REDUCING WILDFIRE RISK IN YOUR COMMUNITY

How to prepare your home to reduce the risk of loss due to wildfire

WILDLAND URBAN INTERFACE ASSESSMENT FORM

Homeowner Name		**Latitude**	
Street Address of Primary Structure		**Longitude**	
City / State		**Legal Location**	
Homeowner Address (if different)		**Tax Lot Number**	
# of Occupants		**# of Additional Structures**	

SITE:

BUILDING TYPE:

- Primary Single-Family Residence ☐
- Seasonal Single-Family Residence ☐
- Out Building (Storage, Garage, Etc.) ☐
- Residential Care Facility ☐
- Lodge/ Hotel/ Camp ☐
- Commercial Facility ☐
- Other (_____) ☐

ADDRESS CLEARLY VISIBLE:

- Yes ☐
- No ☐

LOCKED GATE:

- No ☐
- Yes, and Fire Dept has access ☐
- Yes, and Fire Dept does not have access ☐

DRIVEWAY WIDTH:

- 16 FT or more ☐
- 12-15 FT ☐
- 12 FT or less ☐
- Inaccessible ☐

DRIVEWAY LENGTH:

- <50 FT. ☐
- 50 to 150 FT ☐
- 150 to 500 FT ☐
- >500 FT ☐

INGRESS & EGRESS:

- Two or more roads in and out ☐
- One or more turn-around or pull out for fire vehicles ☐
- One road in and out ☐
- Access Risk (See comments) ☐
- Escape Risk (See Comments) ☐

BRIDGE ON ACCESS:

- Yes ☐
- No ☐

BRIDGE LIMITATIONS:

- Unknown Limitations ☐
- 10,000# Limitation (5 ton) ☐
- 20,000# Limitation (10 ton) ☐
- 50,000# Limitation (25 ton) ☐
- Greater than 50,000# ☐

DRIVEWAY HEIGHT:

- >14 FT Clearance ☐
- 12-14 FT Clearance ☐
- 10-12 FT Clearance ☐
- <10 FT Clearance ☐

DRIVEWAY/ ROAD SURFACE:

- All weather road (Paved or Gravel) <10% grade ☐
- All weather road (Paved or Gravel)> 10% grade ☐
- Dry weather road (Dirt or 4WD) <10% grade ☐
- Dry weather road (Dirt or 4WD) >10% grade ☐

STRUCTURE:

ROOF MATERIAL:
- Non-combustible – metal, slate, tile, or clay ☐
- Non-combustible – composite or asphalt shingles ☐
- Other non-combustible material ☐
- Combustible – pressure treated wood shakes / shingles ☐
- Combustible – untreated wood shakes / shingles ☐

EAVES:
- Boxed with non-combustible material ☐
- Boxed with combustible material ☐
- Not Boxed ☐
- No Eves, Not used ☐

SIDING:
- Non-combustible (Hardiplank, Stucco, Metal, Etc.) ☐
- Large diameter logs ☐
- Combustible (T-11, Plywood, Wood Shake, Vinyl) ☐
- Other ☐

WINDOWS:
- Triple Paned ☐
- Double Paned ☐
- Single Paned ☐
- Metal screening on all windows ☐
- No screens or plastic screens on windows ☐

ROOF CLEANLINESS:
- No combustible material observed on roof ☐
- Scattered combustible material observed on roof ☐
- Large amounts of combustible material on roof ☐
- Gutters clogged with combustible material ☐

VENTS (EAVES / FOUNDATION):
- Baffled or covered with 1/8" or smaller metal mesh ☐
- Covered with 1/4" metal mesh ☐
- Not Protected ☐
- Not Used ☐

OTHER OUTSIDE OPENINGS:
- Properly covered ☐
- Not covered / Improperly covered ☐

DECKS/ PORCHES /BALCONIES:
- Non-combustible / Fire resistant materials used ☐
- Combustible wood material used ☐
- Decks treated with nonflammable preservatives ☐
- Deck screened or boxed in ☐
- Deck not screened or boxed in ☐
- No flammable material stored on or under deck ☐
- Flammable material stored on or under deck during fire season or when away from home ☐

FUELS:

TREE CANOPY WITHIN 30 FEET:
- None ☐
- Separated ☐
- Continuous ☐

SURFACE VEGETATION WITHIN 30 FEET:
- Lawn, mowed or non-combustible material ☐
- Dead and down woody material (light) ☐
- Dead and down woody material (heavy) ☐
- Wild grass, not mowed/cut ☐
- Brush ☐

LADDER FUELS WITHIN 30 FEET:
- Absent ☐
- Scattered ☐
- Abundant ☐

COMBUSTIBLES / WOODPILES:
- None or >30ft from structure ☐
- <30ft from structure ☐

TREE CANOPY 30 FEET TO 100 FEET:
- None ☐
- Separated ☐
- Continuous ☐

SURFACE VEGETATION 30 TO 100 FEET:
- Lawn, mowed or non-combustible material ☐
- Brush ☐
- Dead and down woody material (light) ☐
- Dead and down woody material (heavy) ☐
- Wild grass, not mowed/cut ☐

LADDER FUELS 30 TO 100 FEET:
- Absent ☐
- Scattered ☐
- Abundant ☐

CONTINUOUS FUEL PATH TO STRUCTURE:
- Yes ☐
- No ☐

Immediate Zone (0 to 5 Feet) Defensible Space Check Off:

Roofs and gutters cleaned of dead leaves, debris and pine needles that could catch embers	☐ Yes	No ☐
No flammable material within 5 feet of the structure's exterior walls; nothing stored under decks or porches	☐ Yes	No ☐

Intermediate Zone (5 to 30 Feet) Defensible Space Check Off:

Propane tank located at least 30 feet from structure; vegetation cleared from under and 10' around the tank	☐ Yes	No ☐
Any surface vegetation within the 30-foot area is lean and green & limited	☐ Yes	No ☐
Fire resistant shrubs used within the 30-foot area and trimmed annually	☐ Yes	No ☐
Living trees are pruned up to 6 to 10 feet from the ground, not to exceed 1/3 of overall tree height	☐ Yes	No ☐
Lawns and native grasses mowed to a height of 4 inches and watered (green)	☐ Yes	No ☐
All dead plant material and accumulations of ground litter removed from the 30-foot area	☐ Yes	No ☐
No wood storage found within 30 feet of the structure	☐ Yes	No ☐
No wood fencing connected to or within 30 feet of the structure	☐ Yes	No ☐
Canopy of mature trees extends no closer than 10 feet to the edge of the structure	☐ Yes	No ☐
Trees are spaced to have 15-20 feet between crowns (greater spacing required on slopes)	☐ Yes	No ☐

Extended Zone (30 to 100 Feet) Defensible Space Check Off:

Space between ornamentals and shrubs at least 2 times their mature height (greater spacing on slopes)	☐ Yes	No ☐
Living trees are pruned up to 6 to 10 feet from the ground, not to exceed 1/3 of overall tree height	☐ Yes	No ☐
Removed all dead trees, limbs, and brush, and removed any additional ladder fuels	☐ Yes	No ☐
Cut or mowed all grass and brush in this zone to a height of 8 inches	☐ Yes	No ☐
Trees spaced to have at least 6-12 feet between crowns (greater spacing required on slopes)	☐ Yes	No ☐
Removed vegetation adjacent to storage sheds or other outbuildings	☐ Yes	No ☐

TOPOGRAPHY, UTILITIES AND FIRE PROTECTION

PREDOMINANT ASPECT:

- Flat ☐
- North ☐
- East ☐
- South ☐
- West ☐

SLOPE WITHIN 150' OF STRUCTURE:

- Flat ☐
- 0-10% ☐
- 10-25% ☐
- >25% ☐
- Gullied ☐

UTILITIES & GAS:

- Electrical connections below ground ☐
- Electrical connections above ground ☐
- Gas shut off easily accessible ☐
- Propane tanks > 30' & no flammable material w/in 10' ☐
- Propane tanks < 30' or flammable material w/in 10' ☐

POSITION OF STRUCTURE ON SLOPE:

- Valley bottom or lower slope ☐
- Mid-slope ☐
- Upper slope ☐
- Ridge top ☐
- Aligned with dangerous topography ☐
- Adequate setback from edge of slope ☐

WATER SOURCES:

- Hydrant or water source within 500 Ft of structure ☐
- Hydrant or water source within 750 Ft of structure ☐
- Hydrant or water source within 1000 Ft ☐
- Water source available within ½ mile of structure ☐
- No water sources available to structure ☐

FIXED FIRE PROTECTION:

- NFPA In-Home Sprinkler System ☐
- Home Hose System ☐
- Homeowner installed water storage tank ☐
- Residential Well ☐
- Swimming Pool ☐
- Pond, Lake, River or Stream ☐
- None ☐

FIRE STATION LOCATION:

- Fire Station < 5 miles from structure ☐
- Fire Station > 5 miles from Structure ☐

FIREFIGHTER SAFETY

These Yes/No questions refer to items that present serious risk to responders. Some of these items can be present without being a risk. Only mark yes if they are hazardous and create significant risk to firefighters. Provide more details about any "Yes" answers in the Notes.

Access Risk to Firefighters *(soft roads, narrow entrance or driveway, weak bridge, etc.)*	☐ Yes	No ☐
Overhead Power Lines Risk To Firefighters	☐ Yes	No ☐
Propane or Gas Risk to Firefighter	☐ Yes	No ☐
Poor Escape Route Risk to Firefighter *(one-way in/out, inadequate turnouts, no turn-around, etc.)*	☐ Yes	No ☐
Solar Electricity Risk to Firefighter	☐ Yes	No ☐
Haz Mat Risk to Firefighters	☐ Yes	No ☐
Pets / Animals Risk to Firefighters *	☐ Yes	No ☐

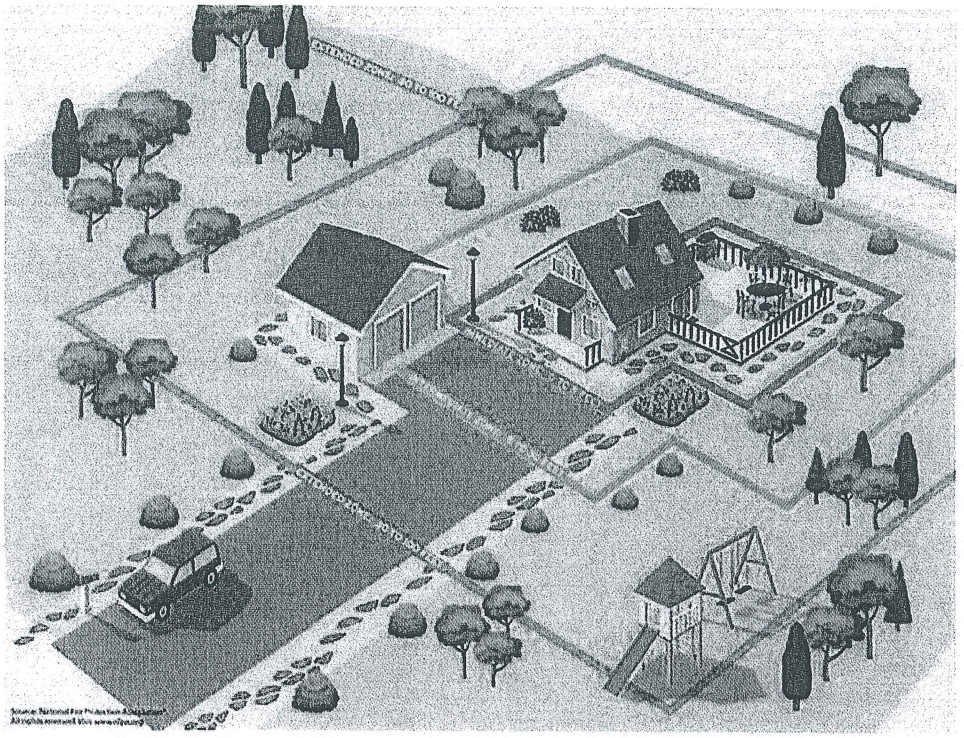
** This does not refer to a mean dog. This refers to LOTS of animals, poisonous snakes, horses and livestock, dog mushing teams, etc. Only mark yes if the pets or animals would be a significant problem for firefighters.*

NOTES / COMMENTS:

Please note gaps in cell service or radio coverage in addition to any firefighter safety risks and suggestions for improving defensible space.	
Assessed by:	*Date:*

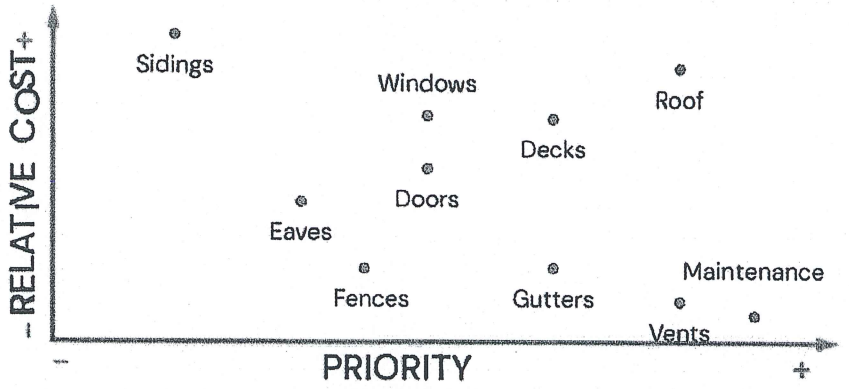
CONTACT INFORMATION:

Oregon Department of Forestry	Firewise Coordinator -	Rural Fire Dept Fire Chief -	OSU Extension Service
United States Forest Service	Volunteer Fire Dept Fire Chief -	OR State Fire Marshall	



Why is defensible space important?

The key to protecting homes and properties from fire in the WUI starts with the home. The Los Angeles County Fire Department estimates that embers cause the ignition of more than half of the homes that burn in wildfires. Fortifying or retrofitting a home can be the best defense against ember intrusion. Whether building a new home or retrofitting an existing one, the website details a number of things you can do.



Relative cost and priority level of home hardening features for fire-resistance. ©Resource Conservation District of the Santa Monica Mountains house

In addition, practicing appropriate landscape fuel management (ornamental or native), land maintenance, and thoughtfully selecting plants for a home's defensible space zone are the next significant actions homeowners can take. The zone that contributes most to structure survival is within the first sixty feet from the home. The website's section on home landscape management provides clear guidance with resources that are consistent statewide.