARDENING**

1. Roof: A roof material is the best protection for your home. Block any spaces between roof decking and covering to prevent embers from catching.

2. Skylights: Glass is a better choice than plastic or fiberglass. Plastic can melt and allow embers into the home.

3. Decks: Surfaces should be built with ignition-resistant*, non-combustible, or other approved materials. Ensure that all combustible items are removed from underneath your deck.

4. Eaves and Soffits: Eaves and soffits should be protected with ignition-resistant* or non-combustible materials. (boxed-in eaves provide best protection)

5. Vents: Cover all vent openings with 1/8-inch metal mesh. Do not use fiberglass or plastic mesh because they can melt and burn. Use Ember and flame resistant vents (WUI vents).

6. Exterior Walls / Siding: Build or remodel your walls with ignition resistant* building materials, such as stucco, fiber cement wall siding, fire retardant, treated wood, or other approved materials. Be sure to extend materials from the foundation to the roof.

7. Windows: Install dual-pane windows with one pane of tempered glass to reduce the chance of breakage in a fire. Consider limiting the size and number of windows that face large areas of vegetation.

8. Garage: Install weather stripping around and under the garage door to prevent embers from blowing in. Store all combustible and flammable liquids away from ignition sources.

9. Fences: Consider using ignition-resistant* or non-combustible fence materials within the first 5 feet of the home.

**VEGETATION MANAGEMENT**

10. Rain Gutters: Keep rain gutters clear or enclose rain gutters to prevent accumulation of plant debris.

11. Lawn: Mow lawns regularly and remove all dead dry or overgrown vegetation on your property.

12. Trees: Tree canopies must be kept a minimum of 5 feet away from structures, 10 feet from other tree canopies, and 10 feet from chimneys. Trim low branches to create a minimum of 6 feet of separation between tree canopies and low-level vegetation. Trim any branches that are impeding streets or sidewalks.

13. Combustibles: Wood piles, grills, mulch, and other combustible materials must be kept a minimum of 15 feet from structures.

14. Emergency Services: Make sure your house number is visible. Place the number in a prominent place and remove and vegetation that may be obscuring it. Make sure the fire hydrant is accessible. Remove and vegetation that may inhibit its use. If you have a gated driveway, make sure emergency services can get through.

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*Ignition resistant materials are designed to slow the spread of fire by reducing the amount of heat transferred to the structure.