Home Hardening Checklist Sherwood Firewise Communities www.sherwoodfirewise.org info@sherwoodfirewise.org



ZONE 1 Ignition Space - Out 5'	Date Done
ROOF	
Repair any damage caused by age, UV exposure, wind etc. Care and replacement of roofs should	
be the highest priority. An old roof will increase the risk of home loss more than any other single	
component.	
Clear debris that has collected in roof valleys and gutters (such as tree needles, twigs, and leaves).	
If you have "bird spikes" at roof edges, clear debris.	
VENTS	
Check all vents to be sure they are intact and clear of debris.	
Replace damaged, over sized, or missing vents. All vents should be 1/8" to 1/4" metallic mesh to	
prevent embers from entering. Do not use fiberglass or plastic as they will burn and/or melt.	
Clear flammable materials stored near the inside of vents	
Protect eaves and cornices with baffles to block embers.	
WINDOWS	
Consider coverings for windows made of non-combustible material or plywood. Windows break	
with high heat or flame exposure providing an entry point for the fire. Double pane or tempered	
glass windows offer more protection.	
DECKS	
Keep clean of debris above and below the deck. Don't store any combustible materials below the	
deck especially where the deck meets the wall. If the area below the deck cannot be cleared out	
you can enclose with non-combustible material.	
Clear the deck of all unnecessary items such as door mats, umbrellas, plants in baskets and wicker	
furniture. Any remaining items should be cleared in the event of a wildfire.	
SIDING	
Check siding for any damage and gaps and repair or replace. If you have wood shingles consider	
purchasing a gel fire retardant to be sprayed on in the event of a wildfire.	
Research fire retardant gel.	
Contact Cal Fire and Fire Department to let them know that gel and applicator will be available at	
your property.	
VECETATION	
VEGETATION Poplace or remove any highly combustible plants. Well tended and irrigated gardens are ek	
Replace or remove any highly combustible plants. Well tended and irrigated gardens are ok outside of the 5' Ignition Zone 1.	
outside of the 3 Ignition Zone 1.	

ZONE 2 Firebreak Space - 5' to 30'	Date Done
VEGETATION	
Remove all combustible shrubs and replace with fire resistant low growing varieties.	
In heavily wooded areas remove the dried materials from top layer of the soil but leave leaf	
material that is beginning to decompose for the health of the soil.	
Leave a fuel break of at least 6' between shrubs to prevent fire spreading. Avoid conifers.	
Tree limbs should be trimmed at least 10' from ground. Prune limbs hanging over a structure and	
within 10' of chimney.	
Replace combustible mulches with fire resistant materials such as gravel or pea stone.	
Mow grasses and remove all dead plant material. Keep well irrigated.	
Use hardscapes such as stone patio or rock features.	
FIREWOOD & FENCING	
Wood and combustible fencing should be no closer than 10' to the structure. If needs be, install a	
firebreak with a noncombustible element.	
Firewood should be stored no less than 30' from the house (unless in a fireproof structure).	
Fuel	
Store all liquid fuel in a closed receptacle in a vented but fireproof structure.	
ZONE 3 Defensible Space - Out 100'	
VECETATION	
VEGETATION Trim grasses to no more than 3" in height.	
Remove small trees (less that 6" in diameter at chest height) and brush.	
Prune tree limbs to a height of at least 10'. If tree is downhill adjust the pruning to a greater height	
accordingly.	
Wooded areas beyond 60' can be left a bit more wild. You will still need to thin, prune & limb up	
trees.	
Remove dead trees, limbs, and vegetation.	
Trim tree canopies regularly to keep their branches a minimum of 10 feet from other trees.	
Remove trees less than 6" diameter at chest height to create spacing for fire breaks.	
START NEAR THE HOME CREATING A CLEAN, LEAN AND GREEN ZONE AROUND ALL STRUCTURES. THE EASIEST AND LEAST EXPENSIVE ACTIONS. KEEP WORKING OUTWARDS ON THE MORE DIFFICUL YOU HAVE COMPLETED YOUR ENTIRE PROJECT.	
see: https://www.readyforwildfire.org/	
Note: Other items you want to consider for home safety (let us know at info@sherwoodfirewise.or	g):