



**BLAINE
COUNTY**
IDAHO

Teamwork • Integrity • Excellence



Home Ignition Zone

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Community Risk Reduction
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Nils Ribi Photography

Living with Wildfire

- Our term Survivable Space
- Immediate zone
- Intermediate zone
- Extended zone
- What can we do now



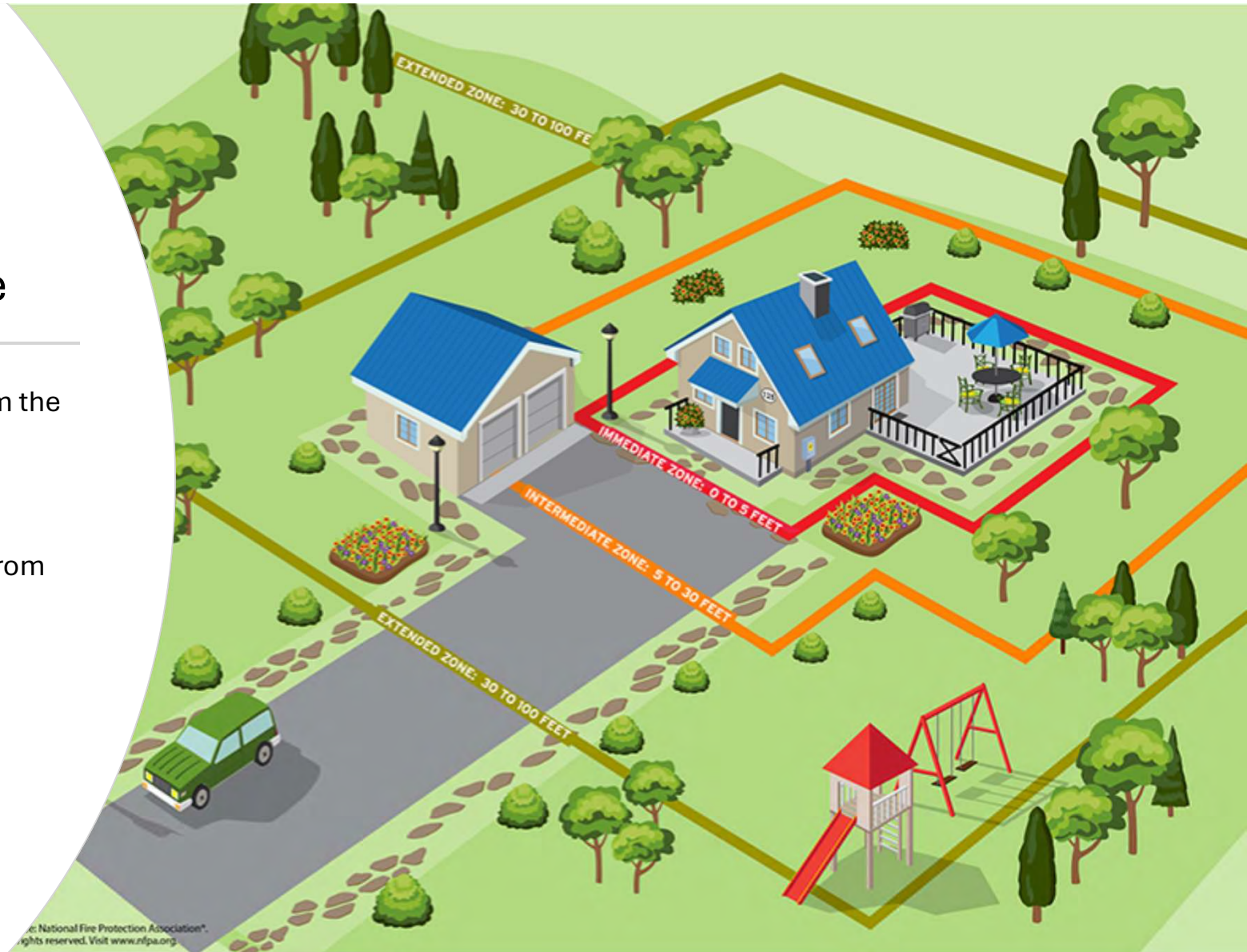
Survivable space

- This is the same principle as Defendable space.
- We prefer to use this term when we are discussing this with property owners.
- It starts with the mindset- setting the tone that in a large wildfire that we could have more homes and structures impacted than initial fire department resources



Home Ignition Zone

- Immediate Zone – 0'-5' from the house including decks and fence.
- Intermediate Zone- 5'-30' from the immediate zone.
- Extended Zone- 30'-100'



WILDFIRE PREPARED

— A PROGRAM OF IBHS —

wildfireprepared.org

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS FOR PLUS

- ✓ Cover gutters.
- ✓ Enclose eaves.
- ✓ Install noncombustible siding.
- ✓ Upgrade windows & doors.
- ✓ Upgrade to a noncombustible deck.
- ✓ Move accessory structures at least 30 feet away.
- ✓ Remove parallel fencing.

BASE REQUIREMENTS

ROOF

- ✓ Ensure the roof covering is Class A fire-rated & maintained clear of debris.
- ✓ Choose noncombustible gutters & downspouts.

BUILDING FEATURES

- ✓ Install flame- and ember-resistant vents or 1/8-inch metal mesh over vents.
- ✓ Ensure 6-inch vertical noncombustible clearance at the base of exterior walls.
- ✓ Clear & maintain the underdeck area; enclose low-elevation decks.

0-5 FOOT NONCOMBUSTIBLE ZONE

- ✓ Establish a **0-5 foot noncombustible zone** around the home and decks; remove overhanging branches; replace combustible fences within 5 feet.

5-30 FOOT DEFENSIBLE SPACE ZONE

- ✓ Maintain yard with spaced vegetation, structures, & other connective fuels; clear debris; remove firewood.
- ✓ Move structures at least 10 feet away & maintain a 0-5 foot noncombustible zone around them.





Immediate Zone – 0'-5'

- The goal is to stop the creeping fire from reaching the structure.
- Start with the structure
- Most Vulnerable to embers!
- Replace wood roofs with noncombustible roof material.
- Replace or repair any loose or missing shingles to prevent ember penetration.
- Clean roofs and gutters of dead leaves, debris and pine needles that could catch embers.
- Install ember resistant vents or retrofit vents with 1/8th 1/16th metal screen.
- 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'

- Converting short and sparse flames into low-intensity creeping fire within 5-30 ft of the home.
- Keep lawns and native grasses mowed to a height of four inches or less.
- Remove ladder fuels so a surface fire cannot reach the crowns.
- Prune trees up to six to ten feet from the ground; for shorter trees do not exceed 1/3 of the overall tree height.
- Space trees to have a minimum of eighteen feet between crowns.
- 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.



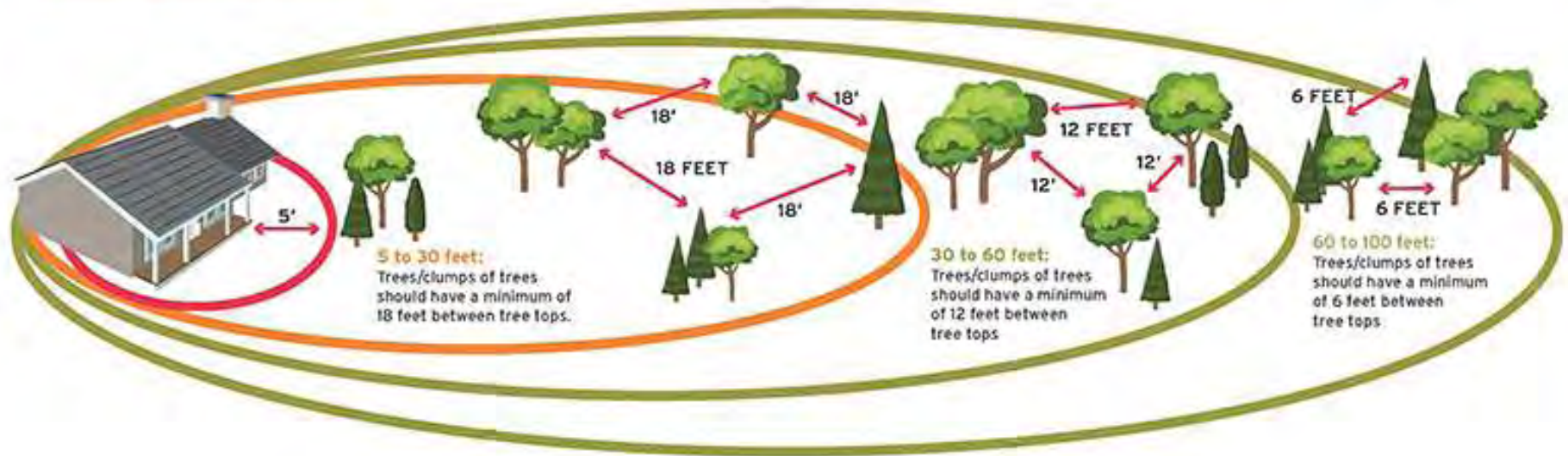


Extended Zone- 30'-100'

- Converting tall continuous flames into sparse fire with shorter flames within 30-100ft of the home.
- The goal here is not to eliminate fire but to interrupt fire's path and keep flames smaller and on the ground.
- 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





Think Like an Ember



Wood shake roof Concerns with Wildfire

Wood shakes or shingles must be **replaced**.





Programs and information that will help with creating a survivable/ defensible space

- <https://ibhs.org/about-ibhs/> An independent science and research institute supported by property insurers, reinsurers and affiliated companies.
- <https://wildfireprepared.org/> This site will offer a homeowner checklist that is a great resource. This is the guiding document for homeowners to work with insurance companies in California and Oregon.
- <https://www.nfpa.org/about-nfpa> The National Fire Protection Association has been the trusted association of experts and safety professionals for 125 years setting standards and guidelines for Building, Electrical and Fire codes to help solve the world's risk of fire prevention, wildfire preparedness, electrical safety, hazardous materials and public safety.
- <https://www.nfpa.org/education-and-research/wildfire/firewise-usa> This site is from the National Fire Protection Association and will provide guidance for residents to live with fire.

