



CALIFORNIA FOREST STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM

Forestland Steward

FALL 2012

Community fire safety includes building and retrofitting homes to be fire resistant, maintaining defensible space, implementing fuels management, and practicing emergency preparedness. Do all this and what do you get?

...A Fire Adapted Community!

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Forestland Steward

Forestland Steward is a joint project of the CA Dept of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE), Placer County Resource Conservation District, UC Cooperative Extension, and USDA Forest Service to provide information on the stewardship of private forestlands in California.

CA Forest Stewardship Program

P.O. Box 944246
Sacramento, CA 94244
Fax (916) 653-8957
ceres.ca.gov/foreststeward

Editorial Committee

Jeff Calvert, CAL FIRE
Matt Dunnahoe, Placer RCD
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Yana Valachovic, UC

Editor

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The ideas contained in this newsletter are meant as general information and opinion, not management prescription. Consult a Registered Professional Forester or a qualified technical advisor (see page 10) for management advice specific to your needs.



What is a Fire Adapted Community?

A Fire Adapted Community is “designed, constructed, retrofitted, and maintained to require little or no assistance from firefighters during a wildfire. Residents accept responsibility for living in a high fire hazard area and possess the knowledge and skills to effectively prepare their homes and property to survive wildfire, evacuate early and safely, and, if trapped, have the skills to survive” (*Ed Smith, Living With Fire*).

Why do we need Fire Adapted Communities?

The concept of Fire Adapted Communities arose out of recognition of some ominous trends. Wildfires are increasing in frequency, intensity, and size, and the fire season is getting longer. Climate change is expected to exacerbate these trends; we should expect more wildfires in our future. In addition to changes in fire behavior, population in the Wildland Urban Interface (WUI), where wildfires are most likely, is expected to increase. And finally, while both wildfire threat and number of people affected are growing, budgets for fighting fires are shrinking.

Altogether, the situation requires rethinking the expectation that firefighting resources will always be available to protect us. There is a growing realization that people who live in areas of high fire risk to must take steps to provide for their own safety. The focus is shifting from community protection to community preparation.

What does it take?

The basic elements of a Fire Adapted Community include (*see page 4*):

- **Built Environment:** homes are constructed using appropriate materials to resist ignition and are well-maintained.
- **Defensible Space:** vegetation surrounding homes is modified and managed to reduce the wildfire threat.
- **Community Protection:** well-designed fuelbreaks and safe areas (ball fields, irrigated pastures, parks and parking lots) protect the community.
- **Access:** good road access is in place to help emergency responders arrive in a timely manner.
- **Evacuation Planning:** residents can safely and effectively evacuate.

A Fire Adapted Community requires all this and more: a sense of responsibility by community residents, the ability to work in

partnership toward a common objective, and an understanding that this effort is an ongoing process; it is never finished.

A role for every person

Creating a Fire Adapted Community involves everyone. Professional skills are needed, as well as commitments from all residents. This partnership is the basis of a Fire Adapted Community. The social networks that are integral to this effort can strengthen every aspect of community protection.

Residents of Fire Adapted Communities possess the knowledge and skills to prepare their homes and property to survive wildfire, evacuate safely, and survive if trapped.

Numerous tools are available to protect your family, home, and community. Some can be accomplished by individual homeowners, others require more expertise or multiple partners. Firefighting professionals, with the involvement of local residents, can help design the overall fire protection plan. Landscape-scale activities, such as fuelbreaks, are generally done in cooperation with land management agencies.

Think locally

Becoming a Fire Adapted Community is a uniquely local process; each community is different with no one-size-fits-all solution. This process also requires continual vigilance and improvement, including maintenance of defensible space and fuelbreaks, a commitment to harden homes and structures against fire, ongoing communication with local firefighting personnel, educational outreach to residents, strengthening the social networks within the community, and openness to new information and solutions.

The wildfire is sure to come—how fire adapted is your community?

Less brush saves Brushy Creek Circle from fire

Anita Brown, NRCS

On July 15, 2012, the Robbers Fire licked its way up the canyon bordering Jody Schnell's home on 220 acres of private forestland near Foresthill in Placer County. Schnell's family evacuated and held their breath, waiting for the news to come.

The news was merciful. Firefighters decided that Schnell's property on Brushy Creek Circle was an ideal staging area and used it to make a stand, set a backfire, and battle the advancing blaze back down the canyon. Schnell and her 11 neighbors were largely spared fire damage. Battalion Chief Chris Paulus called it a "game changer."

What exactly did the Brushy Creek Circle landowners do that made such a difference? The properties of the 12 adjacent Brushy Creek Circle landowners have a different look than much of the surrounding densely vegetated land consumed by the Robbers Fire. The Brushy Creek residents' land is...well...less brushy.

In the past 12 years, each of the landowners has done (or is doing) work to tame the tangle of trees and underbrush and give the forest room for sunlight to penetrate and the trees to grow healthy, and space to better resist an advancing fire.

"When the forest fuels have been treated, it provides greater safety for the firefighters," says Chief Paulus. "You can look around and see what action you will need to take to fight the fire and you can move much more readily to attack it by both ground and air." The Brushy Creek properties provided that kind of refuge.

The work is a 50:50 partnership between landowners and the Placer County Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) and Placer County Resource Conservation District (RCD). NRCS and the RCD provide landowners with maps, soils descriptions, and a list of recommended conservation and engineering practices to make their surrounding forestland healthier and more fire resistant. All of the planning and technical services are free of charge and there may be financial assistance available through NRCS's Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP), that pays about half of the implementation costs.

In Placer County, approximately 80 percent of the roughly \$900,000 in annual EQIP funding goes for the type of forest health practices undertaken by the residents of Brushy Creek Circle, according to NRCS District Conservationist Mike Brenner.



Photo: USDA-NRCS

Landowners Jody and Jeff Schnell walk along the fireline bordering their property with NRCS District Conservationist Mike Brenner (left). Their tree and brush thinning was instrumental in saving their home.

Coordinated work of adjacent landowners magnifies the belt of safety for the entire community. So, in 2008 when Brenner and Soil Conservationist Carol Rutenbergs noticed that a cluster of forest landowners in the Brushy Creek community had done significant forest health work, they sent letters to the remaining residents telling them about the opportunities available through EQIP. The RCD helped with outreach to the community and the final contract to begin forest health work this year.

"The forestry work done on Brushy Creek definitely had a significant impact on the Robbers Fire," says Chief Paulus. "Had the work not been done, the fire would have burned into the housing area and maybe beyond...more acres would have been burned and the intensity would have been greater. The work the landowners did made a major difference in controlling the Robbers Fire and protecting their homes."

Every year forest landowners have to balance competing demands for time and resources and, while most realize the value of forest thinning, they may not know how to do it properly, have the resources for it, or know where to get help. Jody Schnell recommends visiting the local NRCS office to begin the journey of building a healthier forest around your home.

"I'm thrilled with the results," says Schnell. "One of the CAL FIRE officers told me, 'If you hadn't done this work, it would have been a whole different ballgame up here.'"

That's one ballgame we would like to sit out.

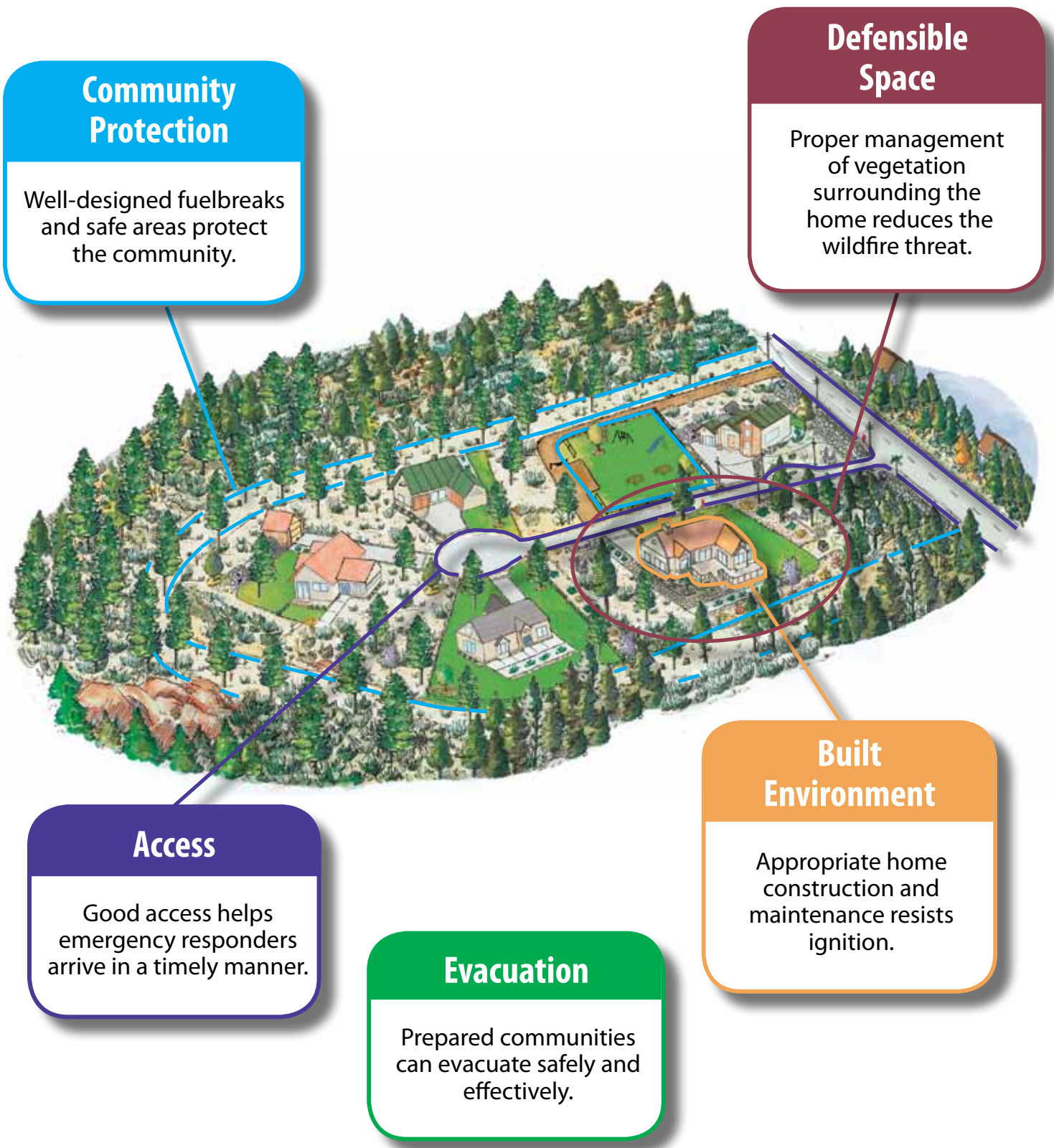


Photo: USDA-NRCS

The heavy fuel loads common in many California forests can result in catastrophic wildfire.

Landowners interested in forest health improvements or other conservation activities can contact their local CAL FIRE, NRCS, or RCD office for information on cost-share programs (see page 10).

Elements of a Fire Adapted Community



Community Protection

Well-designed fuelbreaks and safe areas protect the community.

Defensible Space

Proper management of vegetation surrounding the home reduces the wildfire threat.

Built Environment

Appropriate home construction and maintenance resists ignition.

Access

Good access helps emergency responders arrive in a timely manner.

Evacuation

Prepared communities can evacuate safely and effectively.

Used with permission from University of Nevada Cooperative Extension and the Living With Fire Program.

Requirements for a Fire Adapted Community

1. The community has prepared a Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP).
<http://www.cafirealliance.org/cwpp/>
2. Residents have met and worked with local fire officials and have an understanding of fire behavior.
3. Residents accept responsibility for protecting the community and are proactive.
4. All stakeholders are involved: planners, construction workers, landscape designers, fire service personnel, land management agencies, emergency management agencies, fire safe councils, residents, etc.
5. Community members have the knowledge, skills, and willingness to prepare for wildfire.
6. Community and adjacent land management agencies have created effective fuel treatments.
7. Local government has effective land use planning, building codes, and ordinances.
8. Local fire suppression forces have adequate skills, equipment, and capacity.

All stakeholders are involved: planners, construction workers, landscape designers, fire service personnel, land management agencies, emergency management agencies, fire safe councils, residents, etc.

FAMILY COMMUNICATION PLAN

Fill out this form and place it near your telephone where it can easily be found by everyone in your household. Copy the form and keep it in your Emergency Supply Kits. This will allow all family members to have access to this key information in case you get separated.

WHEN WE HAVE TO EVACUATE, WE WILL MEET AT:

OUR OUT-OF-AREA EMERGENCY CONTACT PERSON IS:

Name: _____ Relationship: _____

Home Phone #: _____ Cell Phone #: _____

Email: _____

OTHER IMPORTANT NUMBERS ARE:

Emergency 911: _____ Local Police: _____

Local Fire Department: _____ Other: _____

Other: _____ Other: _____

OUR TWO EVACUATION ROUTES ARE (SKETCH ROUTES BELOW):

<http://www.readyforwildfire.org/docs/files/File/commplan.pdf>

Checklist to protect your home from embers



Used with permission from University of Nevada Cooperative Extension and the Living With Fire Program.

NOTE: The numbers below correspond to the embers in the illustration; they do not imply priority.

1. Wood Roof. Replace wood shake and shingle roofs with fire-resistant types such as composition, metal, and tile.

2. Roof Openings. Plug openings in roof coverings (e.g., open ends of barrel tiles) with noncombustible materials.

3. Roof Debris. Routinely remove plant debris—pine needles, leaves, branches, bark—from the roof.

4. Skylights. Replace plastic skylights with double-pane glass (one pane should be tempered glass). Close skylights if wildfire is threatening.

5. Spark Arrester. Install an approved spark arrester on chimneys.

6. Windows. Replace single-pane nontempered glass windows with

multiple-pane tempered glass types. Close all windows if wildfire is threatening.

7. Vents. Cover attic, eave, and foundation vents with 1/8" wire mesh or install new vent types designed to prevent ember entry. If wildfire is threatening, cover vent openings with precut plywood or aluminum foil folded several layers thick and stapled.

8. Rain Gutters. Keep rain gutters free of plant debris during the fire season. Rain gutter covers reduce maintenance.

9. Siding. Fill gaps in siding and trim materials with a good-quality caulk and replace building materials in poor condition.

10. Woodpiles. Move firewood stacks and scrap lumber piles at least 30' from house and buildings.

11. Patio Furniture. Place combustible patio

furniture—lounges, tables, hammocks—inside the house or garage if wildfire is threatening.

12. Deck Boards. Replace deck boards less than 1" thick or in poor condition with thicker, good condition boards. Use metal flashing between the deck and house.

13. Deck Debris. Remove plant debris from the gaps between deck boards, the deck and house, and lying on top of the deck.

14. Porch and Deck Accessories. If wildfire is threatening, remove combustible materials—newspapers, wicker baskets, doormats, pinecones, dried flower arrangements—from the porch and deck; place BBQ propane tanks indoors.

15. Under the Deck. Remove plant debris, woodpiles, and other easily ignited materials from under decks. Enclose the open sides of

the deck with properly vented siding or 1/8" wire mesh to reduce maintenance and deter embers. Do not enclose decks with wooden lattice.

16. Flowerboxes. Remove wooden flowerboxes from beneath windows if wildfire is threatening.

17. Eaves. Cover open eaves with sheathing, such as plywood or fiber-cement board. Use tongue-and-groove joints or other intricate joint types and not butt joints.

18. Flowerbeds. Replace wood mulches with noncombustible types and remove plant debris, including dried grass and flowers, dead leaves, and dead branches, from flowerbeds next to the house, other buildings, and wooden fences. Plant low-growing deciduous shrubs or flowers under irrigation.

19. Vehicles. Close vehicle windows. Back into the garage and close

the garage door or park away from the house.

20. Garage Door. Adjust garage doors to achieve as tight a fit with the door frame as possible. Use trim around the garage door opening to reduce the size of gap openings. Close the garage door if wildfire is threatening.

21. Garbage Cans and Recycling Bins. Use garbage cans covered with tight-fitting lids near the house or other buildings. Move newspaper recycling bins indoors.

22. Wooden Fences. Maintain wooden fences in good condition and create a noncombustible fence section or gate next to the house for at least 5'.

—from <http://www.unce.unr.edu/publications/files/nr/2009/fs0905.pdf>

Fire-resistant building technology continues to improve (e.g., see resources from UC Cooperative Extension on p. 10).

Effective defensible space around your home

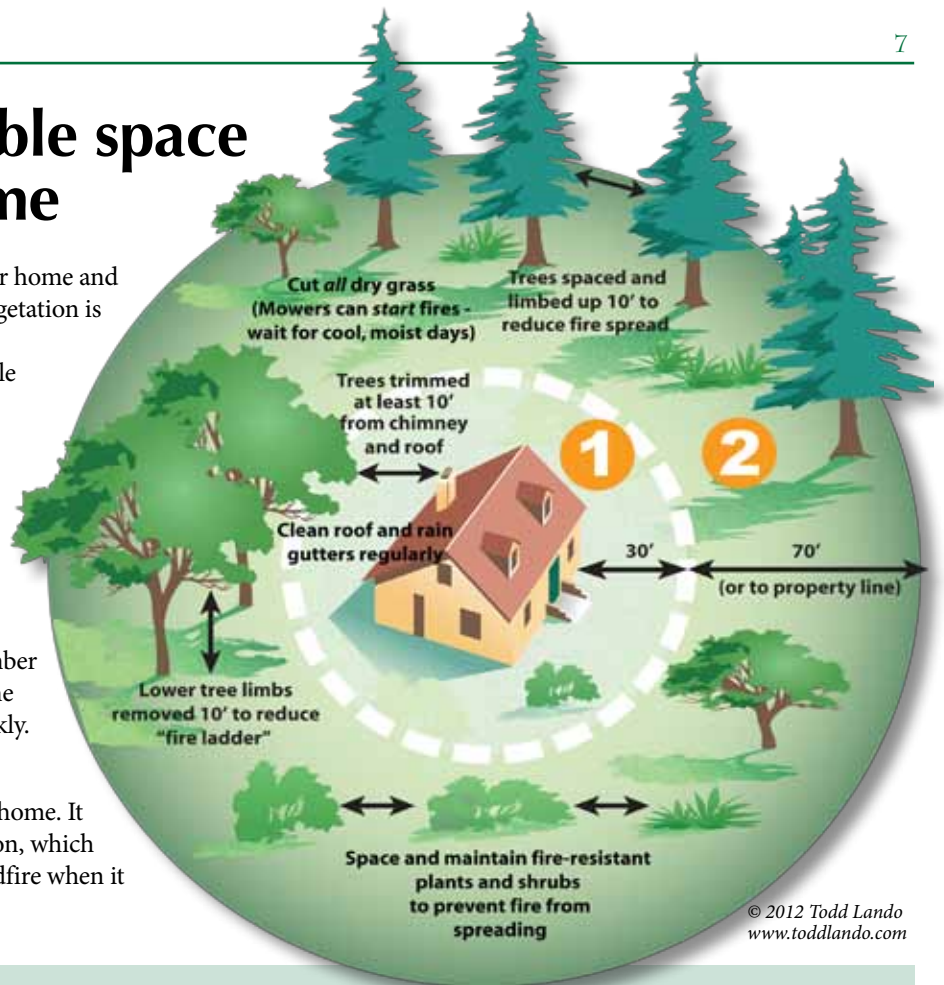
Defensible space is the area around your home and other structures, usually 100', where the vegetation is modified to decrease the threat of wildfire.

In most areas of California the defensible space is divided into two zones: a 30' "lean, clean, green" zone that is generally free of flammable materials and a 70' reduced fuel zone.

Creating defensible space around your home is not only smart, it's also the law (<http://www.readyforwildfire.org/thelaw>).

In addition, signage is extremely important. Install large reflector street number signs and label your water supply to help the firefighters find your home and water quickly.

NOTE: Defensible space does NOT mean removing all vegetation from around your home. It means *modifying* and *maintaining* vegetation, which can reduce the intensity and speed of a wildfire when it reaches your home.



Steps to creating defensible space

- Create a "lean, clean, green" zone with few or no combustibles within 30' of your home and under eaves and vents. This can be done with grass or hardscape, or even well-raked bare dirt.
 - While green lawns can be good for wildfire they use a lot of water, which is of major concern in California. Rock, stone, and other materials can be used to create an attractive fire safe landscape. Use irrigated fire-resistant plants and avoid highly flammable species like junipers and eucalyptus. Maintenance is the key.
 - Create a fuel-reduction zone from 30'–100' (or to your property line, if closer) to slow the spread of an approaching wildfire.
 - Cut dry grass regularly within 100' of your home. Gas-powered tools can start fires when fire danger is high, so work early in the morning on a cool, moist day, if possible. Rake and remove clippings.
 - Make decks fire safe by clearing vegetation and combustibles like lumber and firewood from underneath. Enclose the underside with fire-resistant building materials if possible.
 - Apply 1/8" mesh screen to all roof and basement vent openings.
 - Keep trees limbed up 10' from the ground or from the tops of plants below (or 1/3 the height of trees shorter than 30'), and cut back at least 10' from your chimney and roof. Remove all dead limbs.
 - Clean all needles and leaves from the roof and rain gutters regularly during fire season.
 - Maintain your landscaping—mow, water, weed, and remove dead needles and leaves.
 - Maintain fire engine access to your home by clearing vegetation 10' from the sides of roads and driveways and 14' vertically.
 - Make your address visible from the street in both directions, with 4" (minimum) reflective numbers on a contrasting background.
- adapted from *Ready Set Go: Marin County Wildfire Preparedness* and other sources.
<http://www.readysetgomarin.org/>

Protecting the community

In addition to individual actions, such as hardening homes and creating defensible space, there are some landscape-scale activities that can help protect entire communities from wildfire.



Shaded fuelbreak near Butte Meadows.
Photo: Stephen M. Jolley

Fuel management projects, including fuelbreaks, change the amount and arrangement of fuel to affect fire behavior. These projects generally involve thinning trees and removing ladder fuels, which can lead a fire into the crowns. Fuelbreaks can be strategically placed to prevent a wildfire from moving into the community.

Shaded fuelbreaks retain larger trees at appropriate spacing to provide habitat and forest continuity. The trees are thinned so their crowns no longer touch, lower branches are pruned, and shrubs and dead material are removed to reduce surface fuels.

When a wildfire hits a fuelbreak, flame lengths are reduced and the fire slows and comes down from the crowns of the trees. The spacing between trees minimizes fire transmission. Fuelbreaks reduce wildfire speed and intensity, and can give firefighters a safer area to work and get the fire under control.

To create an effective fuelbreak, it is necessary to understand the characteristics of fire in your area—direction, intensity, movement, higher risk areas, etc.—and place the fuelbreak properly to best achieve the objectives. This type of project must be designed by a knowledgeable professional

(contact your local CAL FIRE, NRCS, RCD, or UC Extension office for more information).

Fuel reduction projects can be implemented on private or public forests, or both, and often include partnerships among adjacent landowners. Cost-share funding may be available from agencies like CAL FIRE or NRCS (see p. 10).

Currently, there is a lot of research on fuel management to make these projects more effective and efficient (see the *California Fire Science Consortium* <http://www.cafiresci.org/>). Strategically placed fuelbreaks and various other fuel projects have been tested by wildfire in many parts of the state and proven to work.

Remember that creating a fuelbreak is just one part of the job. It is necessary to go back every few years to maintain it.

Escape routes

Avoid getting trapped on narrow, overgrown roads that are easily blocked by accidents, breakdowns, or congestion from incoming fire equipment. The same care that goes into creating defensible space or a fuelbreak should go into your escape routes: vegetation clearance, adequate width, usable and frequent turnouts, signage, etc.

Safe areas

Areas of safety within the community, where people can wait out a fire if they are unable to evacuate, should be identified. These can be large parking lots, fields, irrigated pastures, parks, or other spots with a low risk of fire. These areas need to be maintained throughout the year.

Download *Wildfire and Fuels Management* at <http://anrcatalog.ucdavis.edu/pdf/8245.pdf>.



Before and after fuels treatment.



Photos: NRCS Auburn Field Office

When wildfire threatens

A critical part of preparing for wildfire is being ready when a fire actually occurs. This includes setting up a plan with family members ahead of time, preparing for the day, and knowing how to evacuate and what to do if you can't get out. These aren't things that are easy to think about, but this knowledge could easily save your life and that of family members. Remember, California forests and chaparral are adapted to burn. A wildfire is most likely in your future.

Prepare for the day with your Family Wildfire Action Plan

With a wildfire approaching you don't have time to figure out how to respond or what to take with you. Your Family Wildfire Action Plan should be in place and familiar to all members of the family, including children. If you have neighbors who are elderly, disabled, or without vehicles, you may want to include them in your planning. Each family will have different needs and issues, but at minimum you should include:

- A communication plan with a designated emergency meeting location and a point of contact outside of the fire area (*page 5*).
- The location of local evacuation centers and safe areas.
- Several escape routes from your home and community (*page 5*).
- Emergency supply kit (*page 12*).
- Evacuation plan for pets and large animals.
- Evacuation Plan Checklist: a list of steps to get the car ready and to prepare your home and outbuildings for fire.
- Inventory of home contents and photos/ videotape of house and landscape (contact your insurance agent for an inventory checklist).
- Some practice runs to make sure everyone knows their job and the evacuation routes.

How to evacuate

When a wildfire occurs each family member should already know what they need to do, what to wear, and how to respond.

- Review your Evacuation Plan Checklist.
- Ensure your emergency supply kit is in your vehicle.

- Cover up to protect against heat and flying embers. Wear long pants and long-sleeve shirt (100% cotton is preferable), heavy shoes/boots, cap, dry bandanna for face cover, and goggles or glasses.
- Locate your pets and take them with you.

Those not involved in preparing the home and outbuildings for fire should leave early. This will also help relieve traffic congestion. Each family member should be sure to let the contact person know where they are.

Evacuate immediately when asked to do so by fire or law enforcement officials. Drive slowly, turn on your headlights, and stay as far to the right side of the road as possible.

Shelter in place

If you cannot leave, stay in your home if at all possible. It is most important to stay calm and call 911 to let officials know where you are. Place wet rags under doors and openings to prevent embers and smoke from entering. Watch for small fires inside and extinguish them. After the fire has passed, check flowerbeds, roof, rain gutters, attic, and crawlspace for fires and burning embers.

After the fire

When you return home:

- Be alert for downed power lines and other hazards.
- Check propane tanks, regulators, and lines before turning gas on.
- Check your residence carefully for hidden embers or smoldering fires.

After a fire is over, there is still much to do. If your home or forestland has sustained damage, there are many steps to take and decisions to make. An excellent publication to help you through this period is *Recovering from Wildfire* <http://anrcatalog.ucdavis.edu/pdf/8386.pdf>.

—from http://www.readyforwildfire.org/evacuation_steps/ and <http://www.unce.unr.edu/publications/files/nr/2011/sp1102.pdf>. These resources will be invaluable in preparing your Family Wildfire Action Plan.

If You're Trapped

In your vehicle:

- ✓ Stay calm.
- ✓ Park your vehicle in an area clear of vegetation.
- ✓ Close all vehicle windows and vents.
- ✓ Cover yourself with wool blanket or jacket.
- ✓ Lie on vehicle floor.
- ✓ Use your cell phone to advise officials—call 911.

On foot:

- ✓ Stay calm.
- ✓ Go to an area clear of vegetation, a ditch or depression on level ground if possible.
- ✓ Lie face down; cover up your body.
- ✓ Use your cell phone to advise officials—call 911.

In your home:

- ✓ Stay calm, keep your family together.
- ✓ Call 911 and inform authorities of your location.
- ✓ Fill sinks and tubs with cold water.
- ✓ Keep doors and windows closed but unlocked.
- ✓ Stay inside your house.
- ✓ Stay away from outside walls and windows.

http://www.readyforwildfire.org/what_to_do_if_trapped

Resources Living With Fire and other resources

Kids, Seniors, and Disabled

Children, as well as seniors and people with disabilities, need special planning considerations. Many resources are available to help. http://www.readyforwildfire.org/prepare_family

A fire safety activity book for children is found at http://www.fire.ca.gov/communications/downloads/CALFIRE_puzzlebook_web.pdf

Resources to create fire safe communities abound. One of the best and most comprehensive is found at Living With Fire. Developed by University of Nevada Cooperative Extension, the site includes interactive activities to make the information more engaging and a broad range of customizable materials: articles, publications, posters, displays, public service announcements, billboards, and ads. Explore this website thoroughly—you'll be amazed at all it has to offer. <http://www.LivingWithFire.info>

Our own UC Cooperative Extension also has outstanding publications and websites that make cutting-edge research available to the public.

- Home Survival in Wildfire-Prone Areas: Building Materials and Design Considerations: <http://anrcatalog.ucdavis.edu/pdf/8393.pdf>
- Homeowner's Wildfire Mitigation Guide: <http://ucanr.org/sites/Wildfire/>
- Home Landscaping for Fire: <http://anrcatalog.ucdavis.edu/pdf/8228.pdf>
- Center for Fire Research and Outreach: <http://firecenter.berkeley.edu/>

Fire Safe Councils are found throughout California. Find your local council or learn how to start one in your area.

<http://www.firesafecouncil.org/>

Ready, Set, Go (RSG) is a program of the International Association of Fire Chiefs to improve dialogue between fire departments and residents. Their tenets: "help residents be Ready with preparedness understanding, be Set with situational awareness when fire threatens, and Go, acting early when a fire starts."

<http://www.wildlandfirersg.org/>

CAL FIRE's website at <http://www.fire.ca.gov> has a host of resources for landowners, including an excellent separate website "Wildfire is Coming. Are You Set?" that offers information on how to create your own household wildfire action plan, family communication plan, prepare an emergency supply kit, harden your home, design fire safe landscaping, and use equipment in a fire safe way.

<http://www.readyforwildfire.org/index.aspx>

Technical Assistance

Many agencies are available to provide technical assistance, referrals, information, education, land management plan assistance, and advice.

California Stewardship Helpline

1-800-738-TREE; ncsaf@mcn.org

California Dept of Forestry & Fire Protection

Forest Landowner Assistance Programs
Jeffrey Calvert; jeff.calvert@fire.ca.gov

Forestry Assistance Specialists

Guy Anderson (Mariposa/Madera/Merced)
209-966-3622 x218

Jan Bray (Calaveras) 209-754-3831

Herb Bunt (Glenn, Shasta, Tehama, Trinity, Redding) 530-224-1420

Jill Butler (Santa Rosa) 707-576-2935

Ed Crans (Placer/Yuba/Nevada)
530-889-0111 x128

Damon Denman (Siskiyou) 530-842-3516

Adam Frese (Tuolumne) 209-532-7429 x109

Ivan Houser (Lassen) 530-257-4171

Mary Huggins (S. Lake Tahoe) 530-541-1989

Ken Kendrick (Butte) 530-872-6334

Al Klem (Plumas) 530-283-1792

Patrick McDaniel (El Dorado) 530-647-5288

Jonathan Pangburn (San Benito/Monterey)
831-333-2600

Alan Peters (San Luis Obispo) 805-543-4244

Jim Robbins (Fortuna) 707-726-1258

Tom Sandelin (Fresno/King) 559-243-4136

Tom Tinsley and/or Patrick McDaniel (Amador)
530-647-5200

California Association of RCDs

916 457-7904; staff@carcd.org

Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)

Stephen Smith, State Forester
(530)792-5655

U.C. Cooperative Extension Forest Advisors

Mike De Lasaux, Plumas-Sierra Counties
530-283-6125; mjdelasaux@ucdavis.edu

Greg Giusti, Mendocino-Lake Counties
707-463-4495; gagiusti@ucdavis.edu

Susie Kocher, El Dorado County
530-542-2571; sdkocher@ucdavis.edu

Rick Standiford, Specialist
510-643-5428; standifo@berkeley.edu

Bill Stewart, Specialist
510-643-3130; billstewart@berkeley.edu

Yana Valachovic, Humboldt-Del Norte Counties
707-445-7351; yvala@ucdavis.edu

USDA Forest Service

707-562-8875

Calendar

October 24, 2012

Webinar—Succession Planning: The Role of the Natural Resource Professional

Website: <http://www.forestrywebinars.net/webinars/succession-planning-the-role-of-the-natural-resource-professional>

October 29, 2012

Field Trip: Roads in Mendocino County

Location: Navarro River

Contact: Dr. Richard Harris at rrharris2464@sbcglobal.net or (707) 685-5508

Registration: <http://ucce.ucdavis.edu/survey/survey.cfm?surveynumber=8763>

Notes: Road decommissioning and upgrading to address sediment and instream restoration.

October 31, 2012

Field Trip: Sagehen Creek Field Station

Location: Tahoe National Forest

Register: before October 24, tkline@berkeley.edu

Flyer: <http://www.cafiresci.org/storage/papers/sagehen%2010-31-12%20STD%20fler.pdf>

November 7, 2012

Board of Forestry Meeting

Location: Resources Building, Sacramento

Contact: 916-653-8007

Website: <http://www.bof.fire.ca.gov>

November 7–8, 2012

California Forest Pest Council Annual Meeting

Location: McClellan CA

Contact: Katie Palmieri at kpalmieri@berkeley.edu

Website: <http://caforestpestcouncil.org>

November 7–8, 2012

Assessing Wildfire Hazards in the Home Ignition Zone Workshop

Location: Ontario, CA

Registration: Contact Dalonna Scott at dscott@cafiresafecouncil.org or (626)335-7426

Website: <http://www.firesafecouncil.org/articles.cfm?article=543>

November 8–9, 2012

Northern CA Prescribed Fire Council Meeting

Location: South Lake Tahoe

Sudden Oak Death (SOD) Meetings

A series of SOD Blitz 2012 Results and Field Meetings are being held throughout northern California in October and November. For a complete listing, go to <http://www.suddenoakdeath.org/news-and-events/calendar-of-events/>

Audience: Prescribed fire practitioners, agencies, academics, tribes, organizations, individuals
Cost: \$75
Website: http://norcalrxfirecouncil.org/Fall_2012_Meeting.html

November 13, 2012

Continental Dialogue on Non-Native Forest Insects and Diseases

Location: Sac Convention Center

Contact: info@continentalforestdialogue.org

Website: <http://www.continentalforestdialogue.org/>

November 14–15

Partners in Community Forestry National Conference

Location: Sacramento

Website: <http://www.arborday.org/shopping/pcf/2012/>

December 5, 2012

Board of Forestry Meeting

Location: Resources Building, Sac

Contact: 916-653-8007

Website: <http://www.bof.fire.ca.gov>

Ties to the Land Workshops

Learn simple techniques to pass your land and its legacy to the next generation. These two-part classes are offered in the following locations (the second part will be held in early 2013):

Mt. Shasta - October 22 (first class)

McArthur - October 23

Auburn - October 30

Eureka - November 1

Fort Bragg - November 8

Jackson - November 13

Sacramento - November 15

Cost: \$25/family

Contact: Tong Wu, tongwu@berkeley.edu, or 510-643-5429

Website: <http://ucanr.org/tiestotheland>

Notes: Registration required.

Multiple family members are encouraged to attend.

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 For address changes, please send this box or contact Jeff Calvert via email, standard mail, or fax...be sure to reference Forestland Steward newsletter.

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Assemble an emergency supply kit

Put together your emergency supply kit long before a wildfire threatens and keep it easily accessible so you can find it when you need to evacuate. Plan to be away from your home for an extended period of time. Each person should have their own readily accessible kit. Backpacks work well for storing these items (except food and water) and are quick to grab. Storing food and water in a tub or chest on wheels will make it easier to transport. Keep it light enough to be able to lift into your car.

Emergency supply kit checklist

- Three-day supply of nonperishable food and three gallons of water per person
- Map marked with at least two evacuation routes
- Prescriptions or special medications
- Change of clothing
- Extra eyeglasses or contact lenses
- An extra set of car keys, credit cards, and cash
- First aid kit
- Flashlight
- Battery-powered radio and extra batteries
- Sanitation supplies
- Copies of important documents (birth certificates, passports, insurance policies, medical records, address book, etc.)
- Pet food and water

If time allows take:

- Easily carried valuables
- Family photos and other irreplaceable items/heirlooms
- Personal computer information on hard drives and disks
- Chargers for cell phones, laptops, etc.

NOTE: Always keep a sturdy pair of shoes and a flashlight near your bed and handy in case of a sudden evacuation at night.

—adapted from http://www.readyforwildfire.org/emergency_supply_kit

The Six “P’s”: Keep them ready in case you have to evacuate

- People and pets
- Papers, phone numbers, and important documents
- Prescriptions, vitamins, and eyeglasses
- Pictures and irreplaceable memorabilia
- Personal computer hard drive and disks
- “Plastic” (credit cards, ATM cards) and cash