



Cascade Shores Evacuation Plan



Funded by a Grant from the
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Nevada County Consolidated Fire District

Re: Emergency Preparedness and Evacuation Plan in the Event of a Fire or Hazardous Material Release

Cascade Shores is a classic wildland-urban interface setting. Major concerns are protecting the nearly 1000 people and 416 homes. Some of the roads are inadequate for rapid evacuation in the event of a large, rapidly approaching wildfire. The topography ranges from steep canyons to rolling hills at an elevation range of 3,000 to 3,500 feet. The fuels are typical for this elevation. There has not been a large fire in the area in decades so the fuels throughout the area are overgrown and become very fire prone in the driest part of summer. It is conceivable to have a hazardous materials release from a propane tanker crash or chlorine leak at the treatment plant that could require a much more limited evacuation and of a shorter duration.

Of utmost importance is preparation of your home and property for self defense. While 30 feet has been the past law, it is not nearly enough. Effective prevention requires at least 100 feet of fuel reduction around your home and is required by the new state law.

It is also important to know your destination and to have a plan for getting there. Possible evacuation destinations are

- The Fairgrounds (unless there is a large event taking place such as the County Fair or the Draft Horse Classic.)
- Nevada Union High School
- The Red Cross shelter at the Baptist Church across from Nevada Union High.
- For short duration, staging at the Horsemen’s Lodge at the corner of Brunswick and Town Talk Rd.
- Note: The chosen shelter will be announced on the radio.

How to stay informed:

- Tune in to local radio stations KNCO at 83.5 A.M. or 94.3 F.M., or KVMR 89.5 or 99.3 F.M.
- Listen for Fire and Law Enforcement announcements in your neighborhood

Please take only essential vehicles. The more vehicles, the more congestion. Larger vehicles (horse trailers, or RV’s hauling other vehicles) clog evacuation routes and endanger everyone’s life.

Stay calm. Follow Directions. Stay behind road blocks.

This Evacuation Plan cannot predict all possible scenarios. Each incident will differ, present different problems, and require different evacuation routes. This makes it imperative that you listen to and follow directions. On the center page is a representational map showing some of your alternatives.

Proposed Evacuation Routes:

PRIMARY -Banner Quaker Hill Road.

SECONDARY - Pasquale Road. (Pasquale road, due to its narrow, winding character, will not lend itself to a quick evacuation.)

For further information regarding this plan, you may call NCCFD at (530) 273-3158, or view it on the Web at: www.nccfire.com



As you know, the homes outnumber the fire engines. If you think it is time to go, you are probably correct. Fire and law enforcement will do what we can to notify you of when to leave and where to go, but there is no possible way we can reach you all.

That is why it is imperative you tune into local media.

If you decide to or we request that you evacuate,

the Primary Route out should be Banner-Quaker Hill Road. The size of the road makes it safer for you and more defensible for firefighters.

To avoid congestion, try to avoid Nevada City.

Pasquale remains an option. However, it will be a very slow route.

Remember, we need to access water, so keep the boat ramp open for firefighting equipment.

As a large incident gets more organized, you will find some intersections staffed with barricades and officials providing traffic control. These personnel may be Community Emergency Response Team (CERT, there are a number of you in Cascade Shores) or Sheriff Volunteers or Deputies, CHP, City Police, County Department of Transportation, or any number of other allied agencies.

Please **cooperate** with these personnel.

Remember -

Once out, you will not be allowed back in until the evacuation order is lifted. This is for your safety and the safety of firefighters, as well as reducing the chance of looting.

There are countless hazards in a post-fire area. A few for you to be aware of:

- Downed power lines
- Falling trees and limbs
- Rolling rocks on the steep slopes
- Reduced visibility from smoke
- Fire equipment and firefighters in the mop-up stages.

Your Legal Rights

It is your legal right to stay and fight. However, history has shown that in many cases those who did, decided way too late, that they really did not want to be a firefighter, and several civilians have died trying to evacuate too late.

So, if you:

- are of the hardy, determined nature, and
- have done your defensible space, and
- do not have children at home, and
- you choose to stay,

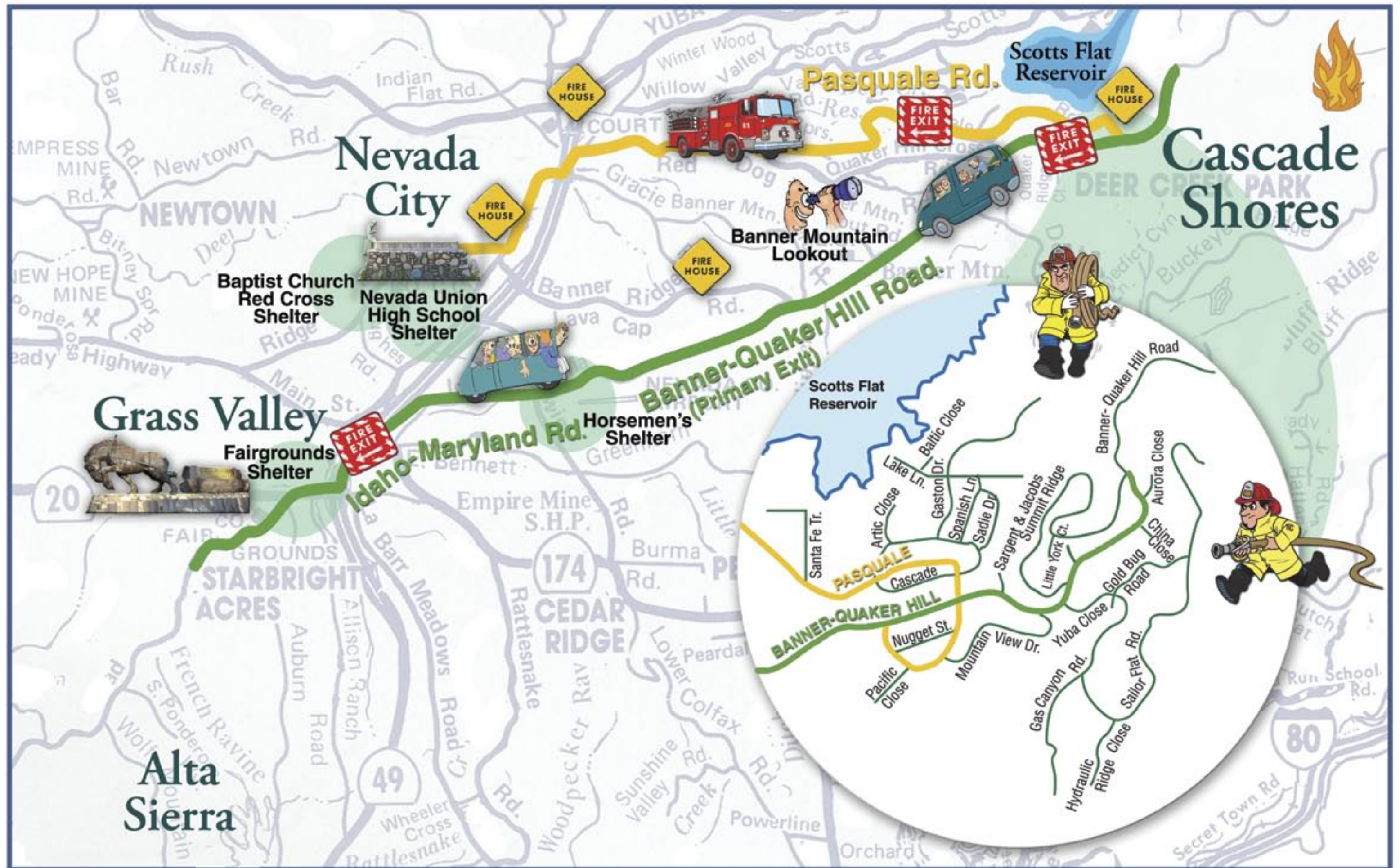
you should follow the tips on the back pages by having tools, water, and a ladder at the ready.

Remember, one of the first things to go is electricity, so you won’t have the garden hose to help you.

Look for creeping or smoldering fire on the deck, roof, gutters, the ornamental vegetation around your house, yard bark, etc.

Animal Evacuations

Again, listen to KNCO for the location to which animals are being evacuated. Pets/animals are not allowed at shelters except for official disabled persons’-assistance animals. Owners are responsible for locating placement for pets/animals during an evacuation. If time allows for an orderly evacuation, assistance for animal evacuation can be arranged from the California Veterinary Medical Association (CVMA) rescue volunteers. Call CVMA Rep., Pat Ehlers, at 530-477-6506 or 530-913-6506 (cell).





Be Prepared for Evacuation!

Use the Following to Help You Create and/or Review Your Family Emergency Plan!

In the event of a wildfire, it is essential that every Nevada County homeowner be prepared to evacuate and know how to properly do so. Coordinating a neighborhood evacuation route and having valuables in easily accessible places can save lives and property!

You may contact the FireSafe Council at (530) 470-9193

PRE-Fire Season

- ☐ Clean gutters and roofs of leaves and pine needles.
- ☐ Create and maintain 100 feet of defensible space.
- ☐ Stack firewood 30 feet from house.
- ☐ Service and test generator and water pump.
- ☐ Check garden hoses and store near water faucets.
- ☐ Check address, water supply and generator signage.
- ☐ Check and restock emergency supplies.
- ☐ Identify important files and personal documents for evacuation.
- ☐ Update household inventory with a video/photograph of house/personal effects for insurance.
- ☐ Copy important computer files to CD and store copy in safety deposit box or with a friend.
- ☐ Advise local fire department of any special assistance required (medicines, Oxygen, non-ambulatory).
- ☐ Check flashlights and replace batteries.
- ☐ Check portable water and chemical fire extinguishers.
- ☐ During fire season, maintain vehicles with more than half a tank of gasoline.
- ☐ Agree on what family members should do if they are away from your neighborhood. Establish a meeting place away from your neighborhood. Our meeting place is: _____.
- ☐ Ask an out-of-state friend or relative to be your family contact. During a disaster, it is often easier to call long distance. Family members should be instructed to call this person with their location. In the event of a disaster we will call _____.
- ☐ Plan how you will care for your pets and livestock.
- ☐ Check to ensure you have adequate insurance coverage. (Contact your agent if you have questions)
- ☐ Two escape routes from our home are _____ and _____.
- ☐ The following are questions to consider should evacuation become necessary: Do the roads on which you would evacuate have adequate clearance for two vehicles to pass? Are streets clearly marked in order to provide easy access for fire crews? Do you have a reflective numeric sign posted at the road, to direct emergency crews to your home?
- ☐ Replace stored water and food at least every six months.
- ☐ Test and recharge your fire extinguisher(s) according to manufacturer's instructions.
- ☐ Test your smoke detectors monthly and change the batteries at least once a year.
- ☐ Hold a family meeting to review plan.

IMMEDIATE EVACUATION

- ☐ Pull vehicles out of garage, and park facing outward with the keys in the ignition.
- ☐ Load pets in to vehicles and load livestock in to trailer.
- ☐ Turn off propane tank, air-conditioners and fans.
- ☐ Load emergency supplies and important documents into vehicle.
- ☐ Monitor scanner and/or KNCO 830 AM, 94.3 FM, or KMVR 89.5 or 99.3 FM.
- ☐ If you are away from the house and the road is blocked, call (**your family contact**): _____.
- ☐ Go to (**your meeting place**) _____.
- ☐ Each person should have a flashlight.
- ☐ Evacuate livestock to Nevada County Fair Grounds or other prearranged location.
- ☐ Evacuate pets to _____.
- ☐ Use travel routes specified by local authorities. Do not use short cuts because certain areas may be impassable or dangerous or may be in use by emergency vehicles. **Two specified escape routes from our home are** _____ and _____.

ONE HOUR NOTICE

- ☐ Put on long trousers, heavy shoes, cotton long sleeve shirts, gloves and scarf (no polyester).
- ☐ Park vehicles in garage, facing out, with keys in ignition.
- ☐ Load pets into vehicle and load livestock into trailer.
- ☐ Disconnect automatic garage door opener.
- ☐ Turn off propane tank and then turn off pilot lights and air-conditioners and fans.
- ☐ Close non-combustible window coverings and heavy drapes. Remove lightweight curtains
- ☐ Open fireplace damper. Close fireplace screens.
- ☐ Move flammable furniture to the center of the home away from windows and sliding-glass doors.
- ☐ Turn on a light in each room to increase the visibility of your home in heavy smoke.
- ☐ Place lawn sprinklers on the roof and near above ground fuel tanks. Wet the roof.
- ☐ Wet or remove shrubs within 15 feet of the house.
- ☐ Load emergency supplies into vehicles and then load important documents to vehicles.
- ☐ Monitor scanner and KNCO 830 AM, 94.3 FM, or KMVR.89.5 or 99.3 FM.
- ☐ Each person should have a flashlight.
- ☐ Keep a family member or friend informed as to location. If you are away from the house and the road is blocked, call (**your family contact**): _____.
- ☐ Evacuate pets to _____.
- ☐ Evacuate livestock to Nevada County Fair Grounds or other prearranged location: _____.

EVACUATION PRE-WARNING

- ☐ Evacuation Pre-Warning Complete all steps in One-Hour Notice above.
- ☐ Move combustible yard furniture and barbecue away from the house.
- ☐ Erect ladders against garage and house.
- ☐ Locate fire-fighting tools (rake, shovel, McLeod, Pulaski and chain saw) in front of house.
- ☐ Cover attic, sub-floor air vents and windows with plywood or heavy-duty aluminum foil.
- ☐ Locate garbage cans in front of house and fill with water.
- ☐ Keep a family member or friend informed as to location. If you are away from the house and the road is blocked, call (**your family contact**): _____.
- ☐ Evacuate pets to _____.
- ☐ Evacuate livestock to Nevada County Fair Grounds or other prearranged location: _____.
- ☐ Advise (**your family contact**) _____ of your location.

Home Ignition Zone

The home plus 10 feet distance.

It's the little things that will endanger your home. Just the little ember landing on a little pile of flammable material will ignite it. Spend a morning searching for and getting rid of those flammable little things outside. Your home will be much safer.

- 1) Keep your gutters and roof clean of leaves and pine needles.
- 2) Remove dry grass, brush, leaves, and pine needles around your home. Replace with watered landscape vegetation, green lawn, or landscape rock.
- 3) Clear all flammable materials from your deck. This includes brooms, stacked wood and easily ignitable patio furniture. Also enclose or board up the area under your deck to keep it from becoming a fuel bed for hot embers.
- 4) Move woodpiles away from your home. Keep woodpiles a distance of 2 times the height of the pile from your home.
- 5) Use fine mesh screen (1/4 inches or less) to cover eaves, roof and foundation vents to prevent windblown embers from entering.
- 6) Inspect and clean your chimney every year. Trim away branches within 10 feet.
- 7) Got a propane tank? Remove any flammable materials within 10 feet of it and if possible, position it at least 30 feet from any structures.

Defensible Space Zone

Your defensible space is the area 100-200 feet from your home or to your property line. This is the area where you've modified the landscaping to help your house survive a wildfire—and to greatly improve the odds for firefighters who are defending it.

If your home is on a slope or subject to high winds, extend the distance of this zone to a minimum of 200 feet down slope or to your property line if your home is in a brush or tree covered area.

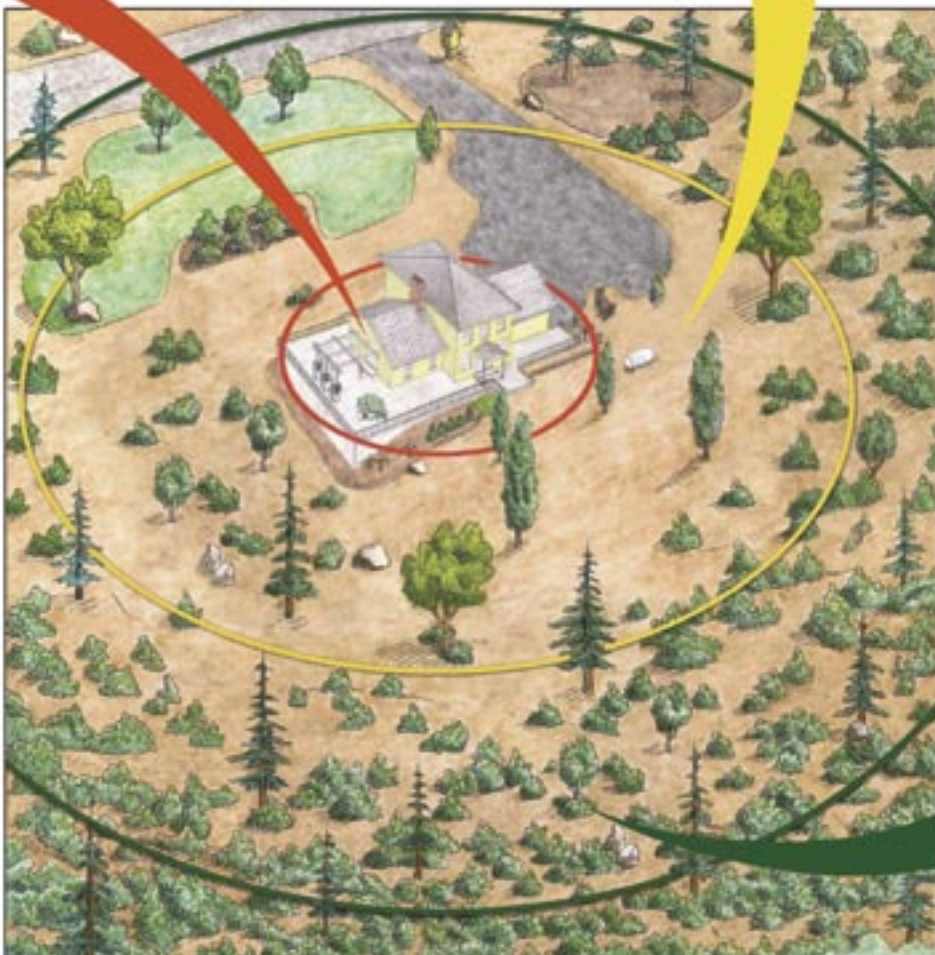
Removing the native brush species and thinning out densely crowded smaller trees will reduce fire intensity and slow the spread of a fire moving toward your home.

Ornamental Plantings

- Landscaped, watered ornamental shrubs and trees are not as much of a fire threat and can be located wherever the homeowner wishes.

Wildland Vegetation

- Trees with trunks greater than 8 inches in diameter must be limbed up 8 feet. Trees with trunks smaller than 8 inches must be limbed up 8 feet or 1/2 the tree height and removed to 20 feet apart.
- Wildland brush (manzanita, mountain misery, etc.) must be removed or spaced 3 times the height of the plants (or small group). If the brush is greater than 5 feet tall, it must be removed.
- Grass mowed shorter than 4 inches.



Community Fuel Reduction Zone

Beyond the defensible space zone.

The Nevada County Fire Plan recommends similar guidelines to the above for the Community Fuel Reduction Zone but brush and trees can be a bit closer together and there is no restriction on grass height.

Graphic courtesy of Butte County Fire Safe Council and Cedar Creek Publishing; 530/872-2850