

# Wildfire Safety, Preparedness and Fire-Wise Landscape Design

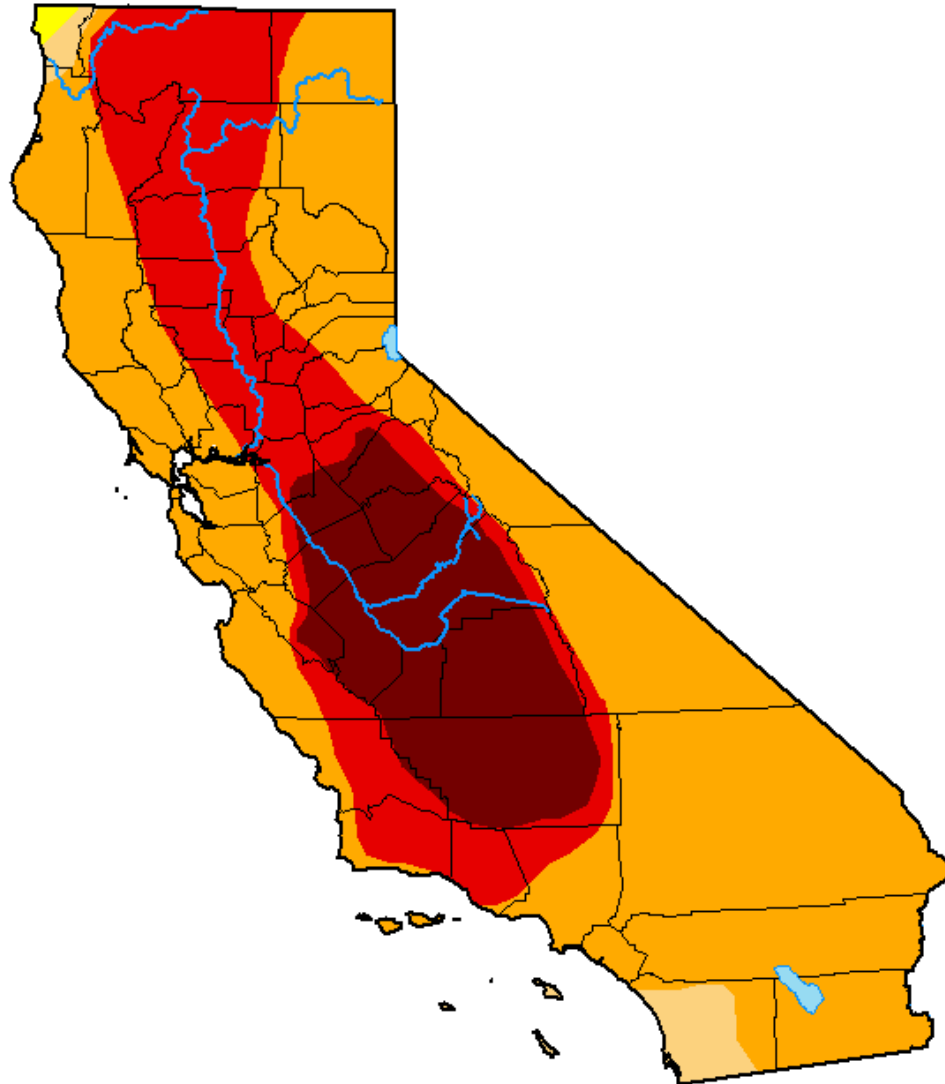
Sept. 7, 2022





# U.S. Drought Monitor California

**August 30, 2022**  
(Released Thursday, Sep. 1, 2022)  
Valid 8 a.m. EDT



*Drought Conditions (Percent Area)*

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
<b>Current</b>	0.00	100.00	99.76	97.52	40.18	16.57
<b>Last Week</b> <i>08-23-2022</i>	0.00	100.00	99.76	97.53	43.16	16.57
<b>3 Months Ago</b> <i>05-31-2022</i>	0.00	100.00	99.86	97.56	59.81	11.59
<b>Start of Calendar Year</b> <i>01-04-2022</i>	0.00	100.00	99.30	67.62	16.60	0.84
<b>Start of Water Year</b> <i>09-28-2021</i>	0.00	100.00	100.00	93.93	87.88	45.66
<b>One Year Ago</b> <i>08-31-2021</i>	0.00	100.00	100.00	95.56	88.37	47.40

*Intensity:*



*The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. For more information on the Drought Monitor, go to <https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/About.aspx>*

*Author:*

Deborah Bathke  
National Drought Mitigation Center

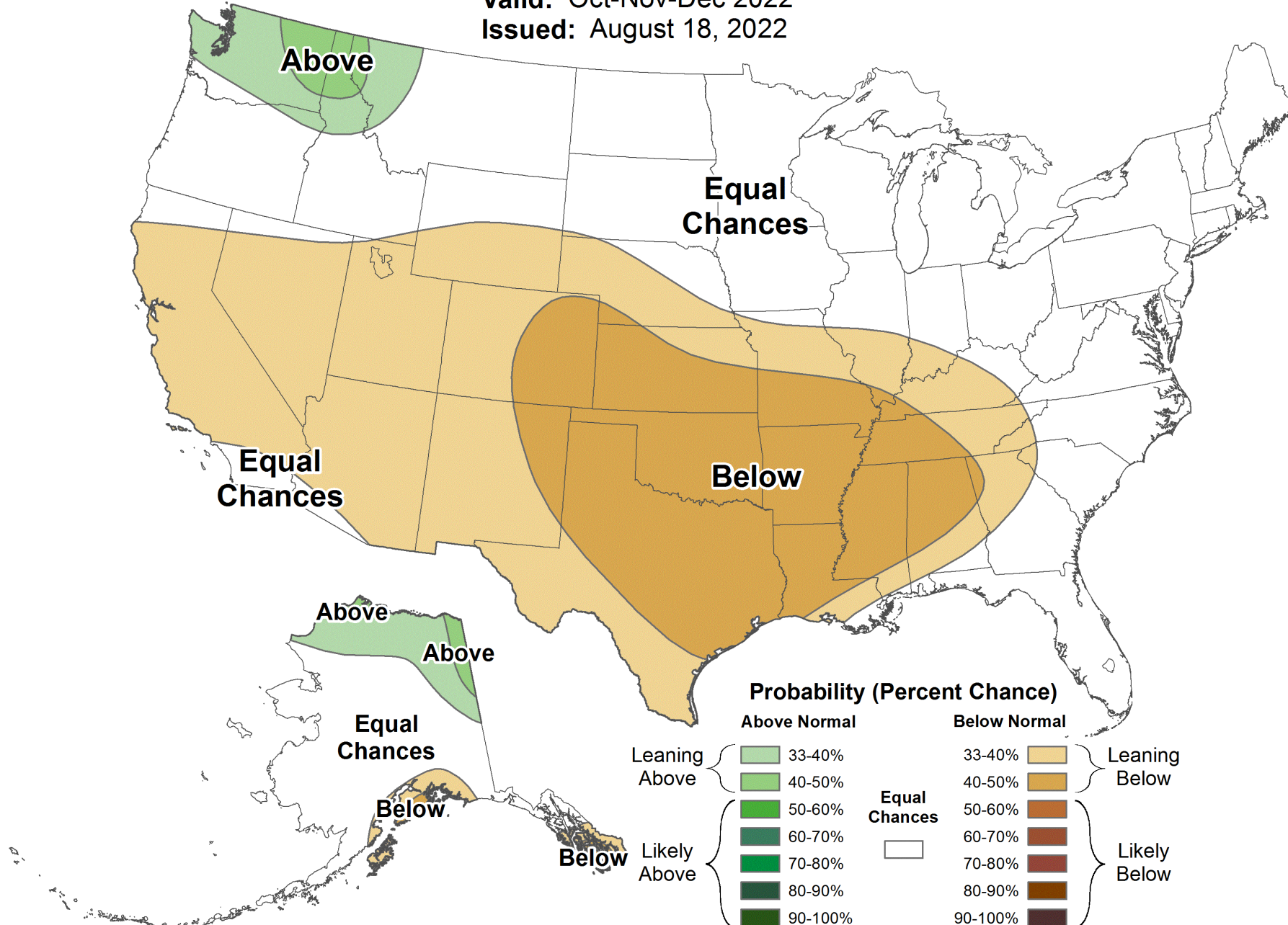




# Seasonal Precipitation Outlook



Valid: Oct-Nov-Dec 2022  
Issued: August 18, 2022

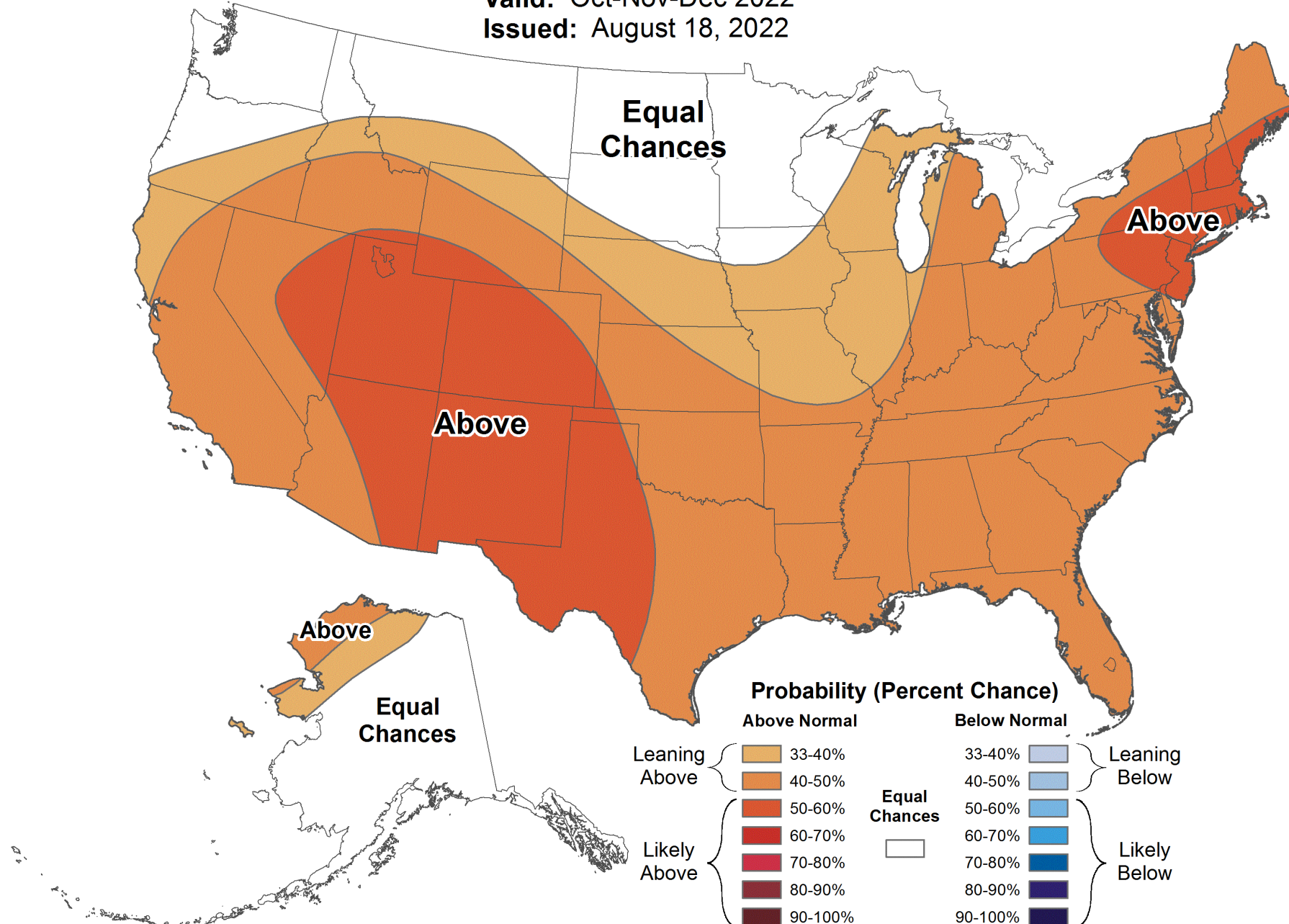




# Seasonal Temperature Outlook



Valid: Oct-Nov-Dec 2022  
Issued: August 18, 2022





# CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE

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- If you hear from additional residents regarding non-renewal notices, or excessive rate increases, please have them submit a Requests for Assistance so that we may look into it for them:

<https://cdiapps.insurance.ca.gov/CP/login/>

# WILDFIRE PREPAREDNESS



**READY!**



**SET!**



**GO!**





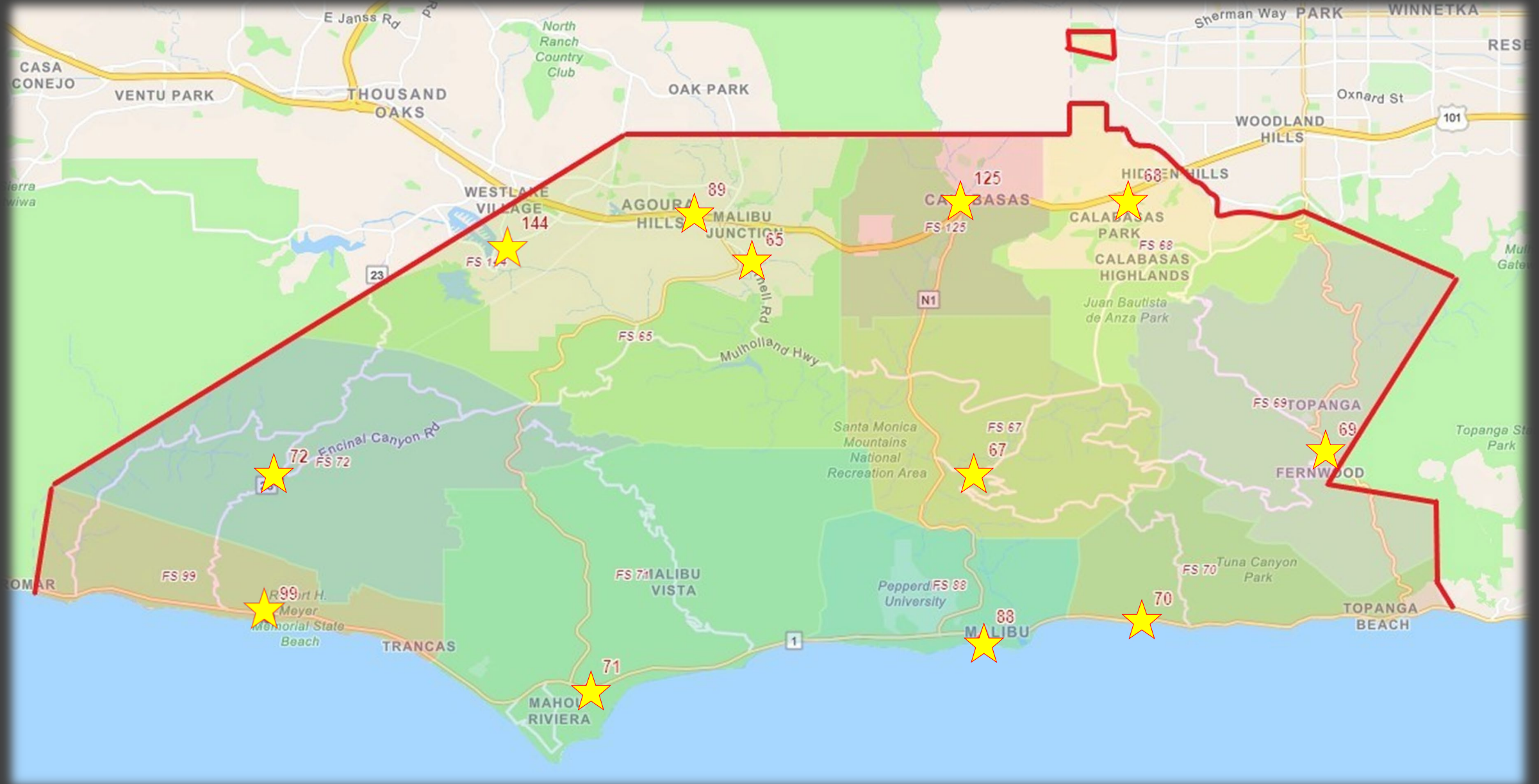
**ASSISTANT CHIEF**

**DREW SMITH**

**LACoFD DIVISION VII**



# BATTALION 5 JURISDICTION







# READY! SET!GO!

YOUR PERSONAL  
WILDFIRE ACTION PLAN



[fire.lacounty.gov](http://fire.lacounty.gov)

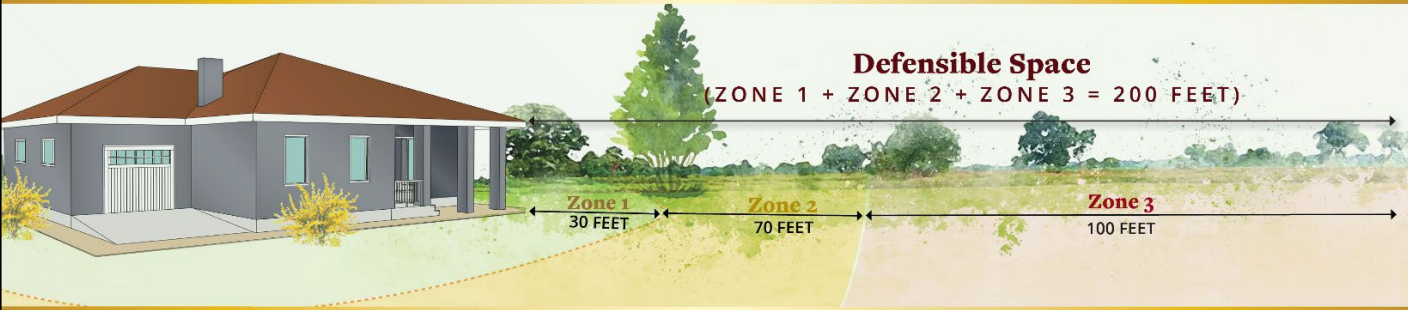


**READY!**

**CREATE AND MAINTAIN DEFENSIBLE SPACE  
HARDEN YOUR HOME AGAINST FLYING EMBERS**



# Are You **READY?**

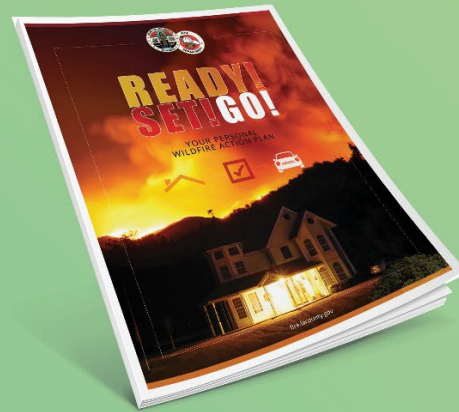


## Get into the zones!

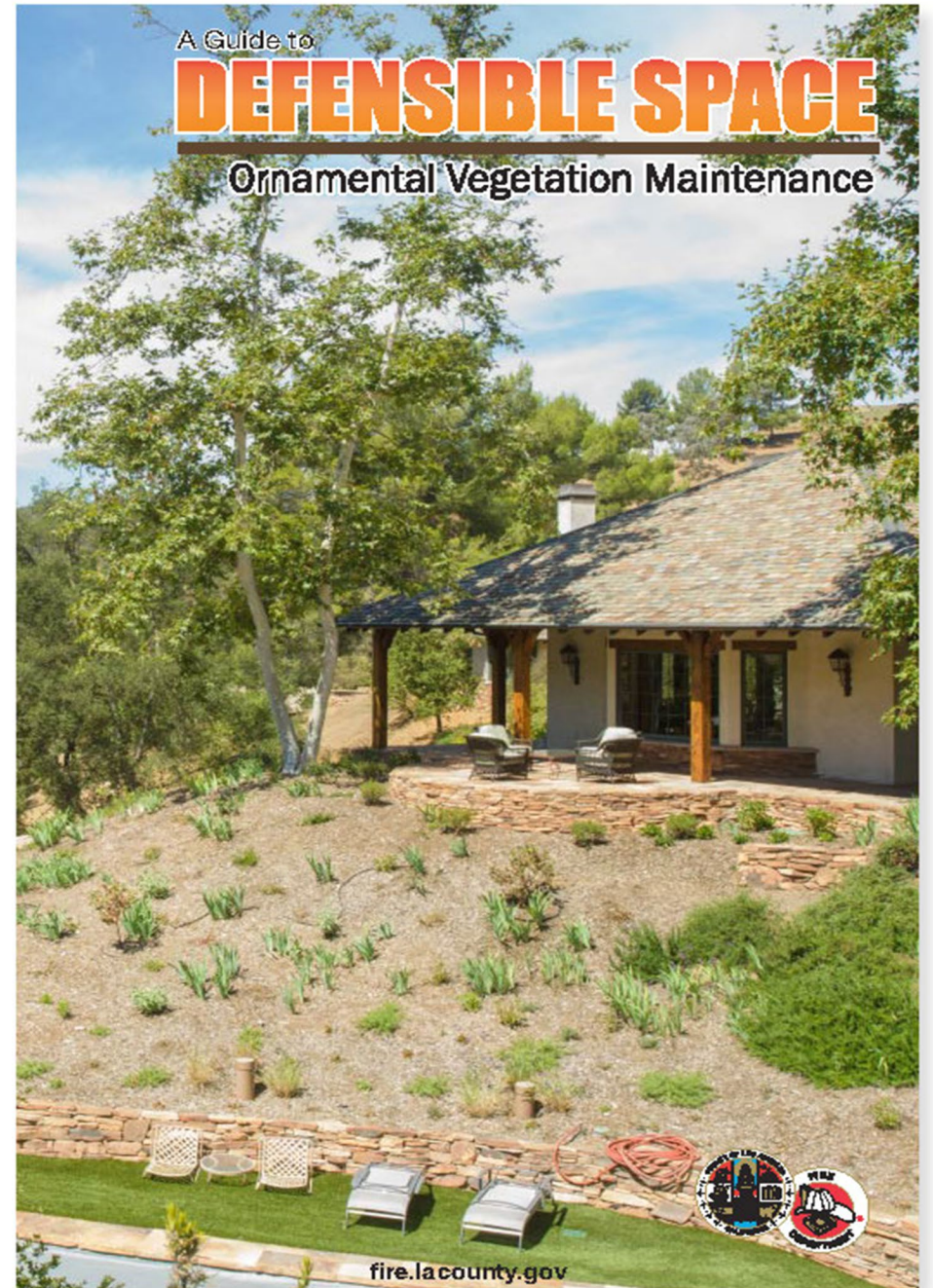
Increase your home's chance of surviving a wildfire...

Create and maintain 200 feet of defensible space.

ZONE 1 + ZONE 2 + ZONE 3 = 200 FEET OF DEFENSIBLE SPACE



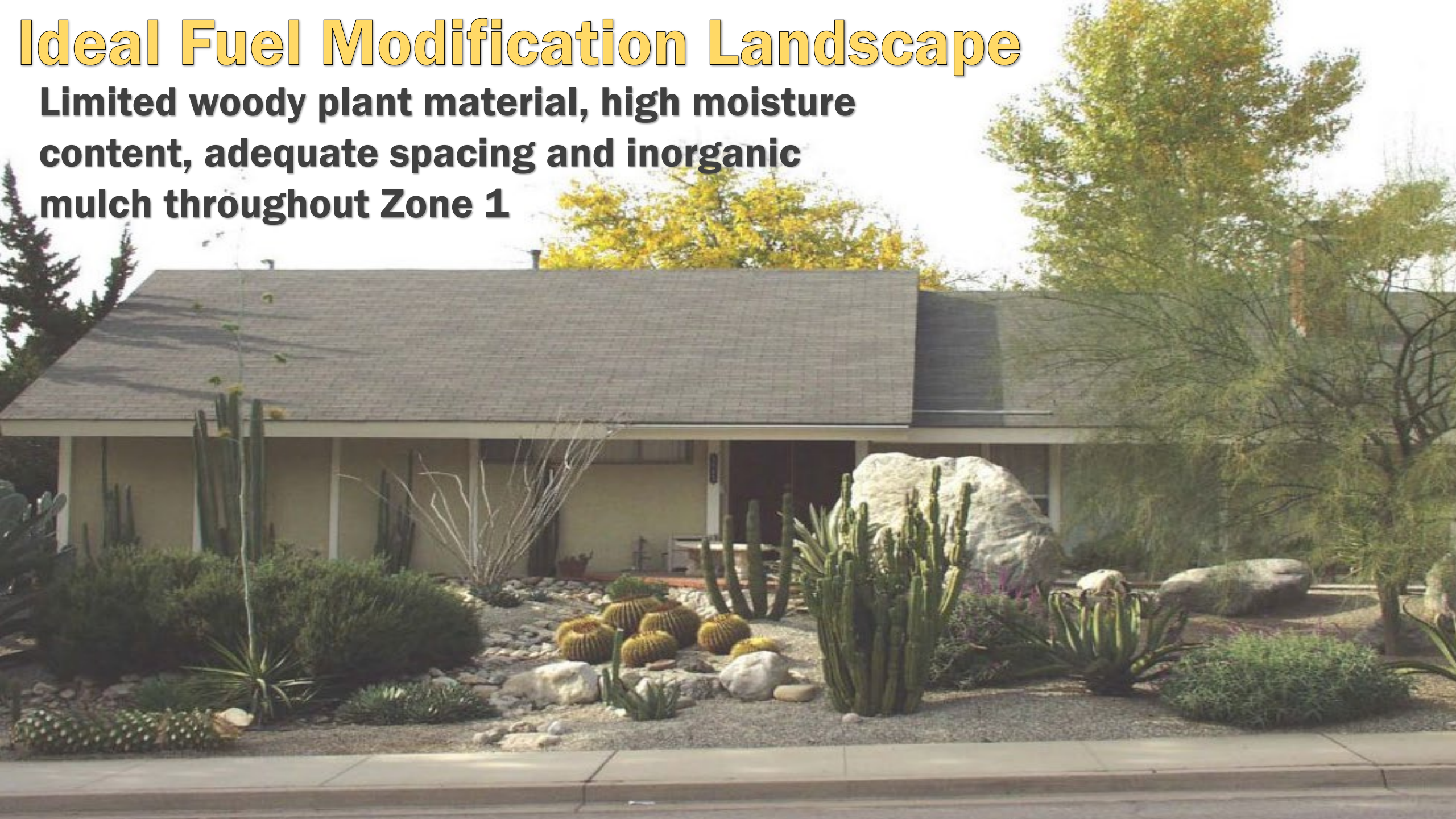
For more information on Ready! Set! Go!, visit [fire.lacounty.gov](http://fire.lacounty.gov).





# Ideal Fuel Modification Landscape

**Limited woody plant material, high moisture content, adequate spacing and inorganic mulch throughout Zone 1**







**HARDEN YOUR HOME**






**SET!**

**PREPARE YOUR FAMILY AND HOME  
AHEAD OF TIME FOR THE  
POSSIBILITY OF EVACUATION**






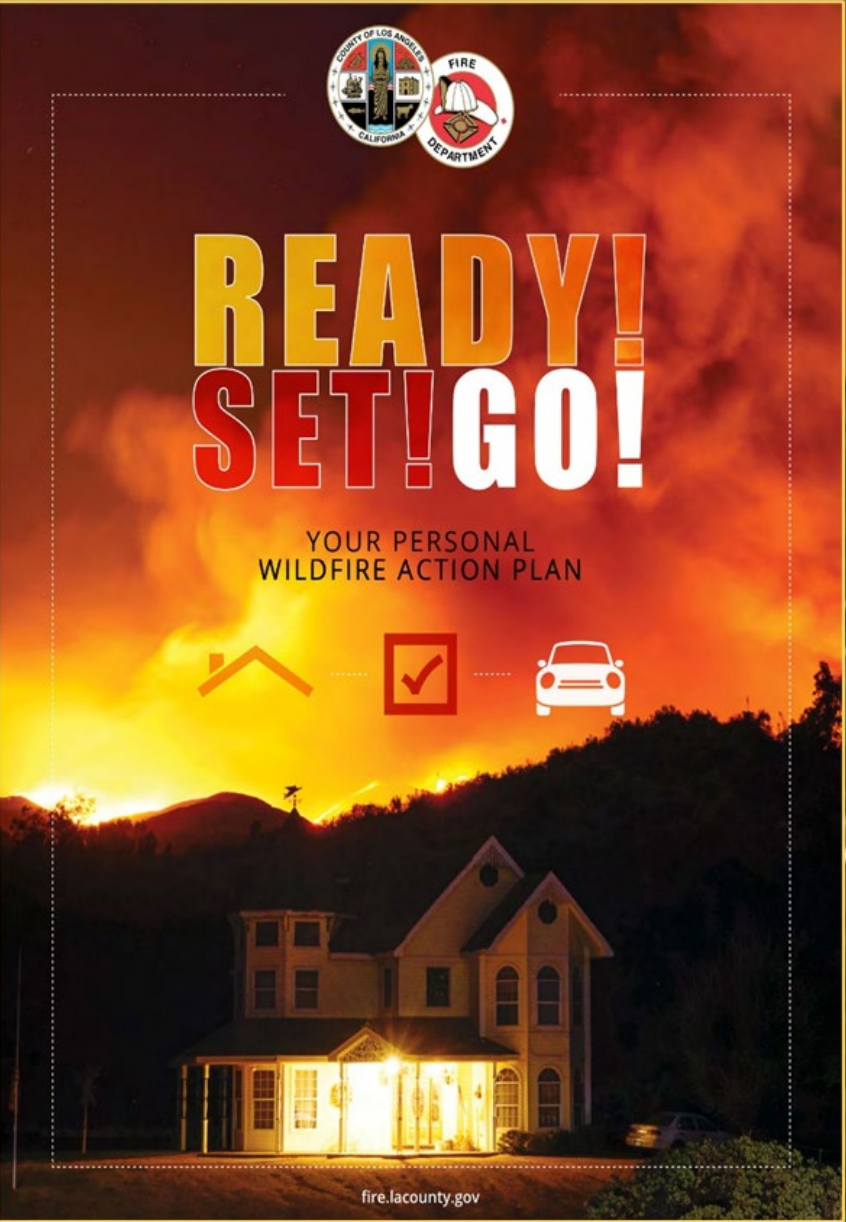
# CREATE YOUR EMERGENCY PLAN



## READY! SET!GO!







YOUR PERSONAL  
WILDFIRE ACTION PLAN



fire.lacounty.gov

## COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES EMERGENCY SURVIVAL GUIDE



# PLAN MULTIPLE EVACUATION ROUTES





  
**Ready LA County**



**SCE Wildfire Safety**

**SCE Medical  
Baseline**

**PSPS**



**MORE  
PREPAREDNESS  
RESOURCES**





**GO!**

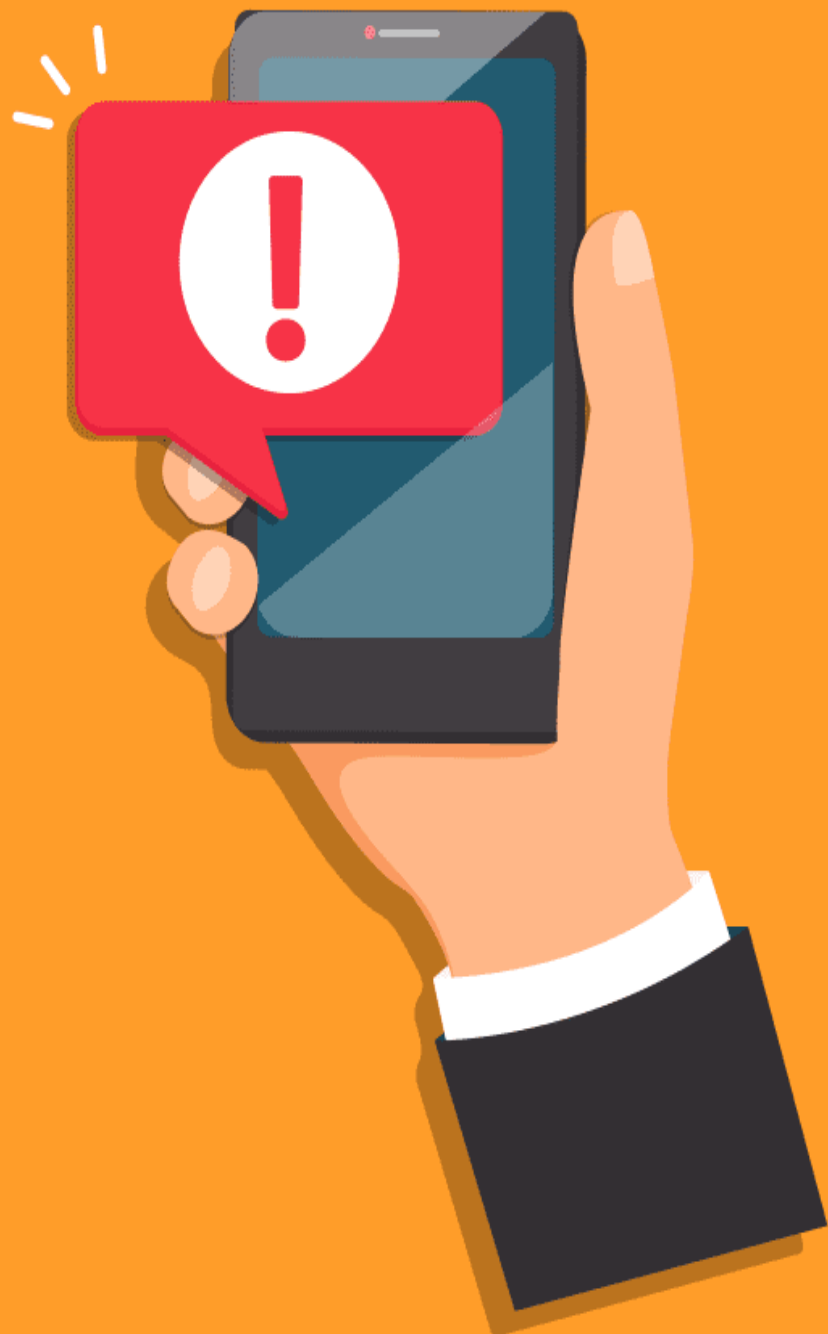
**TAKE THE EVACUATION STEPS NECESSARY  
TO GIVE YOUR FAMILY THE BEST  
CHANCE OF SURVIVING A WILDFIRE**



# **TAKE ACTION IMMEDIATELY WHEN WILDFIRE STRIKES**



**Leave early to give your family the best chance of surviving. Help firefighters by keeping roads clear of congestion, enabling them to move freely and do their job.**



**VISIT:**

**[ready.lacounty.gov/  
emergency-notifications](https://ready.lacounty.gov/emergency-notifications)**

**To learn more about emergency  
mass notification communication  
tools available to residents and  
businesses in Los Angeles County**





**Facebook.com/LACoFD**  
**Facebook.com/lacountyfire7**



**@lacountyfd**  
**@lacofd\_div7**



**@LACoFDPIO**  
**@LACoFD\_DivVII**



**Account in progress...**

# **LA COUNTY FIRE DEPT**

## **SOCIAL MEDIA**

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# OTHER INCIDENT UPDATES

## SIGN UP FOR ALERTS:

**ALERT LA COUNTY**

**PulsePoint App**

*Follow – LA County FD (Division 7)*



## FOLLOW ON TWITTER:

**LACoFD PIO**

**LACoFD Division VII**

**LASD Lost Hills Station**

**CHP West Valley**

**Ready LA County**

**LA County DACC**

**Your City**



## MORE INFORMATION:

**KNX 1070**

**Local Public Access channels**

**NOAA Weather Radios**







# GET INVOLVED!



# THANK YOU!!!

Questions, concerns or need more info?  
Please contact:

**Megan Currier**  
**Community Services Liaison**  
**LACoFD – Division VII**  
**(310) 456-7923**





Drought Discussion- Las Virgenes Municipal Water District  
September 7, 2022

# Preparing for Wildfire (and Drought!)

## Home Hardening and Fire- wise Landscaping Programs



**Clark Stevens, Architect – Executive Officer**

Resource Conservation District of the Santa Monica  
Mountains



# Resource Conservation District of the Santa Monica Mountains

[www.rcdsmm.org](http://www.rcdsmm.org)

Special District of the State of CA

Promote land stewardship and resource conservation

Current services and projects:

Ecological Restoration Design and Management

Biological inventories for Sustainable Development

Ecologically-based Planning and Design

Environmental education

**Community resilience and sustainable land-use**

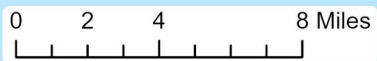
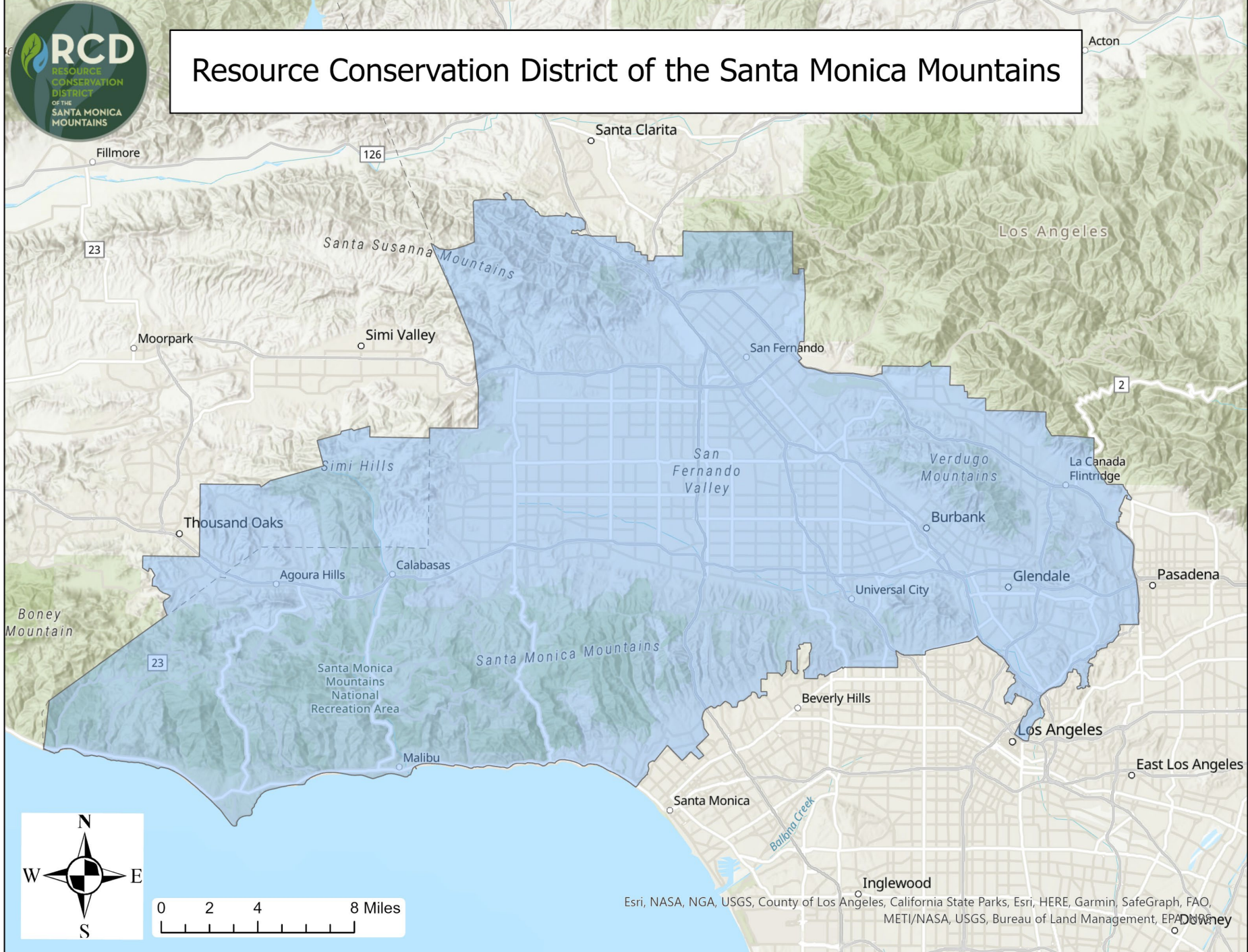
*Consider supporting the RCD with a [tax-deductible donation](#).  
Thank you!*







# Resource Conservation District of the Santa Monica Mountains



Esri, NASA, NGA, USGS, County of Los Angeles, California State Parks, Esri, HERE, Garmin, SafeGraph, FAO, METI/NASA, USGS, Bureau of Land Management, EPA, Disney

# How Does A House Catch Fire?

Project 10.1.1: Fire Safety

Why Is Defensible  
Space Important?





# Sustainable Defensible Space

Eco-appropriate Homescaping for Wildfire Resilience

## FREE Programs by the RCDSMM

Wildfire **Home Ignition Zone** Evaluation

**Defensible Space** Landscape Consultation

Wildfire Preparedness Training

Chipping and **Composted Mulch** Assistance

Post-fire Native Vegetation Restoration

[www.defensiblespace.org](http://www.defensiblespace.org)







# Home Hardening

Start with the home





# Cost vs Priority



RELATIVE COST AND PRIORITY LEVEL OF HOME HARDENING FEATURES FOR FIRE-RESISTANCE



**Relative cost:** Indicates the relative cost of upgrading the listed features to ember-resistant materials and design.

**Priority level:** Indicates the features most vulnerable to wildfires and embers. Keep in mind each situation is unique and may change your priority level.

# Maintenance + Yard Work

**(Left)** Gutters filled with leaf debris, no gutter-guards.



**(Right)** Gutter equipped with a leaf guard.







# Wildfire Home Evaluations

A home evaluation is a **45-min review** of the vulnerability of the **house** and the **landscape** to wildfire and ember-ignition.

During this assessment, a trained evaluator will:

- review defensible space and home hardening principles
- make specific recommendations for the property
- discuss sustainable fire-wise landscape with CA native plants.

Participants will receive a **detailed evaluation report** identifying 5 top priorities.

REGISTER AT <https://www.rcdsmm.org/what-we-do/home-ignition-zone-evaluations/>







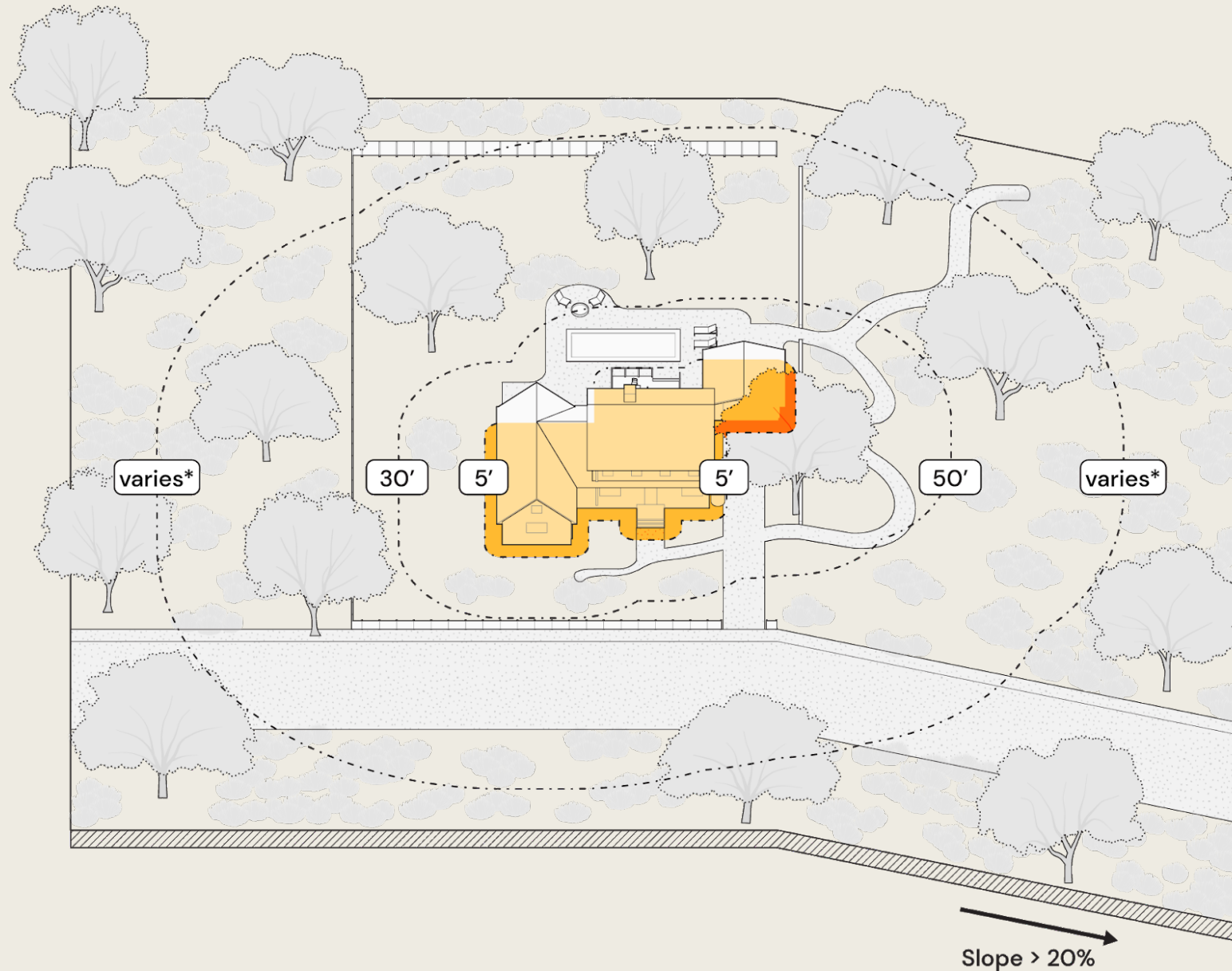
# Landscape

Building water-wise and defensible space

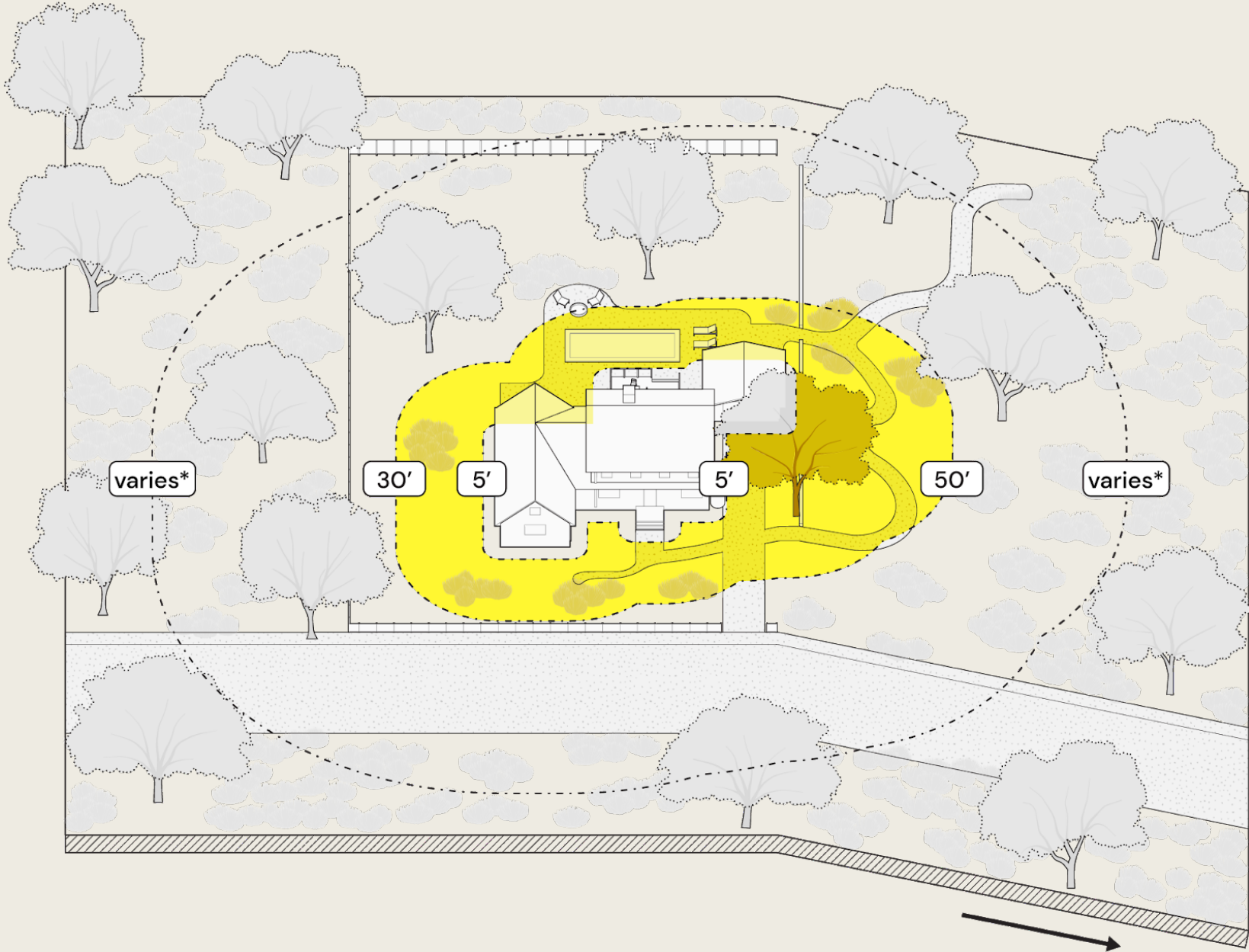




# Ember Resistant Zone (0-5 feet)

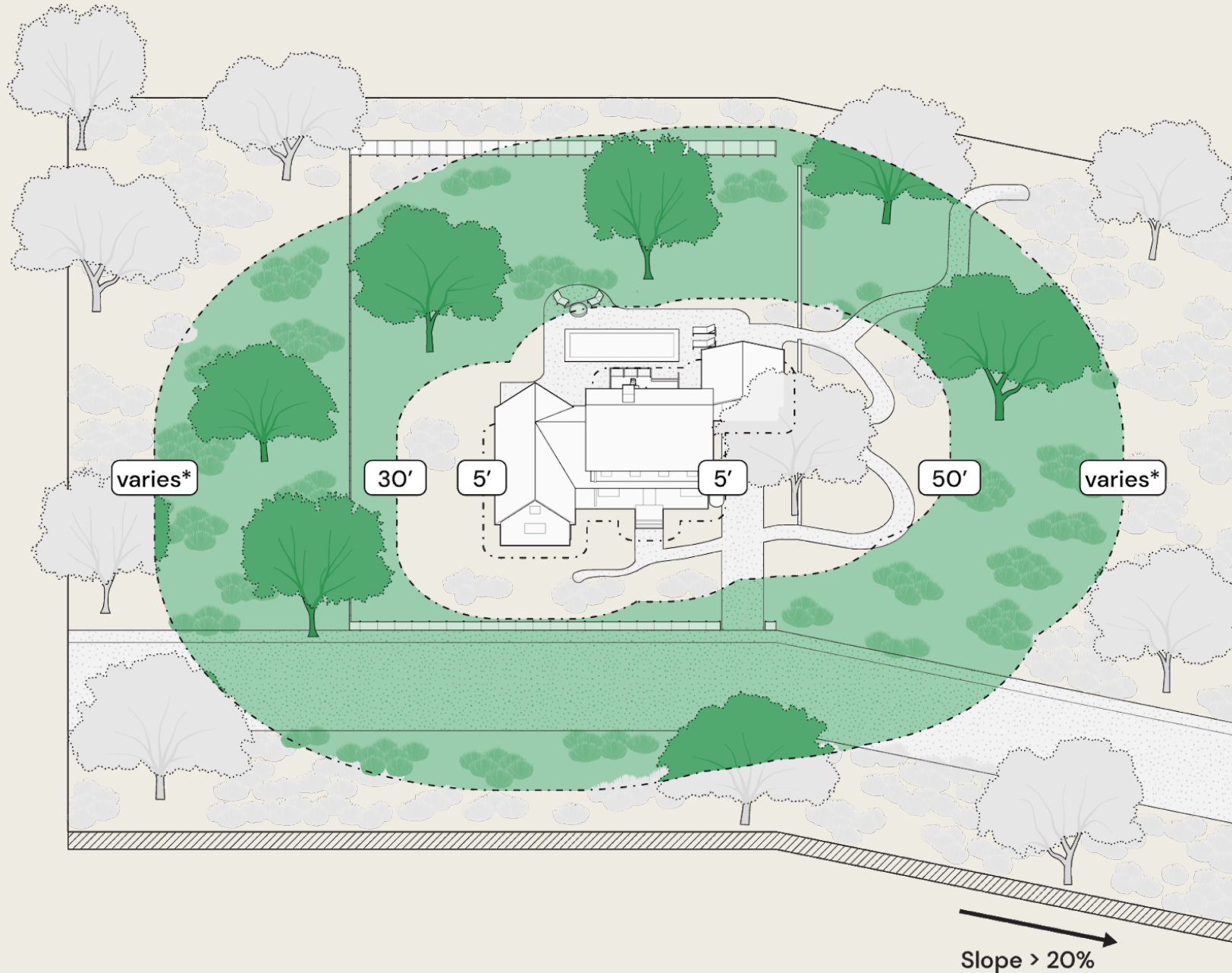


# Home Protection Zone (5-30 or 50 feet Depending on Slope)





# Reduced Fuel / Thinning Zone (30/50- 100 feet)



# Ember Resistant Zone (0-5 feet)

**(Left)** Dense woody vegetation touching and climbing on the structure.



**(Right)** Good use of the walkway to create an ember-resistant zone.





# Fire-wise Landscaping

**(Left)** Dense vegetation and fuel ladders between eucalyptus trees and large shrubs. Too much density for Zone 2.



**(Right)** Use of gravels and stones. Well spaced, low growing and low mass vegetaion. No organic mulch. No dry clusters or fuel laddering.





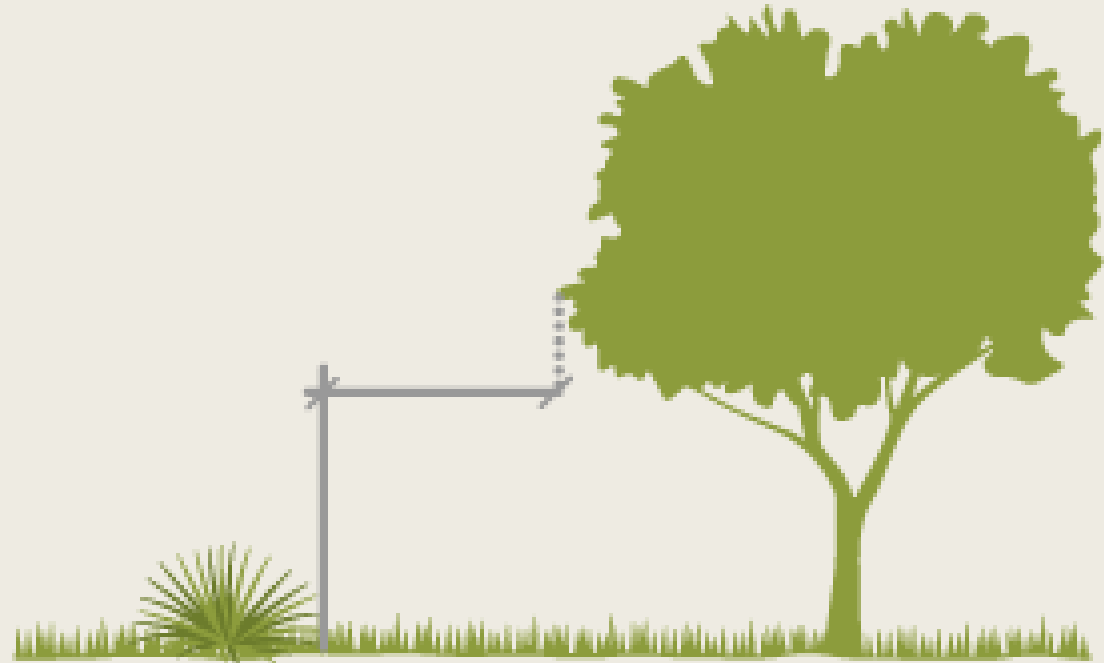


# Maintenance and Spacing

**(Left)** Pine Tree dropping needles on shrub.



**(Right)** Tree and shrubs are well spaced. Tree is “limbed-up” and has no low branches.





# Using Hardscaping- a Zone 0 lesson from the Woolsey Fire





# Community Chipping and Composted Mulch Program

This program aims at **reducing wildfire risk** by removing hazardous vegetation and **improving habitat quality** by using a **mulch/compost mix** in landscaping.

- **FREE** chipping services
- Participants are responsible for preparing chipping piles
- Resulting mulch left on site **to be mixed with Grade A compost** from the Las Virgenes Municipal Water District
- **Compost is FREE** for program participants

**Assistance available** for compost delivery for participants unable to pick-up compost.

**REGISTER AT** <https://www.rcdsmm.org/what-we-do/community-chipping-program/>





# Follow-Up Defensible Space Landscape Consultations



A defensible space consultation is a **1.5-hour fire-wise landscaping consultation** performed by a qualified landscape professional.

During this consultation, the homeowner will receive:

- a **review of defensible space concepts and the benefits of planting California native plants** to support biodiversity and reduce outdoor water use as appropriate in each of the fire zones
- a printed **plant list** generated by the Calscape online Garden Planner specific to the location
- a simple, site-specific **design plan** integrating sustainable defensible space guidelines about plant locations and spacing in selected areas of the site.



**REGISTER AT**

[https://rcdsmm.formstack.com/forms/defensible\\_space\\_landscaping\\_consultation](https://rcdsmm.formstack.com/forms/defensible_space_landscaping_consultation)



[www.defensiblespace.org](http://www.defensiblespace.org)



# Sustainable Defensible Space

Eco-appropriate Homescaping for Wildfire Resilience



HOUSE

LANDSCAPE

PLANTS

LOCATION

COMMUNITY

FAQ

RESOURCES



Sustainable Defensible Space is the area focusing on the first 100 feet around your home. It aims to increase resistance of structures to wildfire, safeguard firefighters' lives, improve conservation values and protect California's natural heritage.



## TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE



## BRAND, WEB AND PRODUCTION

**RIOS**





For more information, explore at [www.defensiblespace.org](http://www.defensiblespace.org)



# THANK YOU

**Pauline Allen- Community  
Resilience Specialist**

[pallen@rcdsmm.org](mailto:pallen@rcdsmm.org)

**Clark Stevens-Executive  
Officer**

[cstevens@rcdsmm.org](mailto:cstevens@rcdsmm.org)

Resource Conservation  
District of the Santa Monica  
Mountains



# Resources

**Las Virgenes Municipal Water District:**

[www.lvmwd.com](http://www.lvmwd.com)

**Reclaim Water Fill Stations:**

[www.lvmwd.com/rwfillstation](http://www.lvmwd.com/rwfillstation)

**Free Soil Compost:**

[www.lvmwd.com/community-compost](http://www.lvmwd.com/community-compost)

**Assemblymember Jacqui Irwin:**

<https://a44.asmdc.org>

**Insurance Request for Assistance:**

<https://cdiapps.insurance.ca.gov/CP/login/>

**Cal Fire Safe Council Info:**

<https://cafiresafecouncil.org>

**LA County Fire:**

<https://fire.lacounty.gov/>

**Emergency Alerts:**

<https://ready.lacounty.gov/emergency-notifications>

**Resource Conservation District:**

<https://rcdsmm.org>

**Defensible Space Info:**

[www.defensiblespace.org](http://www.defensiblespace.org)

**Wildfire Home Evaluations:**

[www.rcdsmm.org/what-we-do/home-ignition-zone-evaluations](http://www.rcdsmm.org/what-we-do/home-ignition-zone-evaluations)

**Chipping Program:**

[www.rcdsmm.org/what-we-do/community-chipping-program](http://www.rcdsmm.org/what-we-do/community-chipping-program)

**Fire-Wise Landscape Design Consultation:**

[https://rcdsmm.formstack.com/forms/defensible\\_space\\_landscape\\_consultation](https://rcdsmm.formstack.com/forms/defensible_space_landscape_consultation)