

# CCWUI PROJECT DEFENSIBLE SPACE GUIDELINES

As a condition of participating in the CCWUI Project, the Landowner will have to agree to implement on their property the following CCWUI Defensible Space Guidelines within the Home Ignition Zone. The Home Ignition Zone concept was developed by retired USDA Forest Service fire scientist Jack Cohen in the late 1990s, following breakthrough research into how homes ignite during wildfires. The Home Ignition Zone begins with major structures and extends outward at least 100 feet (up to 200 feet on steep slopes) and is divided into three smaller Zones: the Immediate, Intermediate, and Extended Zones.

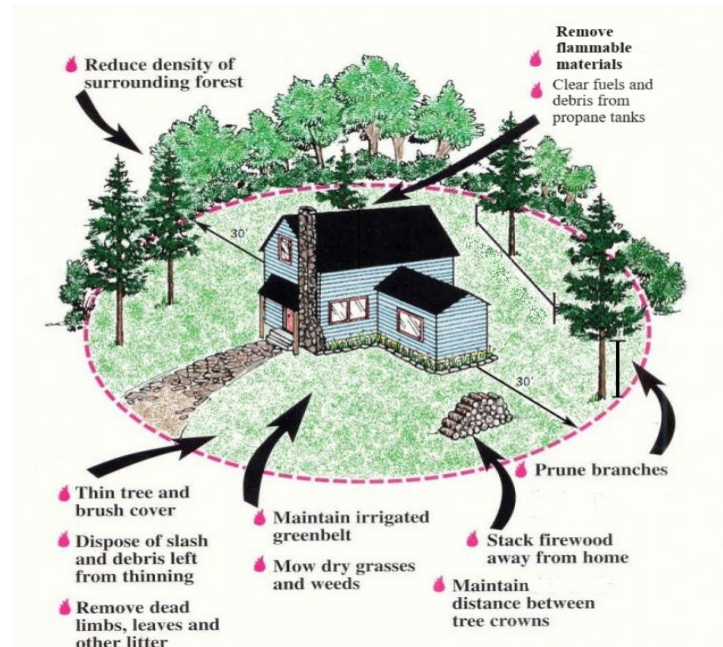


**Immediate Zone:** This Zone includes major structures and areas 0 to 5 feet from structures

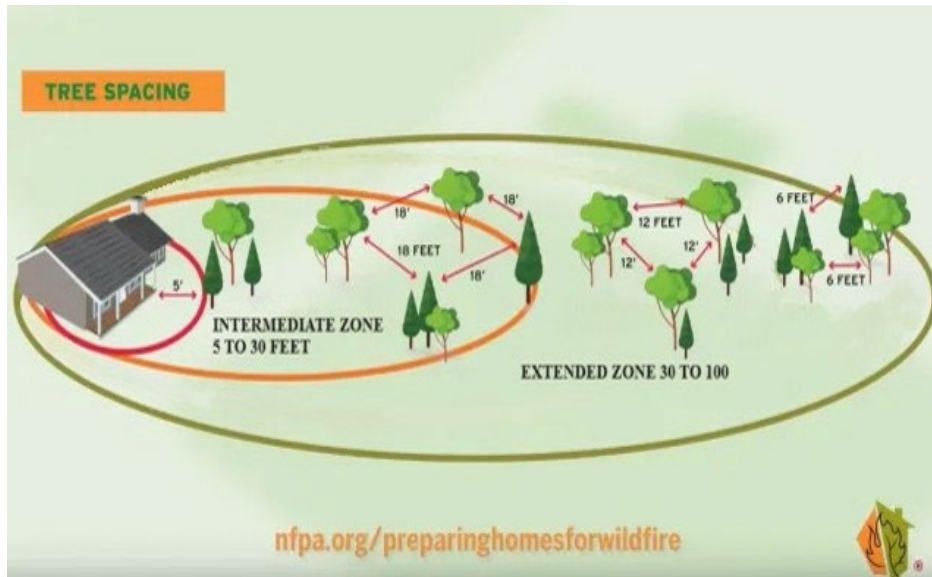
- Remove all dead and down fuels, trees, and flammable materials.
- Remove small conifers, brush, and ladder fuels growing under larger trees.
- Remove all vegetation, fuels, and flammable materials from within 5 feet of out buildings and structures.
- For trees located 30 to 60 feet from major structures (up to 120 feet on steep slopes): Remove conifer trees such that the canopy spacing between individual trees or clumps of trees is at least 12 feet.
- For trees located 60 to 100 feet from major structures (up to 200 feet on steep slopes): Remove conifer trees such that the canopy spacing between individual trees or small clumps of trees is at least 6 feet.

**Intermediate Zone:** This Zone includes an area 5 to 30 feet from structures but may extend out to 60 feet on steep slopes.

- Clear vegetation, debris, and fuels from under and around stationary propane tanks.
- Remove all dead and down fuels, trees, and flammable materials.
- Remove small conifers, brush, and ladder fuels from under larger trees. Prune limbs on larger trees 6 to 10 feet from the ground.
- Thin conifer trees such that the canopy spacing between individual trees or small clumps of trees is at least 18 feet.
- Thin conifer trees when the canopy is within 10 feet of a major structure.
- Trees and shrubs in the intermediate zone should be limited to a few individual trees/shrubs or a few small groups of trees/shrubs.



**Extended Zone:** This Zone includes the area 30 to 100 feet from structures but may extend out to 200 feet on steep slopes.



- Remove all dead and down fuels, trees, and flammable materials.
- Remove small conifers, brush, and ladder fuels growing under larger trees.
- Remove all vegetation, fuels, and flammable materials within 5 feet of out buildings and structures.
- For trees located 30 to 60 feet from major structures (up to 120 feet on steep slopes): Remove conifer trees such that the canopy spacing between individual trees or small clumps of trees is at least 12 feet.
- For trees located 60 to 100 feet from major structures (up to 200 feet on steep slopes): Remove conifer trees such that the canopy spacing between individual trees or small clumps of trees is at least 6 feet.

Fire-Suppressed Forest



Ecologically Managed Forest



**Note:** This is not a list of all Firewise Defensible Space Guidelines but a list of practices that will be funded and implemented under the CCWUI Project. For a full list of Firewise Defensible Space Guidelines, please visit:  
<https://www.nfpa.org/en/education-and-research/wildfire/preparing-homes-for-wildfire>

