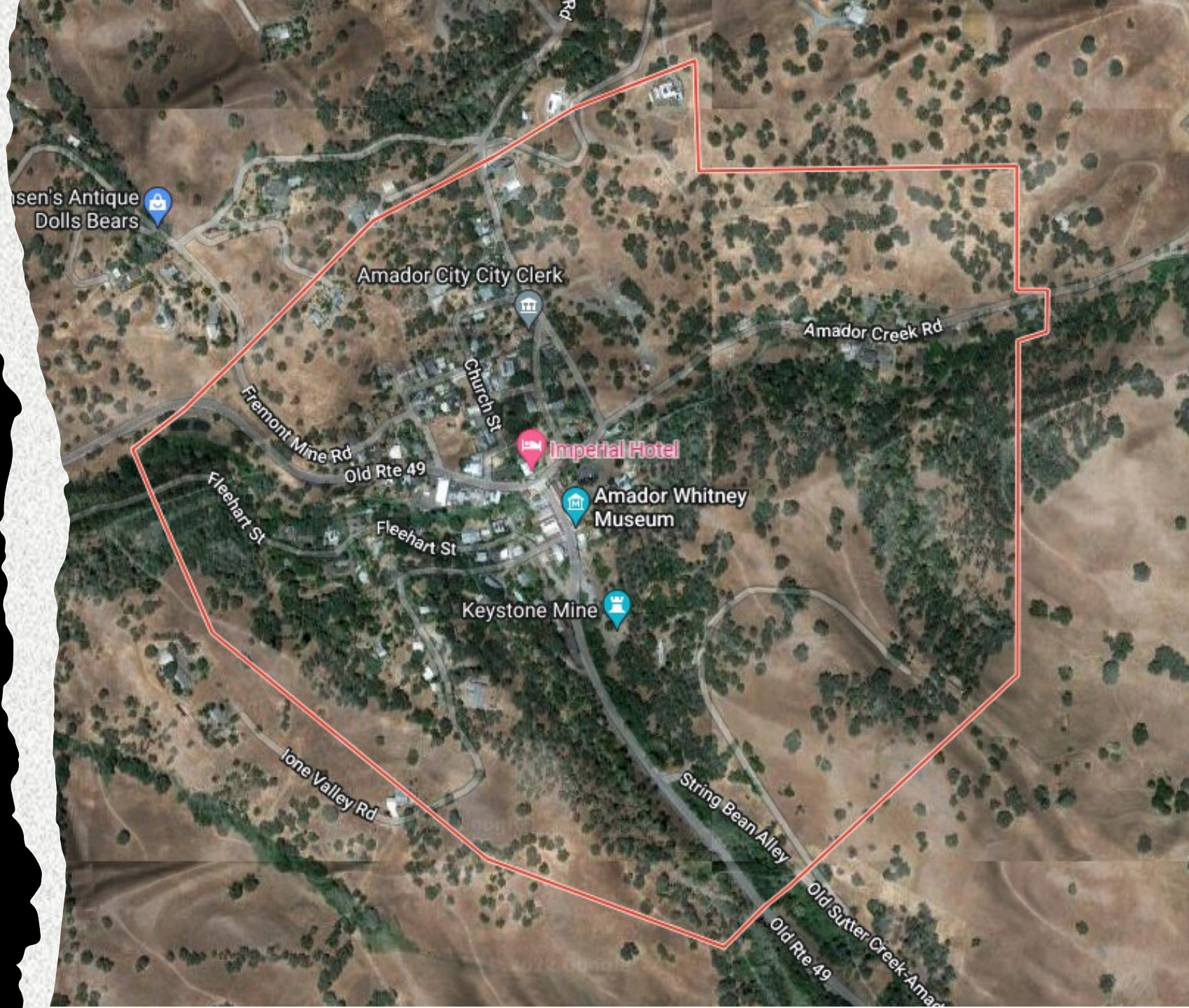


Amador City Fire Prevention and Fuel Mitigation Meeting

February 26th 2022



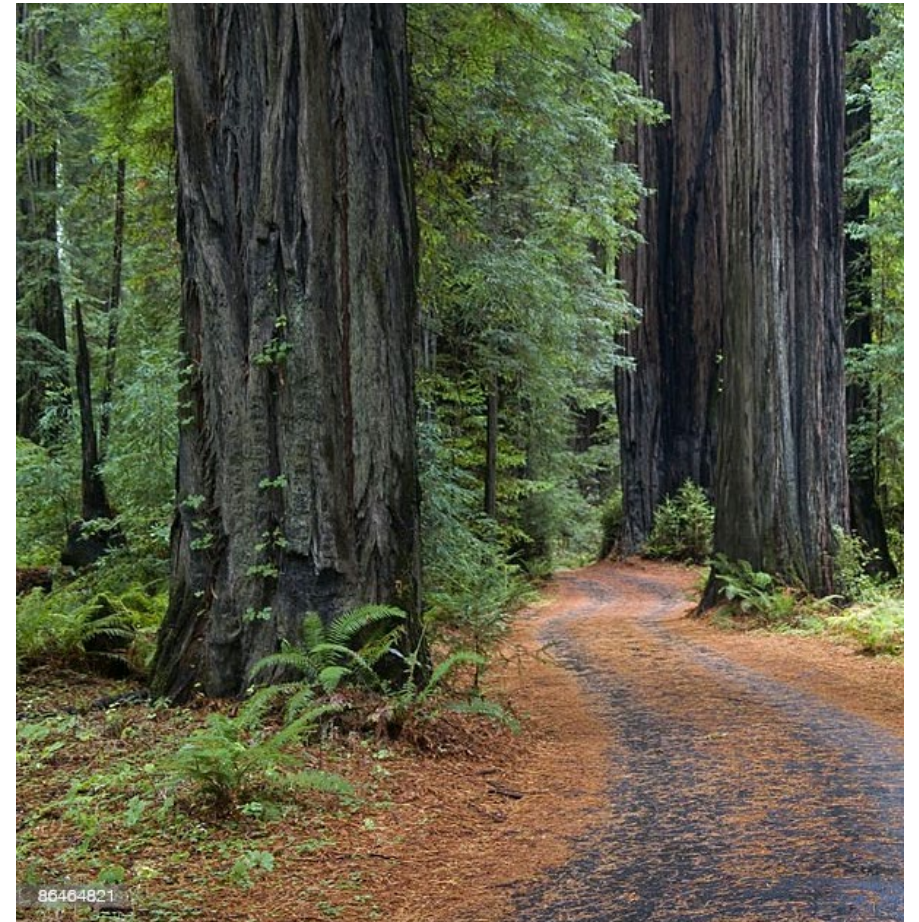
Climate change and suppression tactics are critical factors increasing fires

Drought, fire suppression techniques and changes in land use have made California forests denser and more susceptible to fast-moving wildfires



Climate change and suppression tactics are critical factors increasing fires

Researchers at UC Berkeley, UC Davis and the U.S. Geological Survey compared tree surveys conducted between 1929 and 1936 with surveys conducted between 2001 and 2010. They found that large-tree density fell across California, with declines of up to 50% in the Sierra Nevada highlands, the south and central coast ranges, and Northern California. At the same time, the density of smaller trees increased dramatically.



Climate change and suppression tactics are critical factors increasing fires

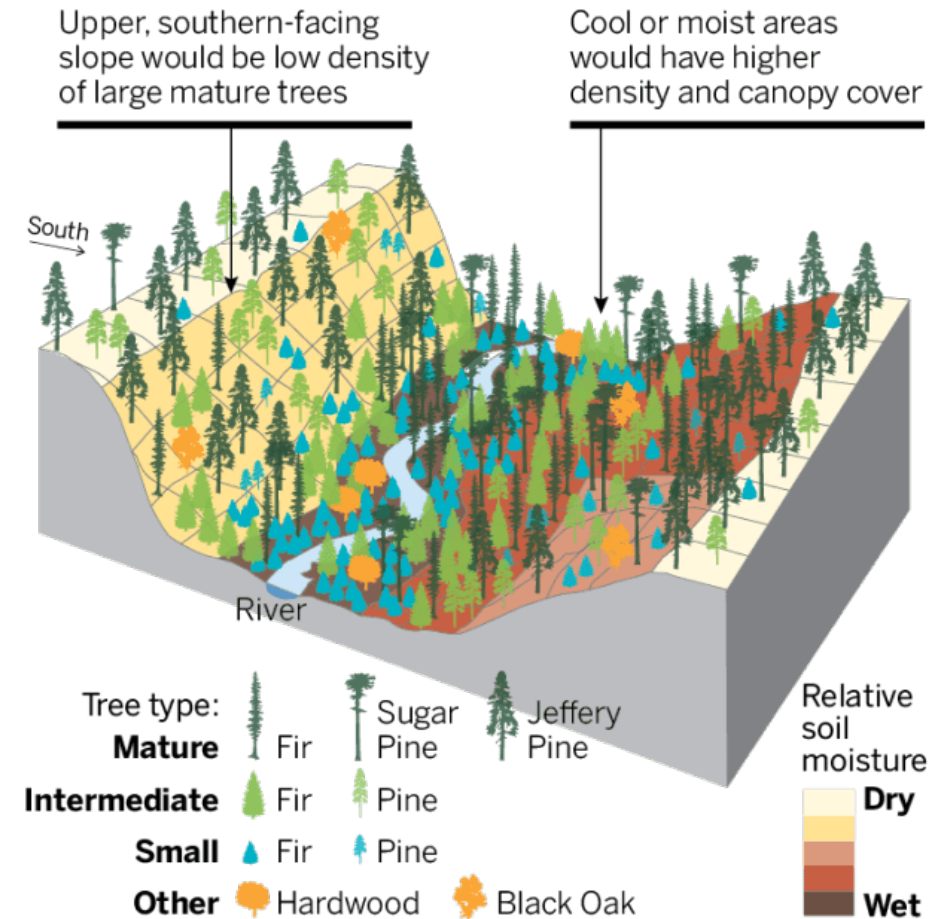


Researchers found that densities of small trees increased in almost every region of California surveyed. Small-tree density within the Sierra Nevada highlands more than doubled, and it increased over 50% in the Sierra Nevada foothills, the north coast region and the transverse and peninsular ranges.

A denser forest allows fire to travel faster, causing more devastation, he said. After a fire, new, smaller trees grow that are more likely to catch fire, and the cycle continues.

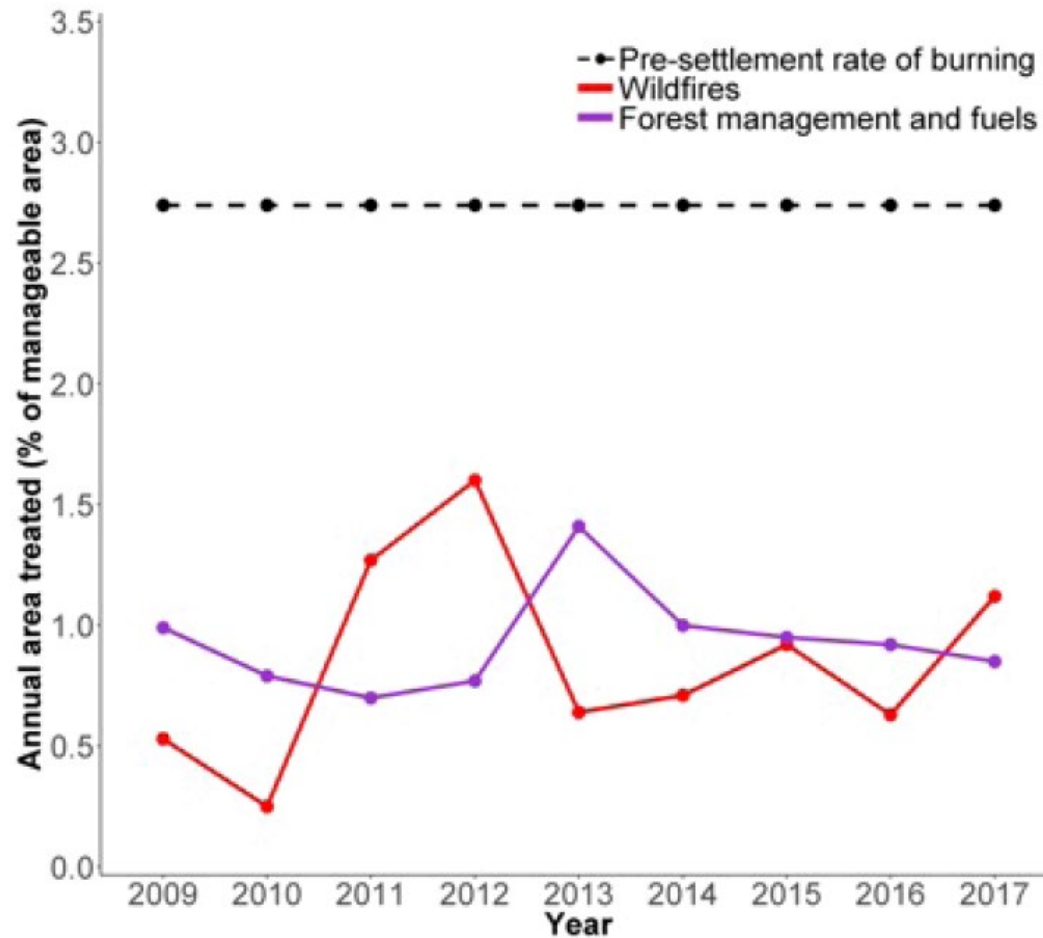
MAINTAINING HEALTHY FORESTS

Forests should have a diversity of species, with tree density based on available water. Here's an example of a healthy forest using precise thinning and managed burning.



Source: Malcom North, UC Davis ecologist

BAY AREA NEWS GROUP

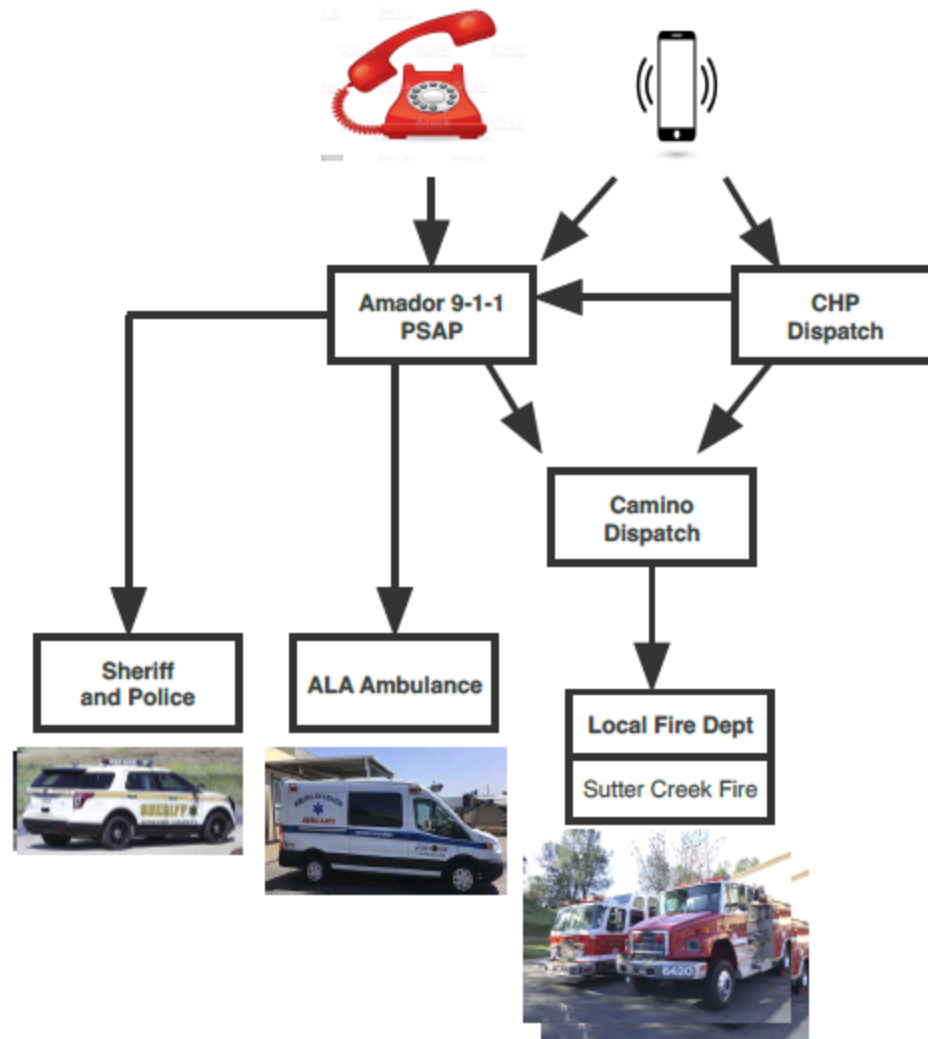




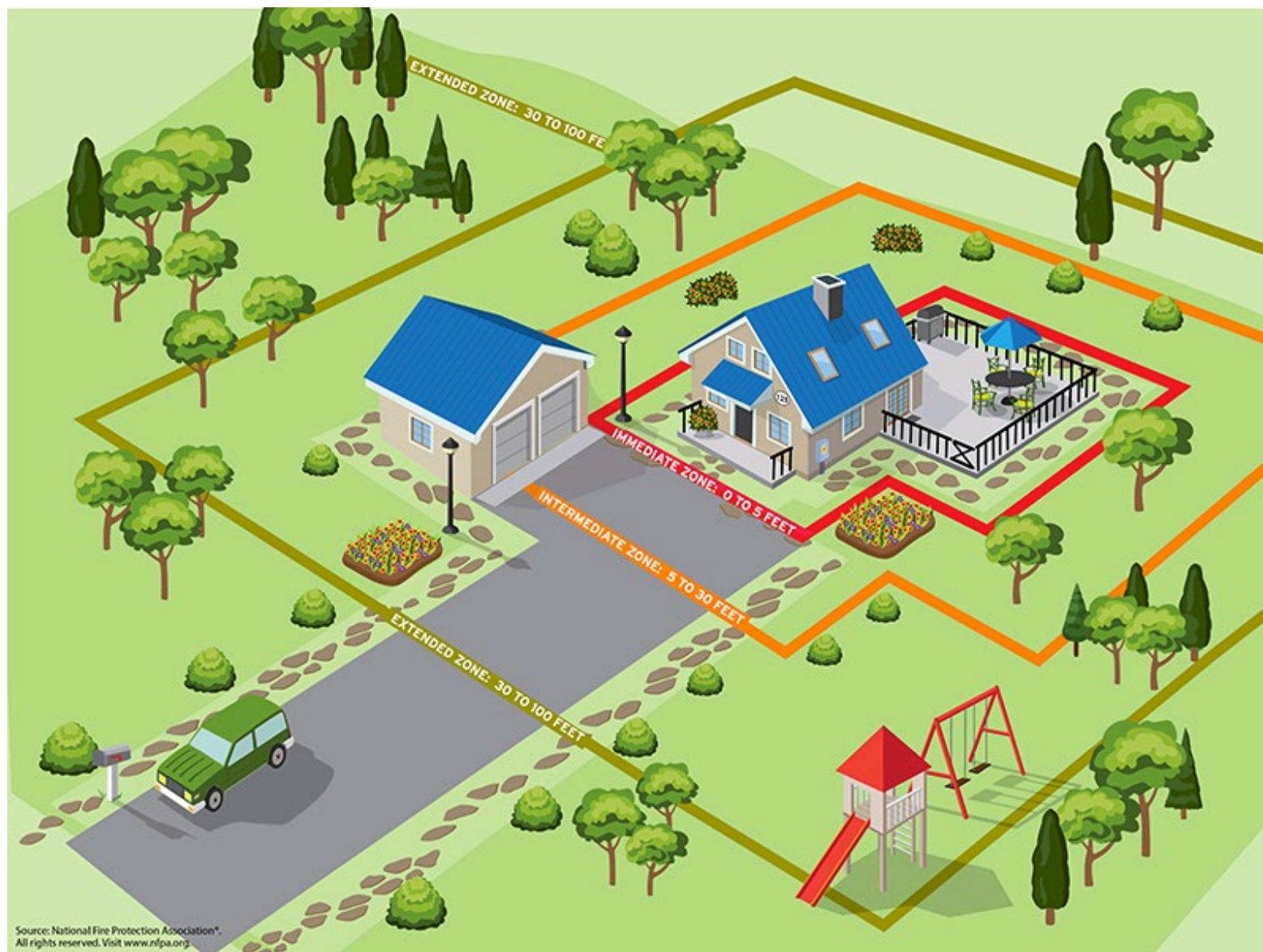
Before

After





Calling for Help
Amador City



Source: National Fire Protection Association*.
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Immediate zone

The home and the area 0-5' from the furthest attached exterior point of the home; defined as a non-combustible area.

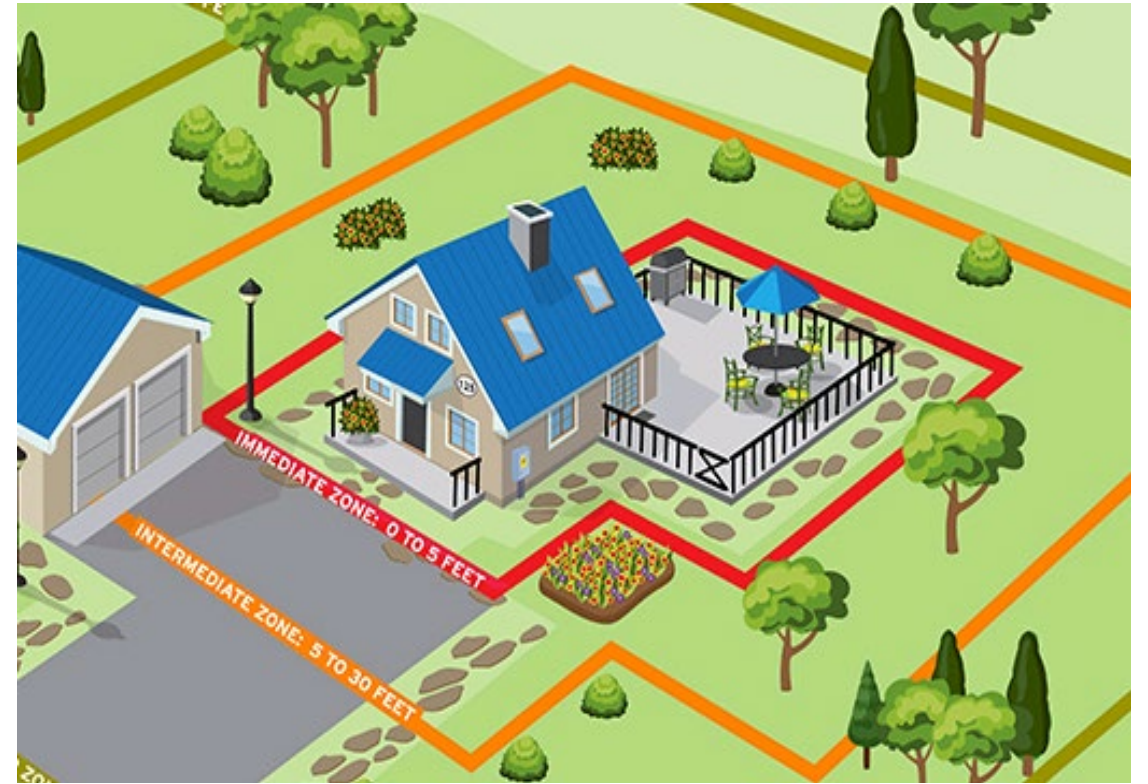
- Clean roofs and gutters of dead leaves, debris and pine needles that could catch embers.
- Replace or repair any loose or missing shingles or roof tiles to prevent ember penetration.
- Reduce embers that could pass through vents in the attic and eaves by installing 1/8 inch metal mesh screening.
- Repair or replace damaged or loose window screens and any broken windows Screen or box-in areas below patios and decks with wire mesh to prevent debris and combustible materials from accumulating.
- Move any flammable material away from wall exteriors – mulch, flammable plants, leaves and needles, firewood piles – anything that can burn. Remove anything stored underneath decks or porches



Intermediate zone

5-30' from the furthest exterior point of the home. Clear vegetation from under large stationary propane tanks.

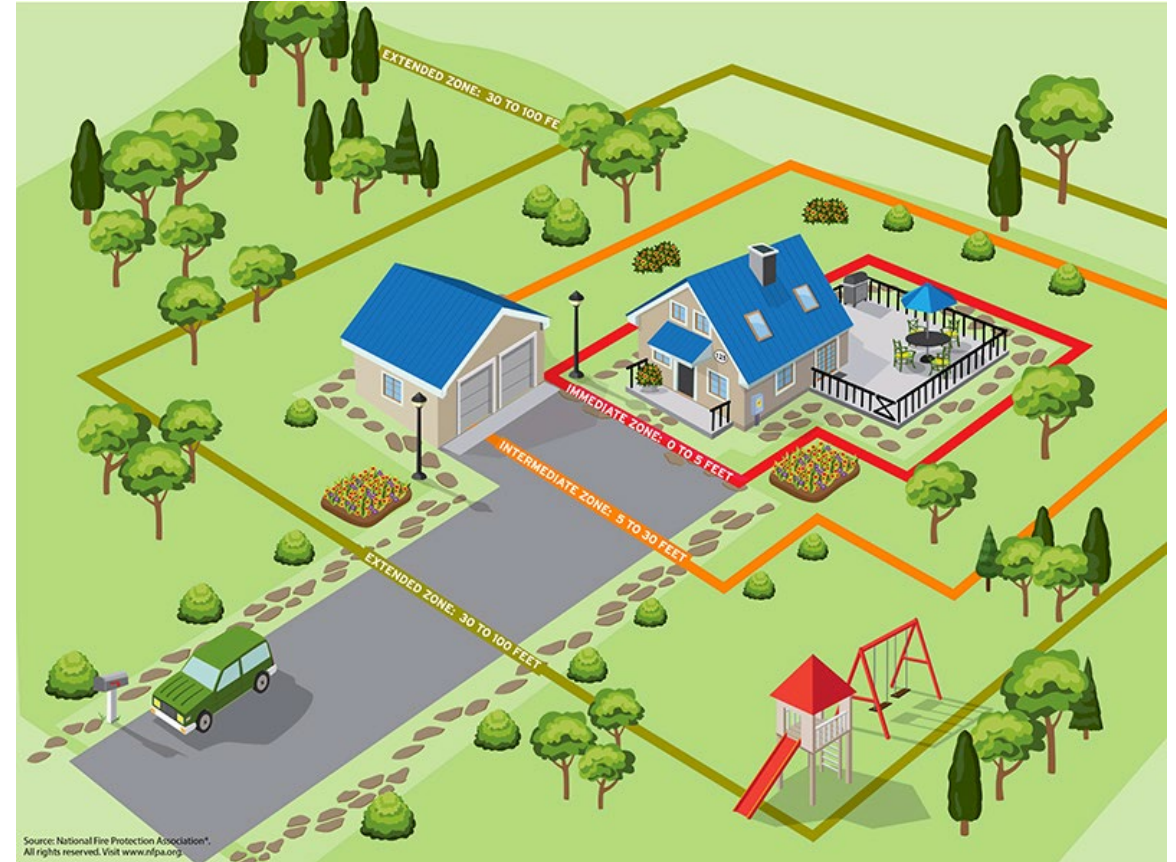
- Create fuel breaks with driveways, walkways/paths, patios, and decks.
- Keep lawns and native grasses mowed to a height of four inches.
- Remove ladder fuels (vegetation under trees) so a surface fire cannot reach the crowns. Prune trees up to six to ten feet from the ground
- Space trees to have a minimum of eighteen feet between crowns with the distance increasing with the percentage of slope.
- Tree placement should be planned to ensure the mature canopy is no closer than ten feet to the edge of the structure.
- Tree and shrubs in this zone should be limited to small clusters of a few each to break up the continuity of the vegetation across the landscape.



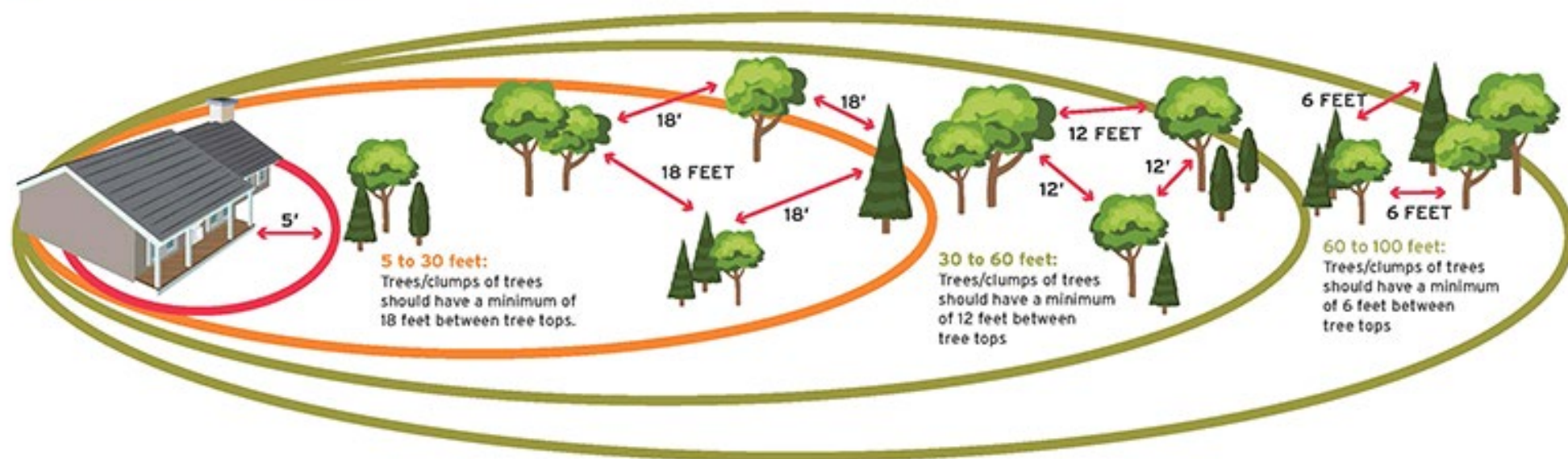
Extended zone

30-100 feet, out to 200 feet. Landscaping – the goal here is not to eliminate fire but to interrupt fire's path and keep flames smaller and on the ground.

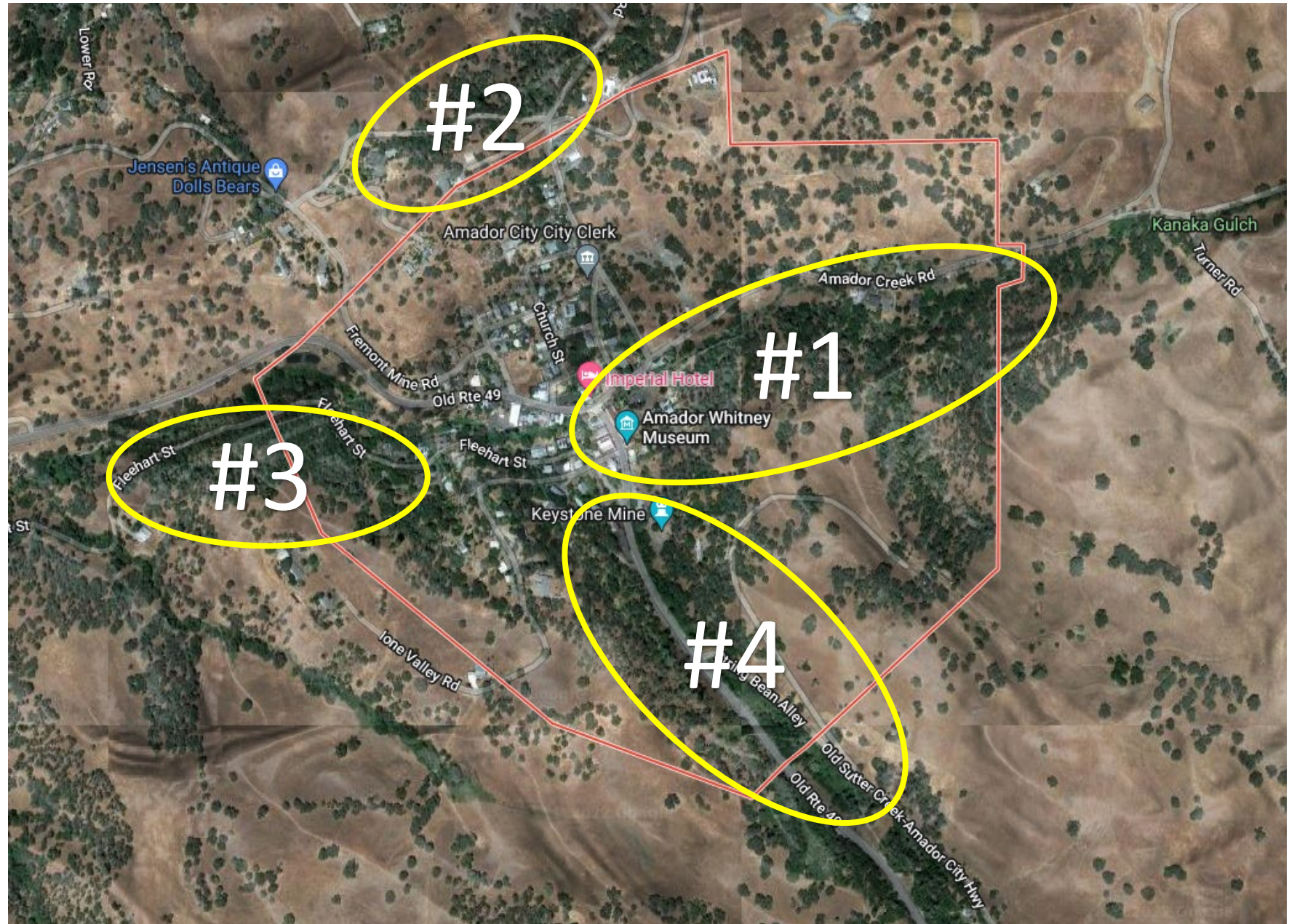
- Dispose of heavy accumulations of ground litter/debris.
- Remove dead plant and tree material.
- Remove small conifers growing between mature trees.
- Remove vegetation adjacent to storage sheds or other outbuildings within this area.
- Trees 30 to 60 feet from the home should have at least 12 feet between canopy tops.
- Trees 60 to 100 feet from the home should have at least 6 feet between the canopy tops.



TREE SPACING



Amador City
Fire Prevention
and
Fuel Mitigation
Long Term
Planning Areas



Thinning and
removal of trees on
East side of Amador
City



← East

Removal and spacing of trees
on slopes and in draws to
help eliminate ember
production North of the city



North
↓



Removal and spacing of trees and brush in the creek area West of the city.

West →



Removal, burning and spacing of trees and brush in the creek area South of the city into Stringbean Alley.



South

Tools to help us forward



Green Waste Bin



HOME IGNITION ZONE CHECKLIST

SIMPLE STEPS FROM ROOF TO FOUNDATION TO MAKE A HOME SAFER FROM EMBERS AND RADIANT HEAT

- Clean roofs and gutters of dead leaves, debris and pine needles that could catch embers
- Replace or repair any loose or missing shingles or roof tiles to prevent ember penetration
- Reduce embers that could pass through vents in the eaves by installing 1/8 inch metal mesh screening
- Clean debris from exterior attic vents and install 1/8 inch metal mesh screening to reduce embers
- Repair or replace damaged or loose window screens and any broken windows
- Screen or box-in areas below patios and decks with wire mesh to prevent debris and combustible materials from accumulating
- Move any flammable material away from wall exteriors - mulch, flammable plants, leaves and needles, firewood piles - anything that can burn
- Remove anything stored underneath decks or porches

VISIT [FIREWISE.ORG](https://www.firewise.org) FOR MORE DETAILS

Image by NFPA, with funding from USDA Forest Service



Tools to help us forward





Questions ?

