



N·C·S·D

Northstar Fire Department

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DEFENSIBLE SPACE PROGRAM

The Northstar Fire Department, in cooperation with the Cal Fire, is reminding all homeowners to maintain their property in compliance with Public Resource Code (PRC) 4291, California Code of Regulations (CCR) 1299, and NCSD Ordinance 26-09. On the backside of this document are Defensible Space Guidelines that are based on these regulations and will assist you in identifying potential areas of concern on and around your property. We have also enclosed a visual Quick Reference Guide that provides additional information on Defensible Space.

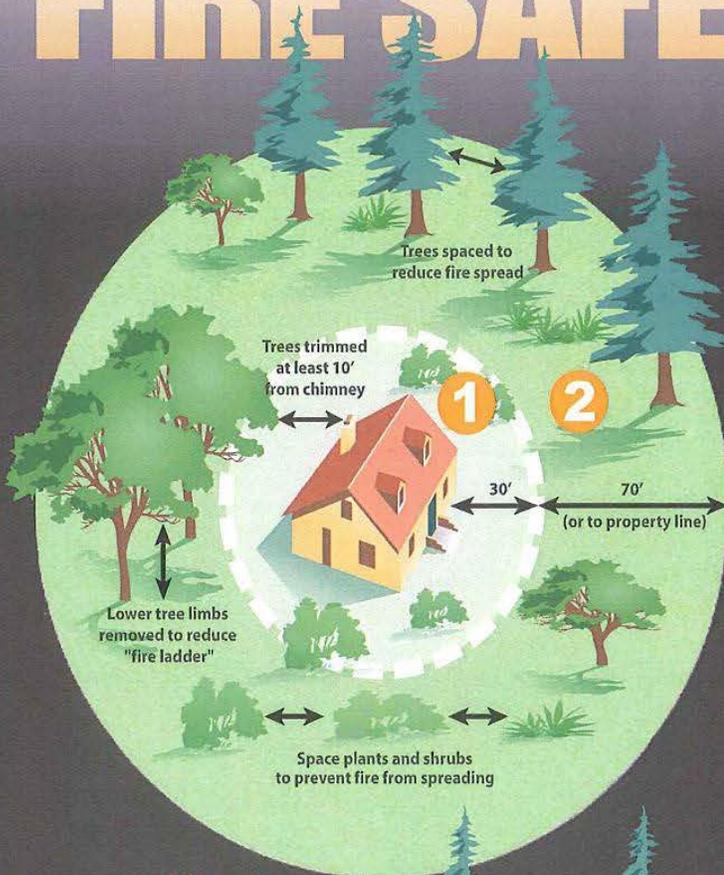
The purpose of the guidelines listed here and in the PRC 4291, CCR 1299, and NCSD Ordinance 26-09 is to provide property owners with information on fuel modification measures that are used to create a defensible space around structures. Properly-maintained defensible space provides firefighters with a safer working environment, allowing them to protect structures from encroaching wildfire, and minimizes the chances for a structure fire escaping into surrounding wildlands. Your Northstar home, as well as the vegetation surrounding it, can easily become fuel for a fire. Homeowners are the key to preventing a house from being destroyed by fire. Research and experience have shown that reduction of fuels around structures is crucial to their chance for survival during a wildfire.

All properties in the Northstar community will be inspected for defensible space compliance, and notices will be mailed to homeowners who are in violation. Failure to comply with State and local codes may result in a citation being issued. Remember: Homeowners are responsible for maintaining their properties on an annual basis, complying with defensible space guidelines.

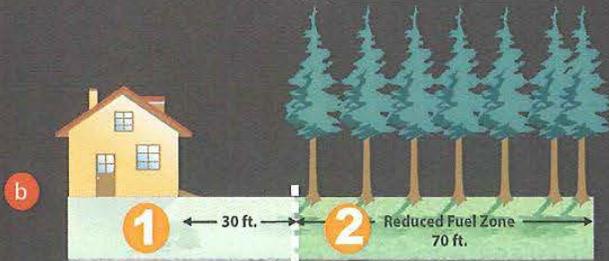
Please contact the Northstar Fire Department to schedule an inspection of your property prior to the start of any defensible space work. Our inspector will go over all items to be completed and will mark trees and vegetation for removal. Upon completion of your defensible space work, you will need to schedule a final inspection with the Fire Department. A Northstar Fire Department Compliance Certification (LE-100) will be valid for twelve calendar months and cannot be issued until your property meets all defensible space criteria.

To learn more about Northstar's Defensible Space Program, Fuels Management Program, NCSD Green Waste Recycling Center Informational Flyer and a current list of approved local Defensible Space Contractors, stop by the Fire Station on Northstar Drive, or go to the District website at www.northstarcsd.org/defensiblespace.html. Please feel free to contact Fire Prevention Officer Jim Conlin, or Forestry Supervisor Joe Barron at (530) 562-1212.

100' DEFENSIBLE SPACE Make Your Home FIRE SAFE



or



Contact your local CAL FIRE office, fire department,
or Fire Safe Council for tips and assistance.

www.fire.ca.gov

Any person that owns, leases, controls, operates or maintains any building or structure in, upon, or adjoining any mountainous areas of forest-covered lands, brush-covered lands, or grass-covered lands, or any land which is covered with flammable material, shall at all times do the following: (CA PRC 4291)

DEFENSIBLE SPACE GUIDELINES

- | | |
|--------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 1. Create a "Lean, Clean and Green Zone:" 30' circumference around structures. (PRC 4291) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 2. Create a Buffer Zone: 5' clearance of all combustible ground fuels around the perimeter of any structure (NCS D 26-09) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 3. Beyond the "Buffer Zone," and up to 100' of the property line (whichever is less), maintain a layer of pine needles/forest duff depth of between 1" to a maximum of 2". (NCS D 26-09) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 4. Remove all dead trees, limbs and vegetation from property. Reduced fuel zone 30' to 100' (NCS D 26-09) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 5. Property address shall be visible to the street; numbers shall be 5" min. in height, on a contrasting background. (PRC 4291) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 6. Remove any tree limbs within 10' horizontally or vertically from a structure. (NCS D 26-09) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 7. Remove any portion of tree that extends within 10' of outlet of any chimney or stovepipe. (PRC 4291) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 8. Maintain any tree adjacent to or overhanging any structure free of dead or dying wood. (PRC 4291) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 9. Maintain all roofs free of leaves, pine needles, and other dead vegetation. (PRC 4291) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 10. Remove all lower tree limbs to a minimum of 8' high (for shorter trees remove limbs on the bottom third of the tree). This distance shall be measured from the lowest hanging portion of a tree's drip-line to the ground. (NCS D 26-09) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 11. At all times, provide and maintain a screen over the outlet of every chimney or stove attached to any device that burns solid or liquid fuel. This screen shall be constructed of non-flammable material with openings not more than 1/2" in size. (PRC 4291) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 12. Remove the undergrowth from mature tree fields. (PRC 4291) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 13. Remove all flammable vegetation within 10' of a structure (PRC 4291). Beyond the 10-foot zone, maintain shrubs on the entire property according to the minimum horizontal spacing to the edge of shrubs, based on the slope of the property, as follows: (Reg. 14, CCR 1299; NCS D 26-09) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 0 – 20% slope = 2 x the height of the shrub • 21 – 40% slope = 4 x the height of the shrub • Slopes greater than 40% = 6 x the height of the shrub |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 14. All trees that the District or state classifies as intermediate or co-dominant shall have the following spacing distances from the edge of one canopy to the next: (Reg. 14, CCR 1299; NCS D 26-09) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 0 – 20% = 10 feet canopy spacing • 21 – 40% = 20 feet canopy spacing • Slopes greater than 40% = 30 feet canopy spacing |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | 15. <u>Recommendation</u> : All firewood and lumber shall be stacked at least 10' from any structure, or covered in place with a fire resistant tarp. |