

IN THE EVENT OF A WILDFIRE AND WHEN ACTION IS NEEDED

KEEP SAFE

Call 999 and ask for the Fire Service, giving location and nearest access point

- Pack your essentials into a bag or box
- Do not tackle the fire yourself
- Do not expose yourself to smoke
- Follow the advice and guidance from the emergency services or local authority
- If in doubt — **GET OUT!**

Consider creating an evacuation plan. Make a list of essentials each family member would need. These may include;

Valuables	Passport	Medication
Money	Mobile phone	Clothing
Food	Keys	Pets

Photograph important documents and passports (including policy numbers) and note important phone numbers. Keep the list handy and make sure everyone knows where it is.

The best way to prevent damage to your home due to wildfire is to reduce or remove areas of high fuel close to your home that could feed a wildfire. Check for dense areas of vegetation, hedges, timber fences, sheds, dry undergrowth etc. that will allow a fire to spread from open space and into your garden and to your home.

WHAT IS WILDFIRE PREPARED?

Wildfire Prepared is an initiative which aims to encourage individuals and the wider community to assess, take action and maintain their preparedness for a wildfire event in their locality. It looks to empower neighbours and communities to build a community spirit, resolve and willingness to take responsibility and work together to reduce their risk from wildfire.

Wildfire Prepared takes its principle messages from a long established communities programme run in the USA called Firewise.

By taking action and being prepared, you can greatly reduce the risk to your family, property and the local community.

If you think you and your community would benefit from being Wildfire Prepared please contact Surrey Fire and Rescue's Wildfire and Rural Affairs team for further information.



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#BEWILDFIREAWARE



WILDFIRE PREPARED

**How to prepare and protect
your home from wildfire**

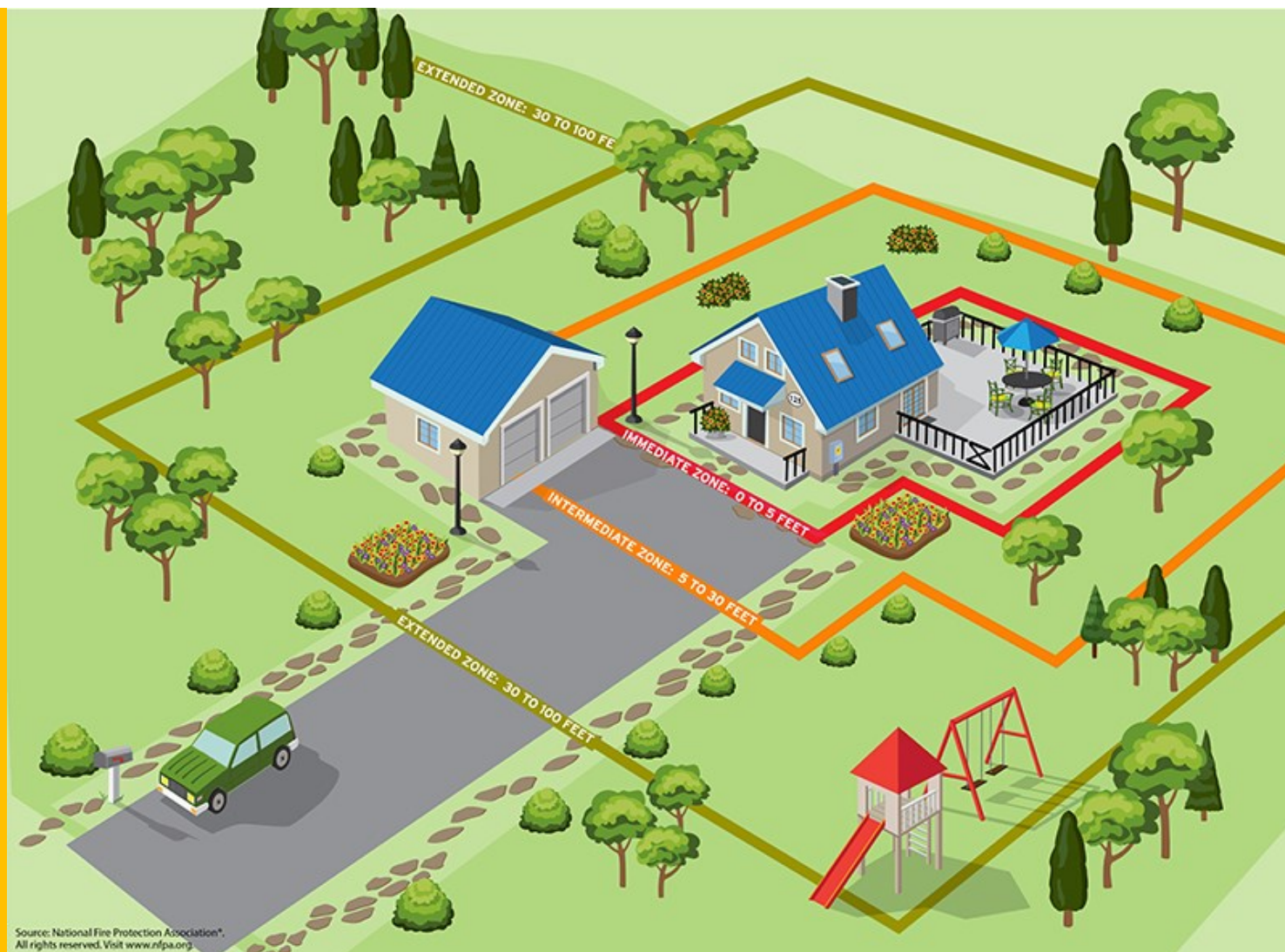


In partnership with NFPA & Firewise USA

HOME IGNITION ZONE CHECKLIST

SIMPLE STEPS FROM THE ROOF TO FOUNDATION TO MAKE A HOME SAFER FROM EMBERS AND RADIANT HEAT

- ⇒ Prevent embers from entering your roof space by repairing/replacing loose or broken tiles
- ⇒ Identify ember traps around your home—places where dead leaves collect naturally (gutters/roof valleys). Clear regularly
- ⇒ Identify any gaps in soffits/cladding around the roof area and screen using wire mesh to retain ventilation and prevent embers getting in. Advice must be sought if bats are present.
- ⇒ Move any flammable material away from external house walls. Leaves, compost heaps, log piles etc.
- ⇒ Ensure your house name/number is clearly visible from the road
- ⇒ Avoid parking on or near any fire hydrants



Source: National Fire Protection Association*. All rights reserved. Visit www.nfpa.org

Immediate Zone 0 to 5 feet

The home and the area up to 5 feet from the furthest attached exterior point of the home. This area is defined as a non-combustible area. This is the most important zone to take immediate action on as it is the most vulnerable to embers. Start with the house itself to identify gaps in cladding or missing tiles where embers could enter. Move flammable materials out of this area.

Intermediate Zone 5 to 30 feet

The area 5 - 30 feet from the furthest exterior point of the home. Trim back shrubs or trees that are close to or touching the house. Consider removing any plants which contain oil or resin alternatively, plant in movable pots. During hot spells ensure the garden is regularly maintained. Use caution when having BBQ's or bonfires in this area.

Extended Zone 30 to 100 feet

The area 30-100 feet out from home. The focus in this zone is on landscaping. The goal is not to eliminate fire but to interrupt the fire's path and keep flames smaller and on the ground.

If the property backs onto or is close to open space, the land manager should be responsible for managing the risk to that land.