



# THE FIRST 5 FEET MATTER MOST

## *"Zone 0": A New Ember-Resistant Zone*

Fire science shows within a **five foot ring** is where embers most often ignite a home during wildfire. **Hardening** it is one of the most effective, affordable steps a homeowner can take to **protect their house** and their neighbors'.

California's new **Zone 0 Defensible Space Regulations** focus on the **first five feet around homes and other structures**. The regulations are designed to reduce combustible materials immediately surrounding structures while allowing certain properly maintained trees and plants in portions of the zone. Zone 0 requirements **apply in new construction immediately** and **will phase in to existing homes**.



The houses pictured comply with **Zone 0 Defensible Space Regulations**.



Keep roofs and gutters clear of leaves, needles and debris at all times.



Maintain existing trees: remove dead or dying branches keep branches away from chimneys, roofs and eaves.



Create vegetation-free space near vulnerable areas including walls, eaves, windows, doors, vents and attached decks.



Remove combustible materials such as firewood, wood mulch, wood chips, fallen leaves, needles etc.

5'-0"



Learn more about Zone 0 requirements, timelines and resources:  
California Board of Forestry & Fire Protection — Defensible Space Zones

<https://bof.fire.ca.gov>