Create the first zone of defense!

A DISASTER PLAN

Plan and practice for emergencies before the event. Discuss with your family what actions you will take. With fire, you may only have a moment’s notice.

- Post local emergency telephone numbers in a visible place.
- Post directions to your home for emergency calls.
- Leave before it is too late. Decide where you will go and how you will get there. Plan at least two escape routes and meeting locations.
- Have tools available, such as a shovel, rake, axe, handsaw, or chain saw.
- Have a plan for your animals.
- Practice family fire drills.

Wildfires can occur without notice; be ready to take action and evacuate.

ASSISTANCE WITH PLANNING

For more help making your home firewise, contact the King County Forestry Program at 206-477-4800 or your local fire district.

EMERGENCY VEHICLE ACCESS

When calling the fire department, speak clearly and use well-marked street names and house numbers so emergency vehicles can find your home.

Trim vegetation 15 feet above your driveway to allow emergency vehicles open access.

Alternate formats available

206-477-4800 TTY Relay: 711

FOR MORE INFORMATION

King County
- Department of Permitting and Environmental Review
  www.kingcounty.gov/permitting
- Department of Natural Resources and Parks
  www.kingcounty.gov/forestry

Washington Department of Natural Resources
www.dnr.wa.gov/ search for fire information

Firewise USA
www.firewise.org

Fire Adapted Communities
www.fireadapted.org

ZONE 1 Survivable Space. This area surrounds your home for at least 30 feet. Reduce fuels and provide space for fire fighting equipment. Plants should be carefully spaced and fire resistant.

ZONE 2 30 to 100 feet from the home. Keep trees 10 feet apart. For trees taller than 18 feet, prune lower branches within 10 feet of the ground. Remove highly flammable vegetation such as dead or dying trees and shrubs.

ZONE 3 Within the next 100 feet, thin trees selectively to maintain healthy tree and understory growth.

NOTE: Clearing vegetation may require a permit from the King County Department of Permitting and Environmental Review. For more information call 206-296-6600.

King County Department of Permitting and Environmental Review
35030 SE Douglas, Suite 210
Snoqualmie, WA 98065
206-296-6600 TTY Relay: 711

Department of Natural Resources and Parks
Water and Land Resources Division
201 S Jackson Street, Suite 600
Seattle, WA 98104
206-477-4800 TTY Relay: 711

King County
Department of Permitting and Environmental Review
SURVIVABLE SPACE
Maintain a LEAN, CLEAN, and GREEN safety zone of wildfire defense 30 feet around your home.

Reduce the wildfire threat to your home by managing flammable vegetation.

LEAN
- Prune shrubs and cut back tree branches, especially within 15 feet of your chimney.
- Keep trees and shrubs pruned. Prune trees 6 to 10 feet from the ground while keeping live tree canopy around 1/2 of the total height of the tree.

CLEAN
- Remove all dead plant material from around your home; this includes dead leaves, dry vegetation, and even stacked firewood.
- Take out “ladder fuels,” vegetation between grass and tree limbs. These fuels can carry fire between foliage and structures.
- Maintain your lawn. If brown, mow to 2 inches high. Mow dry grass and weeds.
- Remove dead or dying plant material. Dispose of cuttings and debris by recycling. For recycling locations see http://green.kingcounty.gov/solidwaste.
- Remove flammable plants like ornamental junipers that contain resins, oils, or waxes; and that collect dead needles or leaves within the plant.
- Keep potentially flammable (dry) mulch and landscaping well away from structures. Use a 3-foot wide swath of crushed rock, gravel, or other non-combustible materials around structures.

GREEN
- Plant fire-resistant vegetation that is healthy and green throughout the year.
- Space the trees and shrubs you plant in small groupings or individually and leave enough room between them to reduce the spread of fire.
- Use native plants; they are adapted to our area, usually remain healthier, and are often more fire resistant. For more information see our native plant guide at http://green.kingcounty.gov/gonative.