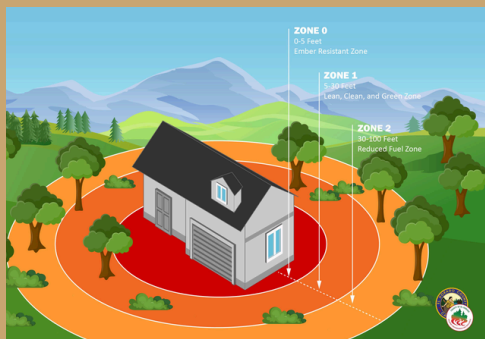


FIRE SAFETY 101:

ZONE 1 AND ZONE 2

For more information visit 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.

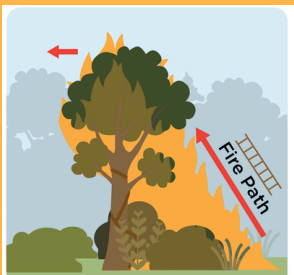


ACTION STEPS

- 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

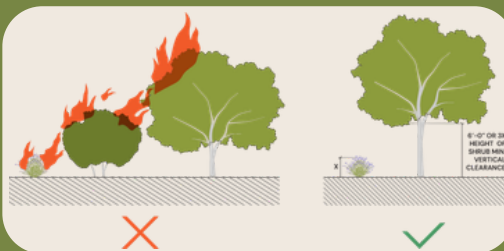
LADDER FUELS

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 for information on LA county defensible space regulations and defensiblespace.org/landscape for more information.

