When designing and installing a Firewise landscape, consider the following:

- Prevailing winds and seasonal weather
- Property contours and boundaries
- Native vegetation
- Plant characteristics and placement (drought, water and salt retention ability, aromatic oils, fuel load per area, and size)
- Irrigation system should extend into this section.
- Section 3: Place low-growing plants and well-spaced trees in this area, remembering to keep the volume of vegetation low.
- Section 4: This furthest zone from the structure is a natural area. Selectively prune and thin all plants and remove highly flammable vegetation.

When maintaining a landscape:

- Mow the lawn regularly, and dispose of cuttings and debris promptly, according to local regulations.
- Be sure the irrigation system is well maintained.
- Use care when refueling garden equipment; maintain equipment regularly; store flammable liquids properly.
- Become familiar with local regulations regarding vegetation clearances, disposal of debris, and fire safety requirements for equipment.

For more information contact:
Firewise Communities
For more information contact:
Firewise Communities
1 Battery March Park
Quincy, MA 02169
www.firewise.org
HOME IGNITION ZONE
The Home Ignition Zone begins with at least 30 feet of space immediately around the home and extends out as far as 100 to 200 feet depending on the characteristics of the surrounding forests or grasslands. Creating and maintaining the Home Ignition Zone reduces or eliminates ignition hazards presented by vegetation (by thinning or spacing, removing dead leaves and needles and pruning shrubs and tree branches) and combustible construction (wooden porches, decks, storage sheds, outbuildings, swing sets and fences).

WHY? Reducing ignition hazards improves the chances that the structure will survive a wildfire...

LEAN, CLEAN, AND GREEN LANDSCAPING
With Firewise landscaping, you can create survivable space around your home that reduces your wildfire threat. Prune large trees so that the lowest branches are at least 6 to 10 feet high to prevent a fire on the ground from spreading to the tree tops. Within the Home Ignition Zone, remove flammable plants that contain resins, oils, and waxes that burn readily: ornamental junipers, paupon, holly, red cedar, and young pine. A list of less-flammable plants can be obtained from your local state forester, forestry office, county extension office, or landscape specialist.

A DISASTER PLAN
The time to plan for any emergency is prior to the event. Take time to discuss with your family what actions you will take. Post emergency telephone numbers in a visible place. Leave before it is too late. Decide where you will go and how you will get there. Have tools available (shovel, rake, axe, handsaw, or chain saw). Maintain an emergency water source. Have a plan for your pets. Practice family fire drills.

WHY? Firebrands (embers) collect in small nooks and crannies and ignite combustible materials...

WHY? The need to evacuate can occur without notice. When wildfire conditions exist, be ready to take action...

A DISASTER PLAN
Be sure to reduce the ignition hazards on your property to the extent of the Home Ignition Zone (100-200 feet).

FIRE-RESISTANT CONSTRUCTION
Wall materials that resist heat and flames include brick, cement, plaster, stucco, and concrete masonry. Tempered and double-pane glass windows can make a home more resistant to wildfire heat and flames. For more information, see the Firewise Construction Checklist on the other side.

WHY? Firebrands (embers) collect in small nooks and crannies and ignite combustible materials...

FIRE-RESISTANT ATTACHMENTS
Attachments include any structure connected to your home, such as decks, porches, or fences. If these items attached to a home are not fire-resistant, then the home as a whole is vulnerable to ignition.

FIRE-RESISTANT ROOF CONSTRUCTION
Firewise roof construction materials include Class-A asphalt shingles, metal, slate or clay tile, and concrete products. The inclusion of a fire-resistant subroof adds protection. Make a periodic inspection looking for deterioration such as breaks and spaces between roof tiles. Keep the roof, gutters, and eaves clear of leaves and other debris. Make sure under-eave and soffit vents are as close as possible to the roof line. Box in eaves, but be sure to provide adequate ventilation to prevent condensation and mildew.

WHY? Something as simple as making sure that your gutters, eaves, and roof are clear of debris will reduce your fire threat...

WHY? Something as simple as making sure that your gutters, eaves, and roof are clear of debris will reduce your fire threat...

WHY? So emergency personnel can rapidly find the location of the emergency...

EMERGENCY ACCESS
Identify your home and neighborhood with legible and clearly marked street names and numbers. Include a driveway that is at least 12 feet wide with a vertical clearance of 15 feet and a slope of less than 5 percent to provide access to emergency vehicles.

WHY? So emergency personnel can rapidly find the location of the emergency...

LEAN, CLEAN, AND GREEN LANDSCAPING
With Firewise landscaping, you can create survivable space around your home that reduces your wildfire threat. Prune large trees so that the lowest branches are at least 6 to 10 feet high to prevent a fire on the ground from spreading to the tree tops. Within the Home Ignition Zone, remove flammable plants that contain resins, oils, and waxes that burn readily: ornamental junipers, paupon, holly, red cedar, and young pine. A list of less-flammable plants can be obtained from your local state forester, forestry office, county extension office, or landscape specialist.

WHY? Although mulch does help retain soil moisture, mulch and other landscape materials can become flammable when too dry...

WHY? Something as simple as making sure that your gutters, eaves, and roof are clear of debris will reduce your fire threat...

WHY? So emergency personnel can rapidly find the location of the emergency...

BE FIREWISE™ AROUND YOUR HOME