



If you live in a wild land-urban interface, like so many of us in Idaho do, then consider yourself a critical first responder when it comes to defending your home from fire. But unlike those trained to actually fight a blaze, your first response should take place long before the smell of smoke is in the air.

With a little planning and understanding of what is important you can take key protective measures in the defense of your home.

While there are no guarantees that a home will be fireproof, creating a survivable space and taking the other steps listed can increase the chances that your home will withstand a wildfire.



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YOUR LOCAL FARM BUREAU
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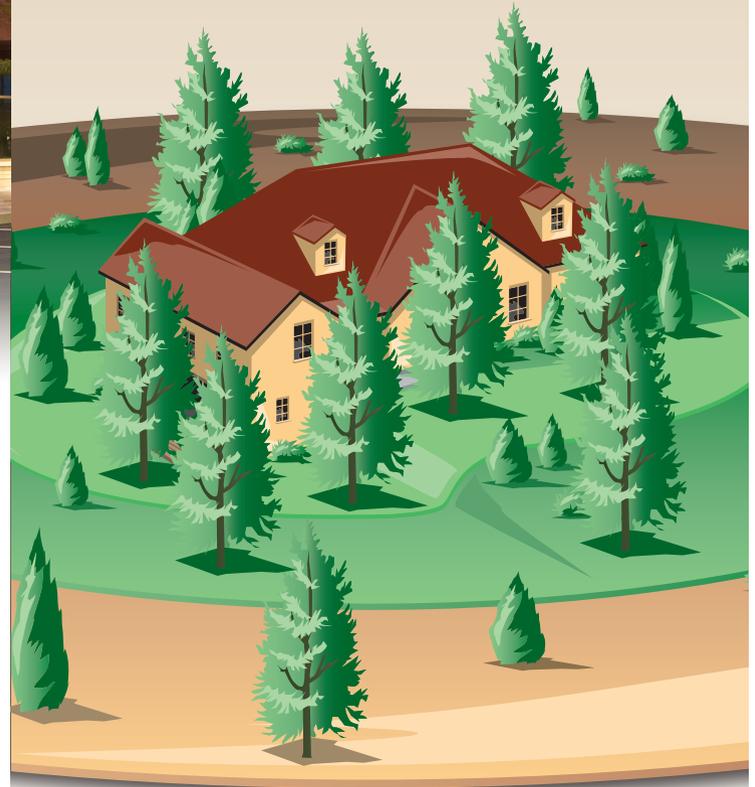
For more information on
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**THINK ABOUT
FIRE SAFETY**



YOUR HOME'S ABILITY TO WITHSTAND WILDFIRE DEPENDS ON YOU.



ZONE 1

The area nearest your home, plant low growing plants with low fuel content...there should be no tall plants, but since we all like shade trees pick your species wisely.

ZONE 2

Low growing fire-resistant ground cover is recommended from 30 to 100 feet from your home. Properly maintained low fuel plants will slow a fire before it gets to your house.

ZONE 3

Zone three is the area 100 feet beyond your home and can contain healthy naturally growing vegetation.

CREATE SURVIVABLE SPACE:

1. Remove the fuel fire needs to reach your home, items like landscaping, woodpiles, decks, etc.
2. Plant more native vegetation.
3. Space trees at least 10 feet apart.
4. Keep trees and shrubs pruned. Branches should be a minimum of six feet from the ground and shrubs under trees should be no more than 18 inches high.
5. Mow your lawn regularly and dispose promptly of cuttings and debris.
6. Maintain your irrigation system.
7. Clear your roof, gutters and eaves of debris.
8. Trim branches so they do not extend over your roof or grow near your chimney
9. Move firewood and storage tanks 50 feet away from your home and clear areas at least 10 feet around them.
10. Use only noncombustible roofing materials.
11. Box in eaves, fascias, soffits and subfloors with fire-resistant materials like treated wood, reducing the vent sizes. Apply ¼" noncombustible screening to all vent or eave openings.
12. Install spark arresters in chimneys.
13. Enclose the underside of decks with fire-resistant materials.
14. Cover exterior walls with fire-resistant materials like stucco, stone, or brick. (Vinyl siding can melt and is not recommended.)
15. Use double-paned or tempered glass for all exterior windows.
16. Install noncombustible street signs.
17. Make sure your street address is visible from the street.