



# Wildfire Home Risk Assessment

## Are You Ready?

# READY! SET! GO!



**Directions:** Answer each question using assigned point values as it applies to the home. If the question does not apply, score it as a zero. Total the points to determine the risk level for the home.

Home			
Condition found	Recommendation	Points	0
<b>Home Access:</b>			
The home has good emergency vehicle Access. The address is visible, reflective and noncombustible and property has adequate turnaround space.		0	
The home has no visible address from the street.	Ensure property is clearly marked with reflective non-combustible material and visible from the street.	5	
The home has a locked gate blocking emergency vehicle access.	Provide local fire department and/or emergency responder with gate access.	5	
The home has overgrown vegetation obstructing the driveway	Make sure driveway is clear of overhanging trees and vegetation is cleared at least 5 feet on each side of the driveway.	5	
The home does not have an adequate turnaround.	Consider creating a turnaround for emergency vehicles.	5	
The home has a bridge that is non-rated/posted.	Consider having the bridge rated/posted by an engineer.	5	
<b>Roof Assembly:</b>			
The roof material is noncombustible(metal, composition, tile) with no areas for fire embers to intrude (i.e. has bird stops, flashing at valleys, and blocking).		0	
The roof has wood shakes or areas for fire embers to intrude.	Replace wood shake with Class A roof assembly with approved "blocking material". Eliminate intrusion areas.	20	
<b>Chimneys:</b>			
All chimneys have spark arrestors.		0	
Some chimneys do not have spark arrestors.	Install spark arrestors with 1/4 in, noncombustible mesh screening.	5	
<b>Gutters:</b>			
All gutters and roof are clear of combustible debris		0	
Some gutters and/or roof have combustible debris present.	Clear all combustible debris from roof and gutters. Install metal screens on gutters to reduce the accumulation of combustible debris.	5	

<b>Eaves:</b>			
All eaves are boxed to prevent ember collection and intrusion underneath the eaves.		0	
Some eaves are not boxed	Plug openings in open-eave areas with durable caulking. Install a noncombustible covering over blocking to eliminate openings for ember intrusion.	5	
<b>Exterior Walls and Siding:</b>			
The home has all noncombustible siding (brick, stucco, metal).		0	
The home has some vinyl siding.	Replace combustible siding with noncombustible material.	5	
The home has some wood siding.		10	
<b>Windows:</b>			
All windows are dual pane with durable frame (one pane is tempered).		0	
Some windows are single pane or have wood frames or do not have any tempered glass.	Replace with dual pane windows with a durable frame. One pane should be tempered.	5	
<b>Vents:</b>			
All eaves and cornice vents are baffled. All other vents are protected with 1/8" noncombustible mesh screening.		0	
Some eave vents and cornice vents are present and are not baffled or some vents are not protected by 1/8" non-combustible mesh screen.	Replace eave and cornice vents with approved baffled vents. Protect all other vents with 1/8" non-combustible mesh screen. Keep the areas around the vents clear of vegetation.	10	
<b>Patio:</b>			
Patio cover is constructed or covered with non-combustible material (brick, stucco, metal) or is not within 10' of home		0	
Patio cover is constructed with uncovered combustible material and is within 10' of home	Replace with non-combustible material or cover with non-combustible material (brick, stucco, metal)	5	
<b>Balconies:</b>			
All balconies are constructed or covered with non-combustible material (brick, stucco, metal, tile, etc.). Undersides are protected to prevent ember accumulation		0	
Some balconies are constructed with combustible material or combustible material is exposed or undersides are unprotected	Replace with non-combustible material or cover with non-combustible material. Protect undersides	5	
<b>Decks:</b>			
All decks are constructed with non-combustible material (composite, tile, brick, etc.)		0	
Some decking is constructed with combustible material (un-approved vinyl, wood, etc.)	Replace with non-combustible material or cover with non-combustible material	10	

<b>Raised Decks:</b>			
The undersides of all raised decks are constructed or covered with non-combustible material (brick, stucco, metal, tile, etc.)		0	
The undersides of some raised decks are constructed with combustible material and not covered with non-combustible material (brick, stucco, metal, tile, etc.)	Replace with non-combustible deck or cover with non-combustible material (brick, stucco, metal, tile, etc.)	10	
<b>Misc. Fencing:</b>			
Some fencing, gazebos or trellis's are less than 10' from the home and constructed with combustible material	Replace fencing, gazebo or trellis with non-combustible material within 10' from the house	5	
<b>Landscape</b>			
<b>Condition found</b>	<b>Recommendation</b>	<b>Points</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Vegetation:</b>			
All vegetation is green and well watered (not annual grasses) and/or drought resistant		0	
Some vegetation is dead or not drought or fire resistant	Remove ALL dead vegetation and replace with fire resistant planting material. Visit <a href="http://www.ocfa.org">www.ocfa.org</a> for recommendations	10	
<b>Shrubs:</b>			
All shrubs are at least 5' from structures		0	
Some shrubs are within 5' of structures	Replace shrubs with low lying vegetation or thin shrubs to 50% density	10	
<b>Limbs:</b>			
All overhanging limbs are at least 10' above roofs and at least 10' away from structures		0	
Some overhanging limbs are less than 10' from roofs and structures	Remove all limbs within 10' from structures <sup>1</sup>	5	
<b>Taller Vegetation:</b>			
All taller vegetation is pruned and separated from underbrush and separated from trees. Separation between shrubs and trees is at least 3 times height of shrubs. Separation between low lying vegetation and shrubs is at least 3 times height of low lying vegetation. Spacing between shrubs is at least three times width of shrubs		0	
Some taller vegetation hangs over underbrush creating a "fuel ladder" that can carry fire up and toward the home	Provide separation between low lying vegetation and shrubs. Provide separation between shrubs and trees.	10	
<b>Outbuilding:</b>			
All outbuildings and secondary structures are at least 20' from the home or constructed with non-combustible material		0	
Some outbuildings and secondary structures are within 20' of the home and constructed with combustible material	Replace with non-combustible material or cover with non-combustible material	5	
<b>Perimeter</b>			
<b>Condition found</b>	<b>Recommendation</b>	<b>Points</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Brush Clearance:</b>			
Home has at least 100' of brush clearance around it or is protected by a formal and compliant "fuel modification" program		0	
Home has 30' - 100' of defensible space	Remove dead or dying vegetation within 100' of homes.	5	
Home has less than 30' of defensible space	Remove native vegetation within 30' of home. Thin native vegetation 50% density within 30' to 100' of home <sup>1</sup>	10	

<b>Combustable Material:</b>			
All firewood and other combustible materials are stored at least 30' from the home		<b>0</b>	
Some firewood or other combustible materials are stored against or within 30' of home	Move firewood and other combustible storage at least 30' away from home <sup>1</sup>	<b>10</b>	
<b>TOTAL SCORE</b>		<b><u>0</u></b>	
For follow up questions regarding this risk assessment, please contact:	<b>SCORING:</b>		
Assessment Performed by:	During a wildfire, firefighters are better able to protect homes that have low scores. Firefighters may not be able to protect homes that have higher scores		
Name: _____			
Phone: <b>(650) 780-7400</b>			
Date: _____			
	<b>0:</b> Your home has the <b>greatest potential for survivability</b> during a hostile wildfire.		
	<b>5-20:</b> Your home has been identified as a <b>low risk</b> . Recommendations indicated on this checklist should be addressed to increase the survivability of your home during a hostile wildfire.		
	<b>25-40:</b> Your home has been identified as a <b>moderate risk</b> . Survivability of your home will be an issue during a hostile wildfire. Recommendations indicated on this checklist should be completed.		
	<b>45 and above:</b> Your home has been identified as a <b>high risk</b> . The survivability of your home is low. Your home may be in extreme danger during a hostile wildfire. Recommendations indicated on this checklist are strongly encouraged to be completed.		
<b>For additional information</b> on how to increase the chance your home will survive a wildfire, please visit the Redwood City Fire Prevention page at <a href="http://www.redwoodcity.org">www.redwoodcity.org</a> and the State Fire Marshal's wildland urban interface products page at <a href="http://www.osfm.fire.ca.gov/strucfireengineer/pdf/bml/wuiproducts.pdf">www.osfm.fire.ca.gov/strucfireengineer/pdf/bml/wuiproducts.pdf</a> .			
<sup>1</sup> For some homeowners, these recommendations may be requirements of the fire code. If the property is near a wildland area and is subject to a Defensible Space inspection, this is not just a recommendation, but a requirement and subject to a Wildland Inspection Notice.			
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