

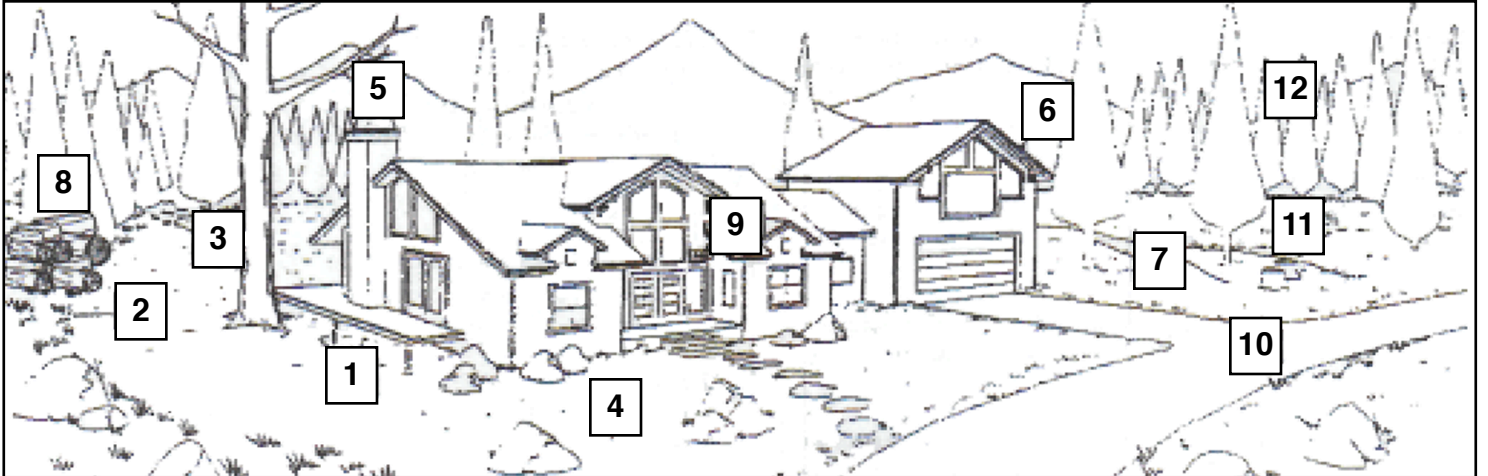


## Advisory Consultation RESIDENTIAL CLEARANCE EVALUATION

The key to improving the odds of your house surviving a wildfire is the defendability of the structure itself

**Homeowners Address:** ..... **City:** .....

**Evaluated By:** ..... **Title:** ..... **Date:** .....



Lean, Clean and Green Zone: from structure to 30' or property line.

Reduced Fuel Zone: 30'-100' or property line

- |  | <b>Yes</b>               | <b>No</b>                |  | <b>Yes</b>               | <b>No</b>                |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1). All combustible materials removed from beneath decks, stairways and overhangs?                     | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 7). All trees limbed 6 ft from the ground  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2). All dry, flammable vegetation removed within a minimum of 100 ft of structure or to property line? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 8). Firewood, lumber and large woody materials stored a safe distance from structures? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3). All branches, bark chunks and scrap lumber removed?  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 9). Is address clearly visible to emergency response personnel?                        | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4). Weeds and dead grasses cut to six inches or shorter?   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 10). Road and driveway accessible for emergency equipment?                             | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 5). All limbs within 10 ft of the chimney removed?   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 11). All dead trees removed?   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 6). All leaves and pine needles removed from roof and rain gutters?                                    | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |  |                          |                          |

SEE BACK FOR EXPLANATION OF EACH ITEM

**Comments:** .....

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A residential clearance evaluation of your property was completed. The purpose of the visit was to help evaluate your home to determine if your property complies with State and local fire safety ordinances. If you have any questions about the results of this evaluation, or need further information on actions you should take, please call Folsom fire department.

**Additional information can be found at the Folsom Fire Safe Council website: <http://www.folsomfsc.org/>**

## CHECKLIST EXPLANATIONS

- 1) Structures are often destroyed by flames that ignite combustible materials under or adjacent to decks and stairways. Overhangs, because of their angle, can trap hot embers that may cause fires. To avoid this threat, it is recommended that you do not store combustible materials under decks and stairways. Keep areas under and adjacent to decks and stairways free of pine needles, leaves, or other flammable debris. It is best if you enclose the deck/stairways with a non-flammable material to prevent hot embers from entering these areas.
- 2) Fire can spread from the wildland to homes and other buildings by traveling along the fuel bed (ground-covers, brush, trees) until it is close enough to ignite the structure.  
  
**State regulations MAY require the removal of all brush or flammable vegetation from 100 ft of any structure or to property line, whichever is nearer, depending upon extra hazardous conditions\*.**  
  
\*If your property is flat, then a 100 ft clearance around each structure may be sufficient. If your property is on a slope, the distance may need to be increased up to 100 ft or more on the slope leading to the structure. If the property line is closer than the required distance, you can only clear to your property line.  
  
If you choose to keep flammable brush such as Manzanita or scrub oak, etc in this area, then it is recommended that this area be thinned. A good rule of thumb is to preserve a clear space between shrubs equal to twice the height of the brush. For example if your brush is 3 ft tall, then the next brush should be placed a minimum of 6 ft away.
- 3) It is recommended that all combustible debris (tree branches, scrap lumber, etc) within 30 ft of all structures be removed. This will help reduce the chance of fire spreading from the wildland to your home. Do NOT rake to bare dirt. A thin layer of pine needles or wood chips is needed to prevent erosion.
- 4) It is recommended that dry weeds and grass are a maximum of 6 inches in height within 30 ft of any structure. It is also recommended to maintain the dry weeds in the reduced fuel zone 30-100 ft. Fire moves the fastest in light (thin) fuels like grass and weeds. The shorter the height of dry weeds and grass the slower the fire will move towards a structure.
- 5) State regulations require the removal of that portion of any tree which extends within 10 ft of the outlet of any chimney or stovepipe.
- 6) State regulations require that you maintain the roof of any structure free of leaves, needles or other dead vegetative growth. Airborne hot embers from an advancing wildfire can cause the roof of a home/structure to catch fire. You can minimize your risk of this happening by routinely removing vegetation from your roof and rain gutters.
- 7) It is recommended that tree limbs within 6 ft of the ground be removed or if the tree is small no more than 1/3 of the tree's canopy be removed from the ground up.
- 8) Firewood, lumber, or other large woody material should be kept a minimum of 30 ft from any structure because they are a large fuel source for fire.
- 9) Folsom Municipal code Chapters 8.36 (Folsom Fire Code) and 8.37 (Weed Abatement) require all property owners to clear their property of grass, weeds, dead trees and vegetation that constitutes a fire hazard.
- 10) Road and driveway access are critical for emergency equipment to reach your home. When roads are not wide enough, turnouts along roads and driveways allow for vehicles to safely pass. Vegetation, including grass, brush and small trees along roads and driveways, should be kept to a minimum and overhanging limbs should be removed. A minimum of 15 ft is recommended. Most engines need at least that much clearance to enter a property.
- 11) Dead trees near structures are a fire and safety hazard and is recommended that they be removed from your property. They are an unnecessary source of fuel for a wildland fire.

**Contact Folsom Fire Department for more information: 916-461-6300**