

FIREWISE check of your property and home

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- Got a clearing or buffer of 30' minimum around your house for fire fighting equipment?
- Have you made an overhead drawing of future plantings?
(Space all the trees that you're going to plant very carefully.)
- Did you remove the "ladder fuels"?
(Remove grass linking to trees, then to your rooftop.)
- Did you create a "fuel break" near your home?
(Driveways, gravel walkways, or lawns are examples.)
- Prune tree limbs so the lowest is between 6' - 10' from the ground.
- Did you remove leaf clutter from your roof and yard?
- Have you mowed your yard on a regular basis?
- Did we trim dead or overhanging branches from near our homes?
- Is the firewood stored at least 30' away from your house?
(Walking is good for you!)
- Are your flammable liquids stored away properly?
- If you smoke, use your ashtray. Better yet, just quit!
- Why not help to organize a "chipper - day"?
(Recycle cuttings and debris from your property.)
- Do you know the local regulations as regards vegetative clearance?
- Are you up to date with fire safety equipment and its use?
- Check your generator every three months. (NOT A QUESTION)
(Are you confident it will work when you least expect a need?)
- Do you have a reliable water source/feed to those hose bibs?
- Are your two 100' garden hoses, 1 in front, 1 in rear in good shape?
- Are combustibles stored away from under decks or elevated porches?
- Make your trellises out of non-flammable metal next season.
- Are your escape routes marked for all to see?
- Do you have at least two ground-level doors as safety exits?
- Do you have at least two ways for your family to escape?
(Choose a door or a window with a ladder from each room. Ground level favored.)
- Mark your driveway and any access roads clearly.
(Keep ample turnaround space near your house for fire equipment.)
- Have you covered house vents with wire mesh no larger than 1/8"?
(This will prevent sparks and rodents from entering your house)
- Whenever possible, incorporate fire-resistant or non-combustible construction materials into your building projects.
(Insurance companies look at this as a preventative measure.)

Check the items off as you complete this questionnaire.

Courtesy of the Tolt Triangle Fire Council, 2005