

A Firewise® Home

FIREWISE LANDSCAPING

1. Home Ignition Zone

Keep leaves and needles off your roof and deck. Create a fuel-free area within 3-5 feet of your home's perimeter. From 5 feet to a minimum of 30 feet out, thin and space vegetation, remove dead leaves and needles, prune shrubs and tree limbs. Keep areas around decks, sheds, fences and swing sets clear of debris and vegetation.

2. Landscaping and Firewise Plants

To prevent fire spread, trim back branches that overhang structures and prune branches of large trees up to 6 to 10 feet from the ground. Remove plants containing resins, oils, and waxes; make sure organic mulch is at least 5 feet from structures. Choose Firewise plants — find lists at www.firewise.org or from your local Cooperative Extension service.

BE PREPARED

3. Disaster Plan

Develop, discuss and practice an emergency action plan with everyone in your home. Include details for pets, large animals and livestock. Program cell phones with emergency numbers. Know two ways out of your neighborhood and have a pre-designated meeting place. Have tools such as a shovel, rake, axe, handsaw, or chainsaw available, and maintain an emergency water source. Always leave if you feel unsafe — don't wait to be notified.

4. Emergency Responder Access

Identify your home and neighborhood with legible, clearly marked street names and numbers. Make your driveway at least 12 feet wide with a vertical clearance of 15 feet and a slope of less than 5 percent to provide access to emergency vehicles.

FIREWISE CONSTRUCTION

5. Fire-Resistant Roof Construction

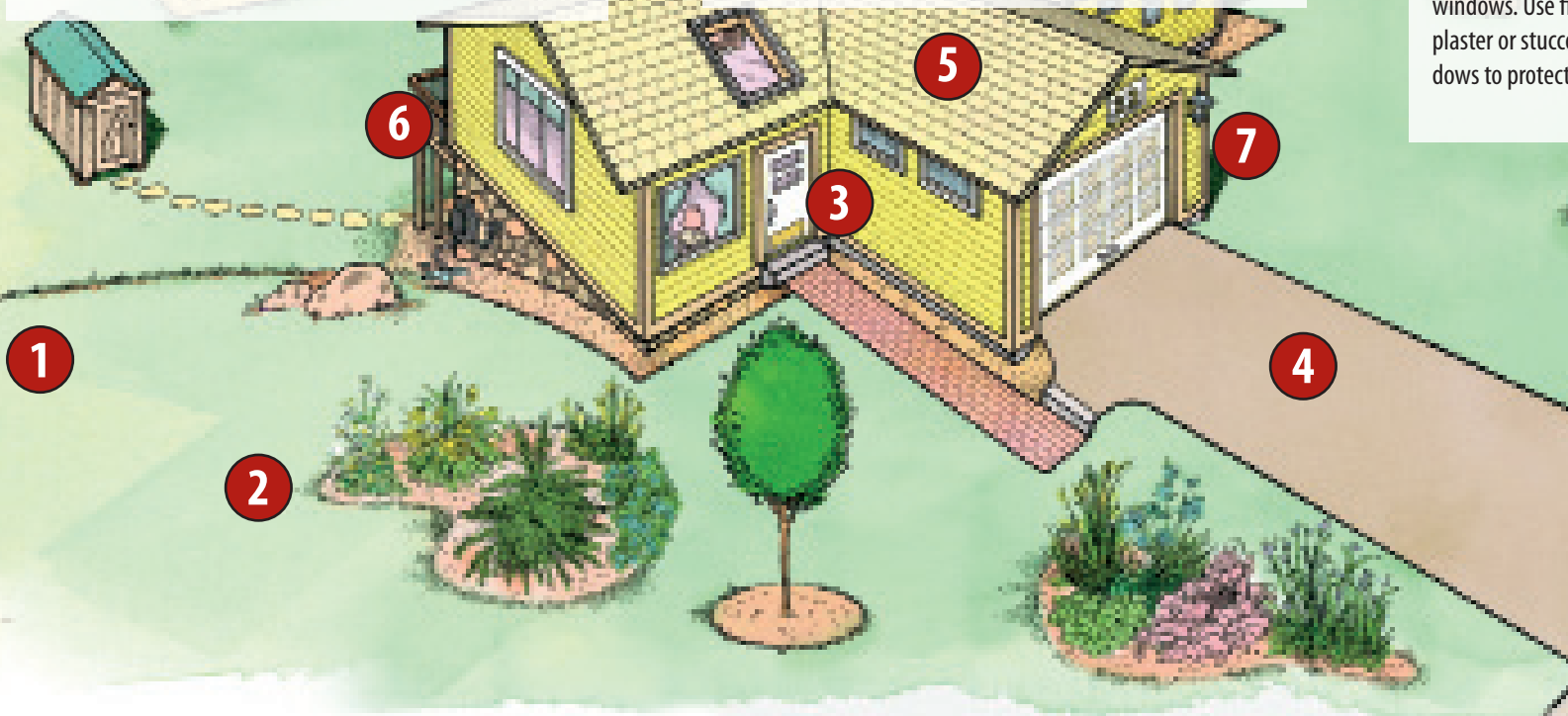
Use fire-rated shingles such as asphalt, metal, slate, clay tile or concrete products. A fire-resistant sub-roof adds protection. Box in eaves, but provide adequate ventilation to prevent condensation and mildew. Roof and attic vents should be screened to prevent ember entry.

6. Fire-Resistant Attachments

Any attachments to your home such as decks, porches, and fences must be fire-resistant. If not, your entire home is vulnerable to ignition.

7. Fire-Resistant Walls and Windows

Embers can collect in small nooks and crannies and ignite combustible materials; radiant heat from flames can crack windows. Use fire-resistant siding such as brick, fiber-cement, plaster or stucco and tempered or double-paned glass windows to protect your home.

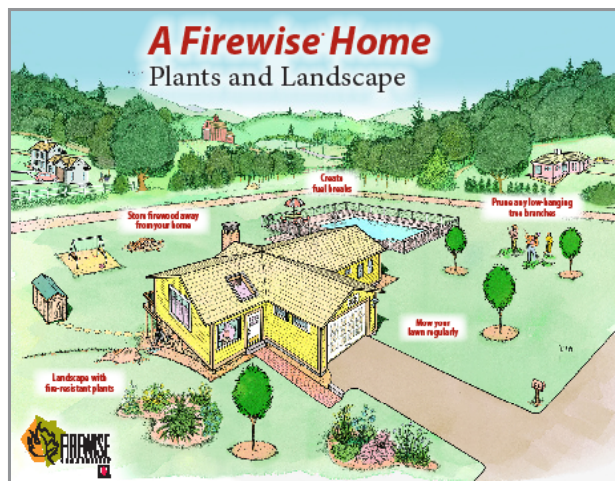


Home Safety Checklist

Simple fixes from roof to foundation to make your home safer from embers and radiant heat.

HOME SAFETY CHECKLIST

- ☐ Clean roofs and gutters of dead leaves, debris and pine needles that could catch embers.
- ☐ Replace or repair any loose or missing shingles or roof tiles to prevent ember penetration.
- ☐ Enclose under-eave and soffit vents or screen with metal mesh to prevent ember entry.
- ☐ Cover exterior attic vents with metal wire mesh no larger than 1/8 inch to prevent sparks from entering the home.
- ☐ Repair or replace damaged or loose window screens and any broken windows.
- ☐ Screen or box-in areas below patios and decks with wire mesh to prevent debris and combustible materials from accumulating.
- ☐ Move any flammable material away from wall exteriors – mulch, flammable plants, leaves and needles, firewood piles – anything that can burn.
- ☐ Remove anything stored underneath decks or porches.



For More Information

For more information about how to protect your home and property, as well as Firewise plant lists and other resources, visit the Firewise website at www.firewise.org, and see the "homeowners" section.

For more tips on what to do when wildfire is approaching and how to safely evacuate, visit the Ready, Set, Go! website sponsored by the International Association of Fire Chiefs at www.wildlandfirersg.org. Talk to your local fire department to learn more about specific wildfire risks in your area.

Saving Lives and Property from Wildfire!



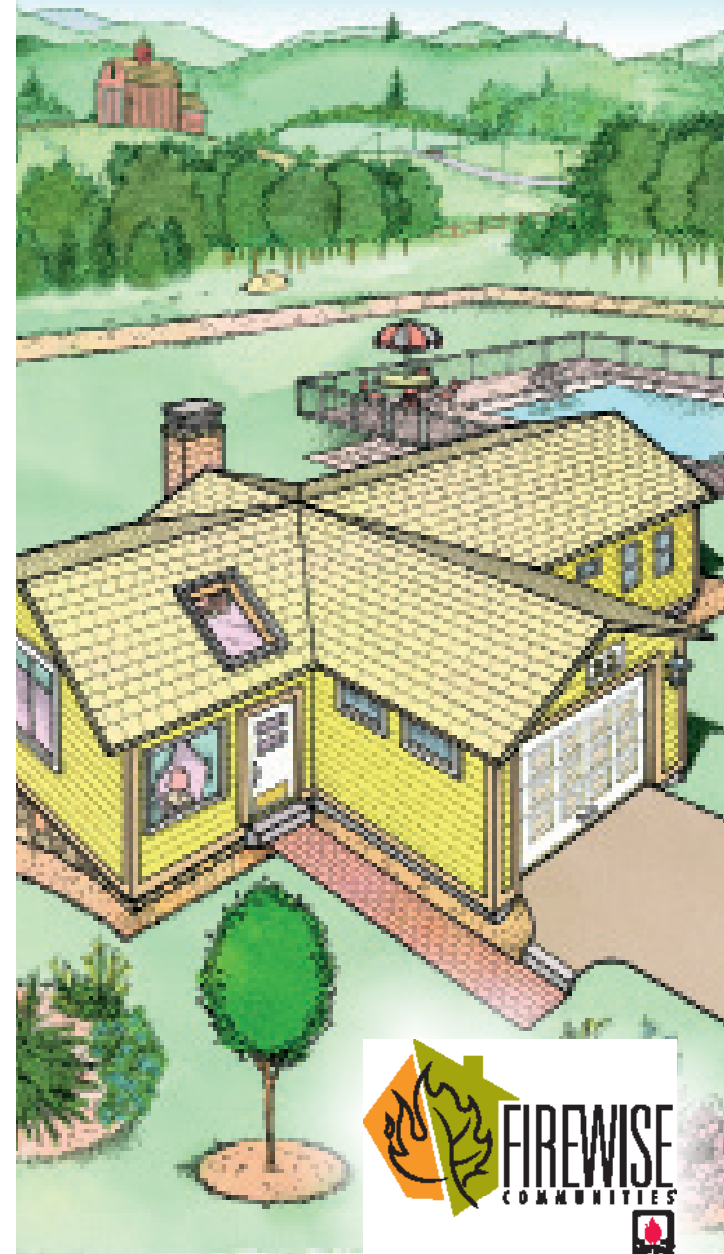
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How to Have a Firewise® Home

You can make your home safer from wildfire. Learn how with these helpful tips!



TENNESSEE

FIRE ADAPTED COMMUNITIES

The time to plan for a fire emergency is now. Take a few minutes to discuss with your family what actions you will need to take if a fire occurs.

DISASTER PLAN

- **Emergency Access**
Identify your home and neighborhood with clearly marked reflective numbers and street names so that first responders can quickly locate the emergency.
- **Access**
Your driveway should be at least 12 feet wide with a vertical clearance of 15 feet to allow emergency vehicle access.
- **Contact**
Post the phone number to the local fire department in an obvious location.
- **Evacuation**
If you must evacuate, decide where you will go and how you will get there. Two escape routes out of your home and neighborhood are recommended.
- **Tools**
Keep a shovel, rake, axe, handsaw, and a 2-gallon bucket readily available.
- **Pets**
Have a plan for your pets in case of emergency. A leash and/or crate should be easily accessed if evacuation is required.
- **Practice**
Practice family fire drills to prepare for a fire emergency.

Visit www.wildlandfirersg.org for additional emergency planning tips.



Department of
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Contact your local division office for more information on the programs and services offered by the
Tennessee Department of Agriculture
Division of Forestry
615-837-5520
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www.tnwildlandfire.gov



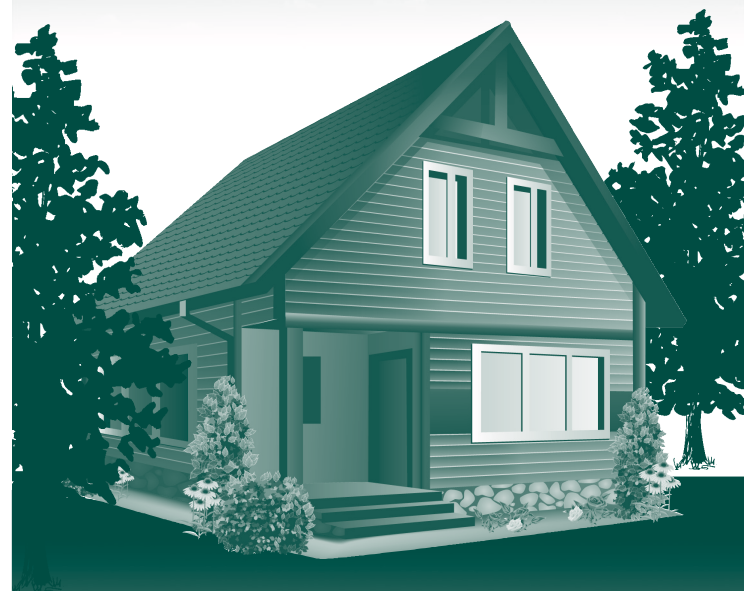
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TENNESSEE

FIRE ADAPTED COMMUNITIES

Protect Your Home from Wildfire



Evacuations for a wildfire can occur without notice. When wildfire conditions exist, **BE ALERT!**

TENNESSEE

FIRE ADAPTED COMMUNITIES



Areas where homes meet the wildlands are called the wildland/urban interface. A home in a woodland setting is surrounded by flammable forest fuels. You can help minimize a fire threat to your home and family by following a few safety tips to make your home **ignition resistant**.

An Ignition Resistant home has:

- **Defensible Space**

Do you have at least 30 feet of space surrounding your home that is **Lean**, **Green** and **Clean**?

The objective of Defensible Space is to reduce the wildfire threat to your home by changing the characteristics of the surrounding vegetation.

- **Lean** – Reduce volume and continuity of vegetation around your home. Prune shrubs and cut back tree branches, especially within 15 feet of your chimney.
- **Clean** – Remove all dead plant material around your home, including dead leaves, dry grass, and stacked firewood.
- **Green** – Plant fire-resistant vegetation that is healthy and green for most of the year.

Defensible space allows firefighters room to put out fires.

- **Ignition Resistant Exterior Walls**

Materials that can resist heat and flames include cement, plaster, stucco, and concrete masonry. Double pane glass windows can make a home more resistant to wildfire heat and flames.

Although some vinyl will not burn, vinyl siding and soffits can melt, allowing embers into the attic and walls.

- **Ignition Resistant Roof Construction**

Ignition resistant roofing materials include Class-A asphalt shingles, metal, cement, and concrete products. A fire-resistant sub-roof adds protection.

- **Ignition Resistant Attachments**

Attachments include any structure connected to your home, such as decks, porches, or fences. If an attachment to a home is not fire-resistant, then the home as a whole is not ignition resistant.

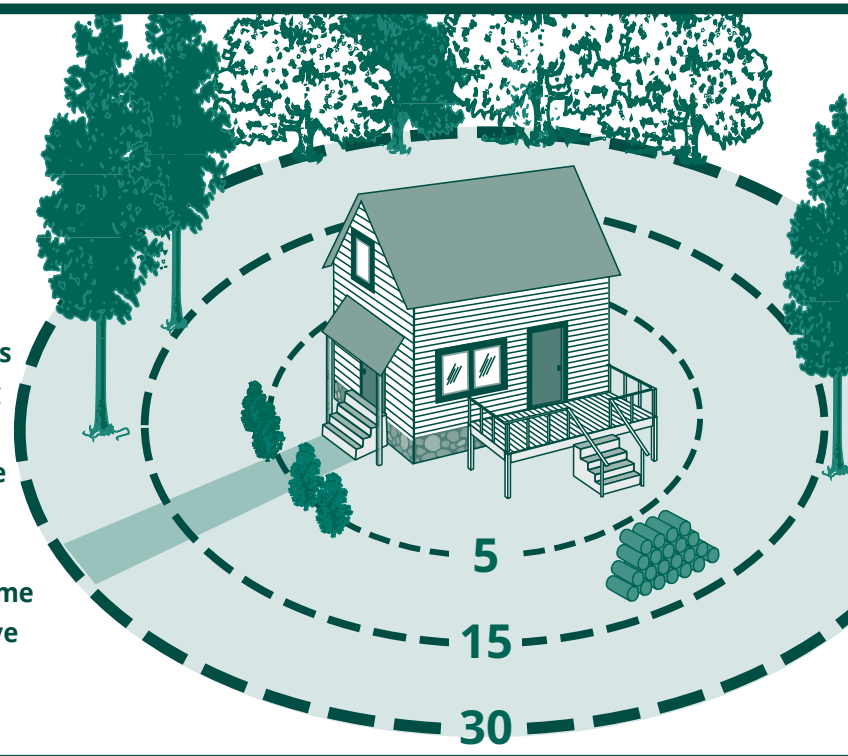
- **Ignition Resistant Landscaping**

Trees should be pruned so that the lowest branches are at least 6 feet high to prevent a fire on the ground from spreading up to the tree tops. Within the defensible space, remove or thin flammable plants that contain resins, oils, and waxes that burn readily, such as eastern red cedar, pine, and rhododendron.

Although mulch helps retain soil moisture, when it is dry it will become flammable. Consider using alternative ground covers such as rock or pea gravel.

Home Ignition Zone

- Ignition resistant exterior construction
- Ignition resistant roof
- Double pane glass windows
- Ignition resistant attachments
- Ignition resistant landscaping
- 30 feet (minimum) defensible space surrounding your home
- Nothing burnable within 5 feet of your home
- Stack firewood away from home
- Prune branches to 6 feet above the ground





There are practical, low-cost ember preparedness measures you can take to protect your home.

- Keep the roof, rain gutters, decks, and foundation area of your home free of leaves, pine needles, and other flammable materials.



- Seal all vents with at least 1/8" metal screening to minimize ember intrusion.
- Seal any gaps, joints, or seams in the exterior of your home with a quality sealant.
- Use metal window screening instead of nylon window screens.
- Use fire-resistant soffit materials or completely enclose the eaves.
- Store firewood and any other combustible materials at least 30 feet from the home and never under the deck.
- Replace wood or rubber mulch with decorative gravel, concrete pavers, or other non-burnable material.
- Remove wooden flower boxes from beneath windows if a wildfire threatens.



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Will your home stand when the embers land?





"Be Ember PREPARED!"

Wildfires generate large volumes of embers. An ember is a glowing, hot coal made of greatly heated wood, leaves, pine needles, pine cones, or other carbon-based materials.

Embers can glow very hot, sometimes as hot as the fire which created them. During a large fire, embers can be lofted and blown far ahead of the fire front, starting spot fires sometimes over a mile away. Embers can bombard your home, collect in vulnerable areas, and cause your home to ignite.



"Be PREPARED for the EMBER STORM!"

For a realistic and factual simulation of a wildfire ember storm, visit the Insurance Institute for Business and Home Safety at <https://ibhs.org/wildfire/wildfire-demo-2019>

For additional information regarding wildfire safety and preparedness, visit: TNWildlandFire.gov



You can minimize the threat of flame and heat to your home by maintaining 30 feet of defensible space and utilizing fire-resistant construction and landscaping materials.

If allowable, reducing flammable fuels out 100 to 200 feet from your home is even better.

Homeowners often picture large walls of fire that move through a neighborhood igniting home after home.

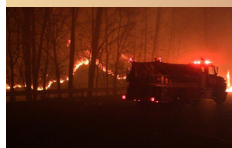
In fact, many more homes are damaged or destroyed by small, creeping ground fires or windblown burning embers.



It is very important to have a 5 foot buffer around your home where nothing can ignite.



Embers will follow wind currents and collect in the same areas where leaves collect around your home. Wind can force embers through vents or gaps in the walls.



Windblown embers, direct flame contact, and radiant heat are three ways a wildfire can damage or destroy your home.

