

Checklist of Actions

- ❑ Identify any protected species, erosion concerns or other special considerations before beginning work
- ❑ Remove all dead plants and material that is not mulch. This includes dead material that drapes over ground cover, all dead bark, leaves, needles, parts of vines, and branches. Remove dead material from roof, gutters, deck, patios, etc.
- ❑ Mow grass to a height of 4 inches within 70-ft of structure, under trees and within 6-ft of dripline of tree canopy within 200 ft of any structure. Mow annual grasses before they set seed; mow perennial grasses and wildflowers after they set seed.
- ❑ Remove volunteer invasive trees (Aleppo pine, eucalyptus, pepper trees).
- ❑ Prune to remove all small branches of trees (<3 inches diameter) to 8-foot height, or 2.5 times the height of understory plants, whichever is higher. Prune lower branches of short trees to 1/3rd the tree height, up to 8-feet.
- ❑ Cut shrubs under trees to 18 inches or shorter. This includes all shrubs under tree canopies and within 6-ft of tree canopy. Alternatively, where shrubs are to be used for privacy under trees, trees should be pruned of lower tree branches to a height 2.5 times the height of the shrub.
- ❑ Outside of tree canopies, create groupings of shrubs by cutting the shrubs between patches to create an open area 2 times wider than the plants are tall, with a minimum of 6-feet between groupings. Select to retain sage (because they are protected), or other unusual plants.
- ❑ For shrubs retained for screening, shorten shrubs to be no taller than the item to be screened.
- ❑ Trim shrub's volume so that it is thin and wispy. Prune shrubs starting from the edge of the building out, so that the distance between the shrub and wall is maximized. A distance of 5 feet is advisable.
- ❑ Leave large logs on site if 100-ft away from structures and 6-ft from under any tree canopy. Isolate logs from kindling-sized branches (<1" in size). Remove log if it crumbles when kicked.
- ❑ Dispose of vegetation from landscaping offsite. Otherwise, chip and spread cut materials within the fuel management zone, or haul from site.
- ❑ Maintain at least 50% cover on soil, with any bare patch smaller than 15 sq. ft. Cover with mulch or broadcast native seed by hand on exposed patches before the end of the day if working during wet conditions, otherwise shortly after October.