



# Help Your Home Survive a Wildfire

[www.ocfa.org](http://www.ocfa.org)

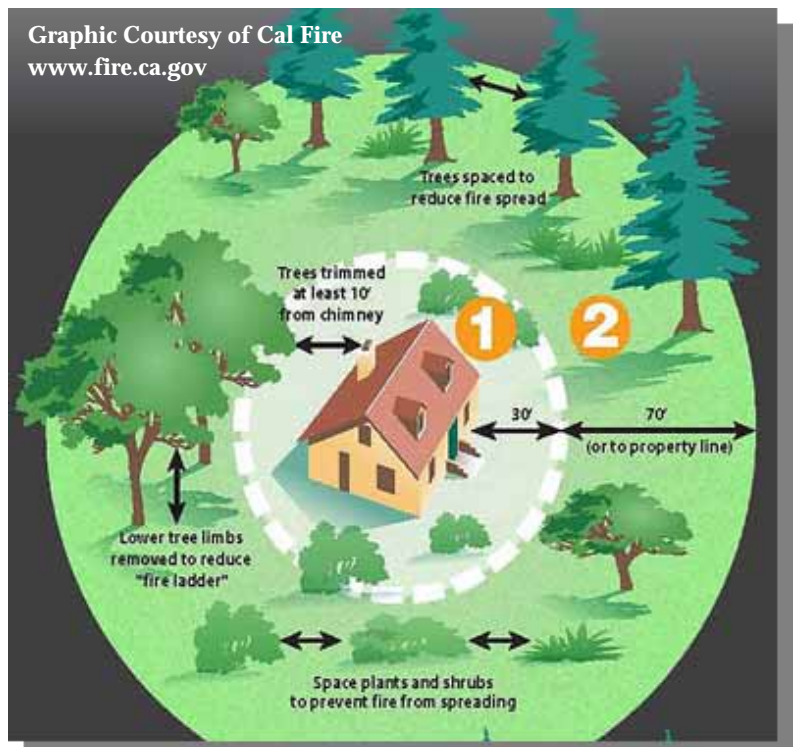
In an effort to assist Canyon residents to prepare for the hot, summer months ahead, the Orange County Fire Authority (OCFA) is offering a two pronged approach to increase the chances your home will survive a wildfire. The OCFA will provide residents with a "How to Make Your Home Fire Safe Homeowners Checklist" and a defensible space inspection as well as a construction feature assessment. Taking these steps can improve the protection of your home as well as provide firefighters with a place to take a stand.

## What is Defensible Space?

Defensible space is an area around a structure in which vegetation has been trimmed, cut and, where necessary, replaced with more fire resistant plants to reduce the intensity of wildfire against the structure. Defensible space helps ensure your house is more likely to withstand a wildfire as vegetation is managed in a manner that slows the fire and reduces flame length and heat intensity..

*Join in the  
Canyon Clean Sweep  
May 31-June 1  
and  
June 7-8.*

*For more information  
call (714) 573-6059 or  
visit [www.ocfa.org](http://www.ocfa.org).*



# Phased Approach to Canyon Community Outreach

**Phase 1** – The OCFA will provide residents with a “How to Make Your Home Fire Safe Homeowner Checklist” that focuses on the outside of your residence. We encourage you to review the list and be proactive in addressing the six areas around your home that will increase its chance of survivability. Phase 1 will be completed prior to the Canyon Clean Sweep so that everyone can assess their property, perform necessary defensible space maintenance and/or upgrades, and dispose of any dry cuttings.

**Phase 2** – OCFA firefighters will be providing residents with a defensible space inspection and a construction feature assessment that will be completed during their annual wildland inspection. The construction feature assessment form identifies construction deficiencies as they relate to current code requirements for building in the urban wildland interface. This assessment provides recommendations only. The goal of the assessment is to increase your awareness and encourage proactive measures that will increase the chance of your home surviving a wildfire. Defensible space alone is not enough.

## What Precautions Should Be Taken When Maintaining Defensible Space?

- 🧑‍🔧 Use tools with non metallic blades to eliminate sparks.
- 🧑‍🔧 Have a garden hose available and turned on while operating all power tools.
- 🧑‍🔧 Dispose of cuttings and debris promptly to reduce the amount of fuel on property.
- 🧑‍🔧 **Do not cut during a red flag warning or dry windy days.** During a red flag warning and on dry windy days the vegetation fuel moisture is lower than normal, reducing ignition temperatures and increasing the chance of fire.



***The Defensible Space Inspections and Construction Feature Assessments will begin after the Completion of Canyon Clean Sweep!***