

CHECKLIST OF HAZARD REDUCTION REQUIREMENTS

THE OVERALL GOAL IS TO ELIMINATE CONTINUOUS VEGETATION THAT COULD POTENTIALLY TRANSMIT FIRE TO A STRUCTURE AND PROVIDE ADEQUATE SPACE FOR FIREFIGHTERS AND EQUIPMENT ACCESS.

REDUCE/MAINTAIN ALL VEGETATION (ORNAMENTAL AND NATIVE) UP TO 200 FEET FROM STRUCTURES (360 DEGREES) OR TO THE PROPERTY LINE WHICHEVER IS LESS.

WITHIN 50 FEET OF A STRUCTURE: LIMIT ORNAMENTAL VEGETATION TO TURF, LOW GROWING GROUNDCOVERS AND INDIVIDUALLY PLANTED TREES AND SHRUBS. KEEP CANOPIES OF THESE SPECIMENS TEN FEET FROM THE STRUCTURE.

PROPERTY OWNERS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR VEGETATION THAT EXISTS ON THEIR PROPERTY ONLY. IN SOME CASES HAZARD REDUCTION MAY NEED TO BE PERFORMED FOR NEIGHBORING STRUCTURES LOCATED WITHIN 200 FEET OF THEIR PROPERTY LINE.

1. SPACE MATURE TREE CANOPIES 30 FEET APART AND SHRUBS 15 FEET APART OR 3 TIMES THEIR WIDTH.
2. PRUNE ALL TREES AND SHRUBS UP OFF THE GROUND 1/3 THEIR HEIGHT OR 20 FEET WHICHEVER IS LESS.
3. ELIMINATE ALL DEAD MATERIAL WITHIN LIVE VEGETATION, REMOVE DEAD PLANTS ENTIRELY.
4. PROVIDE VERTICAL SPACING BETWEEN THE TOPS OF SHRUBS AND THE LOWER LIMBS OF TREES, 10 FEET OR 2 TIMES THE HEIGHT OF THE SHRUB.*
5. WEED WHIP GRASSES AND OTHER SOFT STEMMED ANNUAL WEEDS TO 3 INCHES IN HEIGHT ONCE DRY.
6. ELIMINATE ALL VEGETATION/VINES GROWING ON STRUCTURES AND/OR DIRECTLY BENEATH EAVES.
7. CUT BACK ANY PLANT MATERIAL TO A DISTANCE OF 10 FEET FROM A CHIMNEY OUTLET.
8. CUT BACK FLAMMABLE VEGETATION 10 FEET FROM ROADSIDES, PUBLIC AND PRIVATE.
9. ROADWAYS, PUBLIC OR PRIVATE SHOULD HAVE 16' OF VERTICAL CLEARANCE TO ALLOW FIREFIGHTER AND EQUIPMENT ACCESS. ADDITIONAL CLEARANCE CAN BE REQUIRED (CLEAR TO THE SKY).

10. REMOVE ALL DEBRIS FROM ROOF TOPS AND RAIN GUTTERS.
11. ALL CUT MATERIAL LIVE OR DEAD, MUST BE EITHER REMOVED FROM THE SITE OR CHIPPED AND SPREAD AS MULCH TO A DEPTH NO MORE THAN 6 INCHES. DO NOT LEAVE PILES.
12. PROPERTIES WITH LIQUID PROPANE TANKS MUST CLEAR AROUND THE TANKS ALL FLAMMABLE VEGETATION WITHIN 10 FEET.
13. PROVIDE THREE FEET OF CLEARANCE AROUND ALL FIRE HYDRANTS.
14. COMBUSTIBLE MATERIALS SUCH AS BUT NOT LIMITED TO FIREWOOD, MANURE AND COMPOST SHALL BE STORED 30 FEET FROM STRUCTURES AND CLEARANCE OF ALL FLAMMABLE VEGETATION SURROUNDING THEM TO 10 FEET.

*IT IS ALMOST ALWAYS BETTER TO REDUCE THE SIZE OF A SHRUB THAN TO LIFT UP THE CANOPY OF A TREE. EVALUATE EACH TREE INDIVIDUALLY AND ASSESS THE HAZARD IN RELATION TO STRUCTURES AND FIREFIGHTER AND EQUIPMENT ACCESS.