



CONTACT

FIRE HAZARD ABATEMENT



(909) 884-4056



598 S. Tippecanoe Ave. San Bernardino, CA 92408



sbcfire.org/ofm

EMAIL UPDATES

Scan the QR code to sign up for email updates to stay informed about our Fire Hazard Abatement program.

- Information on Upcoming Seasonal
- Surveys/Inspections
- Property Maintenance Tips
- Ordinance Changes/Updates



SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY OFFICE OF THE FIRE MARSHAL

The Office of the Fire Marshal (OFM) has a unique position within the Fire Department as the Inspection, Investigation, and Regulatory function of the San Bernardino County Fire Department.

What We Offer

Community Safety

The Community Safety Division of the Office of the Fire Marshal is dedicated to fostering a secure environment through education, engineering, and enforcement of fire codes.

Hazmat-CUPA

The Hazardous Materials Section of the San Bernardino County Fire Protection District is designated by the State Secretary for Environmental Protection as the Certified Unified Program Agency or "CUPA" for the County of San Bernardino to focus the management of specific environmental programs at the local government level.

The San Bernardino County Fire Protection District Household Hazardous Waste is committed to providing safe and efficient hazardous waste management services. The ultimate objective is to protect health, natural resources and the environment.

FIRE HAZARD REDUCTION TIPS



Defensible Space

- Defensible space slows or stops wildfires near your home.
- Keep 0–5 ft completely clear of anything flammable.
- Thin and space vegetation from 5–30 ft.
- Remove ladder fuels and thin trees from 30–100 ft.
- It also gives firefighters room to safely defend your property.

Preventing Wildfires

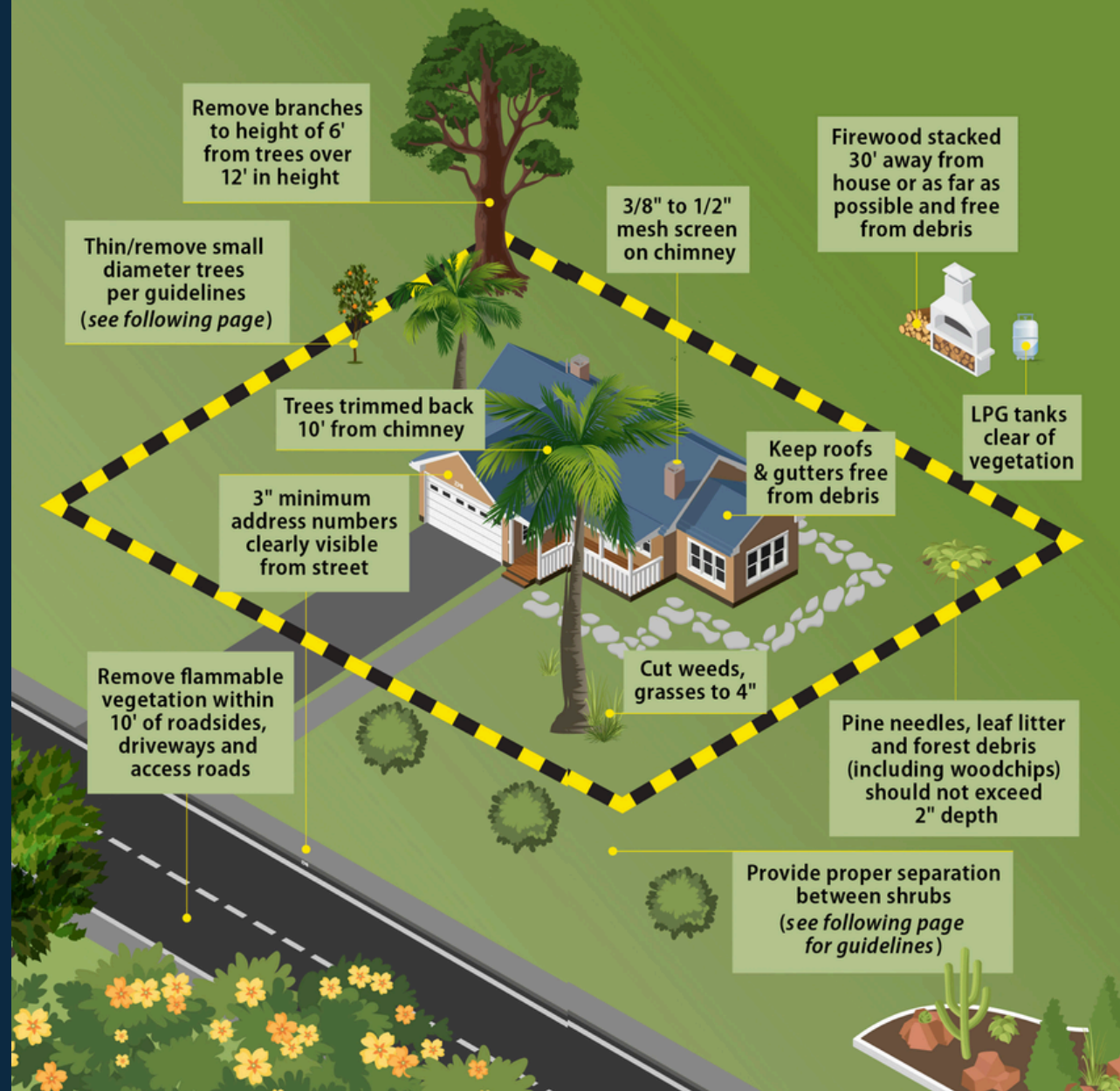
- Clear dry leaves, needles, and debris from roofs and gutters.
- Keep 5 feet around your home free of plants and mulch.
- Store firewood at least 30 feet from structures, and keep it at least 5 feet from property lines.
- Screen chimneys and vents with 1/8" mesh to stop embers.
- Cut weeds and grasses to 4 inches or below.

Home Hardening

- Install ember-resistant vents to block flying embers.
- Use Class A fire-rated roofing materials.
- Enclose eaves and soffits to prevent ember intrusion.
- Replace wood fencing near the house with non-combustible material.
- Keep dual-pane or tempered-glass windows to resist radiant heat.

DEFENSIBLE SPACE

something we can all live with





Big Bear Fire Department Defensible Space Requirements

WITHIN 15 FEET OF THE STRUCTURE

Remove native or pyrophitic plants
(Junipers, Spanish Broom) within 15 feet of the structure(s).
BBFA 4906.4.1

Modify a single specimen native or
pyrophitic plant. Maintain shrubs free from dead branches and
twigs.

BBFA Section 4906.4.1
Maintain grasses and weeds to be 4 inches or less in height.
BBFA Section 4906.3 (a)

Remove trees less than 6 inches in diameter
within 6 to 8 feet of other larger trees. BBFA Section 4906.3 (a)
Maximum diameter of any one shrub or group of shrubs shall
be 15 feet.

Spacing requirements of shrubs shall be
two times the height of the shrub.
BBFA Section 4906.4.1

Remove limbs and foliage of trees located less than 6
feet above the ground. BBFA Section 4906.3 (g)
Exception: Deciduous, non-native trees, and Spruce trees
that have all forest litter removed from underneath the
base of the tree; the height of pruning can be reduced by
50%.

Remove tree branches within 10 feet of a chimney or
stovepipe outlet.
BBFA Section 4906.3 (d)
Remove dead trees. BBFA Section 4906.6
Branches located within 10 feet vertical distance from
the roof line that overhang a structure shall be
removed.

BBFA Section 4906.3 (d)
Remove pine needles and leaves in excess of 2 inches.
BBFA Section 4906.3 (g)
Remove pine needles and leaves within 5 feet of a
structure. BBFA Section 4906.3 (g)
Firewood less than 10 feet away
from a structure shall be
covered with a fire-resistant fabric. BBFA Section 4906.3

Maintain any tree, shrub,
or plant adjacent to or overhanging a structure free of
dead or dying wood. BBFA Section 4906.3 (a)





Big Bear Fire Department Defensible Space Requirements

WITHIN 100 FEET OF THE STRUCTURE(S) OR TO THE PROPERTY LINE:

Modify native or pyrophitic plants (Juniper, Spanish Broom) within 100 feet of the structure(s). BBFA Section 4906.4.1

Native brush and shrubs shall be maintained free of dead branches and twigs, with lower branches removed.

BBFA Section 4906.4.1
Maintain grasses and weeds to be 4 Inches or less in height.
BBFA Section 4906.3 (a)

Remove trees less than 6 inches in diameter within 6 to 8 feet distance of another tree. BBFA Section 4906.3 (a)

Maximum diameter of any one shrub or group of shrubs shall be 15 feet.

Spacing requirements of shrubs shall be two times the height of the shrub.
BBFA Section 4906.4.1

Remove limbs and foliage of trees located less than 6 feet above the ground. BBFA Section 4906.3 (g) Exception: Deciduous, non-native trees, and Spruce trees that have all forest litter removed from underneath the base of the tree, the height of pruning can be reduced by 50%.

Provide a 15 foot vertical clearance of limbs that overhang driveways that extend greater than 150 feet. BBFA Section 503.2.1

Remove dead trees. BBFA Section 4906.6
If a continuous canopy exists on property, tree branches are to be removed within 12 to 15 feet of the ground. BBFA Section 4906.3 (c)

Remove pine needles and leaves in excess of 2 inches. BBFA Section 4906.3 (g)

**For more information, log on to:
www.bigbearchipping.org**





San Bernardino County Mountain Defensible Space Guidelines

WITHIN 15 FEET OF THE STRUCTURE

Remove combustible debris.

Maintain weeds/grasses (4" or less).

In and under all plants, trees, and shrubs remove all dead branches and leaf litter.

Remove anything over 2" of pine needles, leaf litter, or chipped/ground mulch on the ground.

On trees taller than 12' - all foliage and branches must be removed from the ground up to 6'. Limbs should be cut no less than 1/4 inch from the trunk.

On and under all shrubs, remove all leaf litter and dead vegetation, and remove all lower foliage up to 18 inches from the ground.

Remove tree limbs (not trunks) less than 10' away from the chimney and stovepipes.

All shrubs that produce high-energy release components and are considered high fire fuels: Manzanita, serviceberry, mountain whitethorn, sage, ironwood, juniper shrubs, Spanish broom, and other species as determined by the County Fire Chief/Fire Warden must be removed. Not to include well-maintained, low-energy, deciduous ornamental plants.

Remove leaves, needles or other dead vegetation on roof structures.





WITHIN 30' OF STRUCTURE:

Remove combustible debris.

Maintain weeds/grasses (4" or less).

In and under all plants, trees and shrubs, remove all dead branches and leaf litter.

Remove anything over 2" of pine needles, leaf litter, or chipped/ground mulch on the ground.

On trees taller than 12' - all foliage and branches must be removed from the ground up to 6'. Limbs should be cut no less than 1/4 inch from the trunk.

On and under all shrubs - remove all leaf litter and dead vegetation and all lower foliage must be removed up to 18 inches from the ground.

Remove trunks or branches less than 4" in diameter from the ground, not including split and neatly stacked firewood.

All trees with trunks smaller than 4" in diameter that stand within 10' of another tree must be removed. Not to include well-maintained low energy deciduous ornamental trees.

All high-energy-release shrubs must be separated by a space double the size of the tallest shrub.

Not to include well-maintained, low-energy, deciduous ornamental plants.

WITHIN 100' OF STRUCTURE OR TO PROPERTY LINE:

Remove combustible debris. Maintain weeds/grasses (4" or less). In and under all plants, trees & shrubs, remove all dead branches & leaf litter.

Remove anything over 2" of pine needles, leaf litter, or chipped/ground mulch on the ground.

On trees taller than 12' - all foliage and branches must be removed from the ground up to 6'. Limbs should be cut no less than 1/4 inch from the trunk.

On and under all shrubs, remove all leaf litter and dead vegetation, and all lower foliage must be removed up to 18 inches from the ground. Remove trunks or branches less than 4" in diameter from the ground, not including split and neatly stacked firewood.

Remove flammable vegetation within 10 feet of a roadway or driveway, regardless of the distance from the structure.

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909.884.4056

