



# Fire Department

*"Serving the Community Since 1926"*

## *Defensible Space Check List*

A defensible space of 100 feet around your home is required or to the property line, which ever is nearer. (CPRC 4291). The goal is to create an area to assist in the protection of lives, property and buildings and structures.

*Below is information to assist you in preparing for a fire department defensible space inspection. Use this in conjunction with Santa Barbara County Fire Department Development Standard # 6 found at [www.sbcfire.com](http://www.sbcfire.com).*

### **ADVISORY**

When clearing dry vegetation, use care when operating equipment such as lawnmowers or trimmers with metal blades. When metal blades come in contact with a rock or metal post, the resulting spark can produce a fire. Work in early morning hours or on cool, moist days.

### **BUILDINGS AND STRUCTURES**

- All combustible vegetation is cleared within the 30 foot zone.
- All trees and vegetation within the 30 foot zone are well maintained.
- All combustible vegetation within the additional 70 foot zone meets spacing requirements.
- All dry and combustible materials around the buildings and structures have been removed (dry leaves, needles, twigs, branches, pine cones, bark, etc.).
- No portions of trees are located within 10 feet of a chimney or stovepipe.
- All chimney and stovepipe outlets are fitted with the proper spark arresting screen.
- Trees over hanging buildings or structures are free of dead or dying wood.
- The roofs of all buildings or structures are free of leaves and other dry vegetation.

### **DRIVEWAYS AND ROADWAYS**

- All driveways and roadways are free from combustible vegetation for a distance not less than 10 feet from both shoulders of the roadway or driveway.
- Trees are well maintained, spaced to reduce the chance of tree-to-tree spread of fire, and the branches do not overhang the driveway and roadway lower than 13 feet 6 inches.
- The area beneath the trees is free of combustible vegetation.