



Get started by completing the checklist items below and reviewing the back side for frequently asked questions.

- ALL DEAD, DYING or DISEASED TREES AND SHRUBS MUST BE REMOVED:** Dead vegetation does not hold moisture and becomes extremely flammable after a few days of dry weather. Remove all dead and diseased vegetation on your property.
- Keep your **RAIN GUTTER** and **ROOF** clean of all combustible debris, such as leaves and pine needles.
- TREE BRANCHES** are limbed/trimmed up **6 feet** from the ground or 1/3 of the tree height for trees under 18 feet.
- Do not store combustible materials **ON OR UNDER DECKS**.
- TREE BRANCHES** are trimmed back **10 feet horizontal** from rooftops and fireplace chimneys.
- Dispose of yard clippings, plant waste, trash, debris and other combustible materials in an appropriate manner. This pertains to disposing of vegetative waste in canyons and or open space.
- COMBUSTIBLE MATERIALS** woodpiles, paper products, building materials etc. shall be **20 feet** from any structure and require separation of **40 feet** between piles.
- Address** is visible from the street with lettering size height 4 inches minimum.
- PROPANE TANKS** need **10 feet** of clearance from combustible materials and vegetation.
- CHIMNEYS** serving fireplaces, barbecues or decorative heating appliances shall have spark arresters with openings no larger than **½ inch**.
- Maintain **30 feet** between ignition sources such as permanent barbecue, portable barbecue, outdoor fireplace or grills, keeping in good repair and safe condition with an approved spark arrestor, screen or door.

All checklist items are completed to the property line for parcels under 5 acres. Parcels over 5 acres, actions taken 100' around all structures & 100' from the property line.

This is an informational notice intended to provide community members with Town of Hillsborough Wildland Urban Interface (**WUI**) requirements as related to fuel modification and defensible space.





Central County Fire Department

Serving the communities of Burlingame, Hillsborough, and Millbrae

Wildland Protection Checklist

YOU CAN REDUCE THE RISK OF WILDFIRE

Central County Fire Department encourages residents to create a wildfire resistive community by taking actions to reduce any hazards that may be present on their property. We are asking for your help to protect your property by taking simple steps that will stop or slow the spread of fire to your home and the surrounding community.

Use the checklist on the back side of this sheet to survey your property.



DO YOUR PART AND GET STARTED TODAY: Remove dry grass, brush, fallen leaves, branches, vegetative debris and other flammable materials on your property. Replace where needed with well-maintained and watered, drought-tolerant, fire resistive plants. All vegetation should be maintained to create proper spacing between plants, shrubs, trees and tree canopies.



All fires start small and arise out of three ingredients: fuel, heat and oxygen. Oxygen is readily available in the air, so that leaves fuel and heat. Fuel is anything that will burn, including leaves, brush, grass, trees and even houses. The dryer the fuel, the more easily it burns. The last component — heat — burns the fuel and desiccates, or dries up, the surrounding area as the fire spreads.



wind direction



flying embers

Flying embers are the number one cause of home ignition during a wildfire. Make your home more fire resistant by maintaining your property and taking steps to reduce fire spread.

flying embers



Frequently Asked Question's



Is this a new Town of Hillsborough Ordinance? No, the town Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) Ordinance was originally adopted in August 2009 and updated in June 2019.

Is this a requirement for all properties in the Town of Hillsborough? Not all properties are "required", it is however recommended all properties increase fire safety by conducting fuel modification and creating defensible space.

Do I need to remove plants and shrubs down to bare soil? No, CCFD does **NOT** recommend removal to bare soil, which may result in unwanted soil erosion and nutrient loss.

I am not sure about trimming some of my plants and trees, is there someone from the Fire Department available to meet with me? Yes, we have staff available to meet with you, please use the contact information below.

Can I still use bark and mulch in my planters? Yes, with a recommendation of less than 3 inches in depth.

Is there a program available to combine my efforts with my neighbors? Yes, many residents combine efforts to reduce costs and share information. Learn more about our Firewise Community by contacting the Fire Department.

Where can I find more detailed information about plants, trees and best practices for living in the Wildland Urban Interface (WUI)? Visit our website at www.ccfdonline.org, at Town Hall, or by mail by contacting us at (650) 558-7600.



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