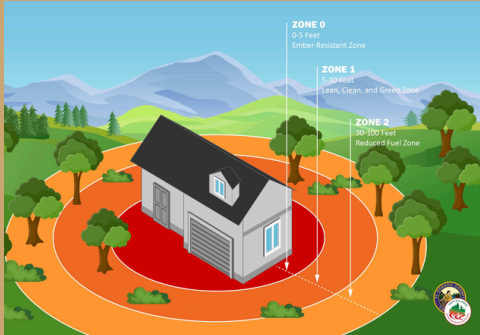


# FIRE SAFETY 101:

## ZONE 1 AND ZONE 2

For more information visit [smmfsc.org](http://smmfsc.org) to stay informed on the latest educational material from our monthly fires safety series

### DEFENSIBLE SPACE



Defensible space in Zones 1 and 2 is critical for fire safety because it reduces the chance of flames and embers reaching your home.

Zone 1 (5–30 ft) should have well-spaced, maintained vegetation to prevent fire from spreading.

Zone 2 (30–100 ft) helps reduce the intensity of an approaching fire by minimizing fuel buildup and creating separation between vegetation.

### ZONE 1

#### WHAT IS ZONE 1?

Zone 1 is the 5–30 ft from your structure. The rule of thumb here is to keep the area **lean, clean, and green**.

#### RECOMMENDATION

Clear dead vegetation and create space between plants to reduce possible fuel and protect your home.



#### ACTION STEPS

- Remove dead vegetation, leaves, and debris
- Trim tree branches at least 10 feet from other trees
- Space out plants and combustible items

### ZONE 2

#### WHAT IS ZONE 2?

Zone 2 is 30–100 ft from the structure, is called the reduced fuel zone, and is designed to slow the spread of wildfire.

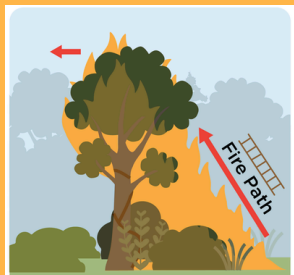


#### ACTION STEPS

- Create horizontal spacing between shrubs and trees.
- Remove dead vegetation and fallen leaves.
- Prune lower branches of trees.
- Ensure accessory structures and propane tanks have 10 ft of clearance with no flammable vegetation nearby.
- Store all firewood in zone 2

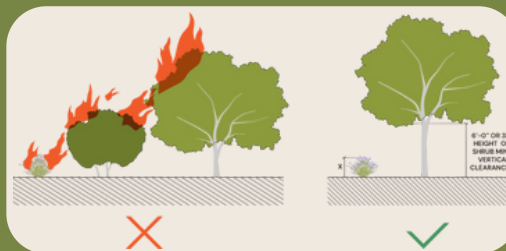
### LADDER FUELS

Ladder fuels are combustible materials—both live and dead—that let fire move upward from ground-level vegetation, like dry grass and leaves, into the tree canopy. This vertical path makes it easier for a fire to reach the crowns of the trees.



Fire behavior with thick undergrowth

### SPACING



Within Zone 1 and 2, it is important to have vegetation properly spaced out to avoid the ladder effect. Regularly clear the undergrowth, dead vegetation, and debris.

### RESOURCES

Check out [lacounty.gov/defensiblespace](http://lacounty.gov/defensiblespace) for information on LA county defensible space regulations and [defensiblespace.org/landscape](http://defensiblespace.org/landscape) for more information.

