

BEND FIRE & RESCUE



PROTECT YOUR HOME

SHARE THE CARE

In 2022, numerous fire calls reminded homeowners and emergency responders alike how quickly flames can devour both individual properties and neighborhoods—especially when defensible space is lacking.



© Insurance Institute for Business & Home Safety

Research shows that embers (airborne pieces of burning wood and/or vegetation carried more than a mile through the wind), and small surface fires, are the primary sources of home ignition during wildfires. You need to prepare your home to withstand embers and keep surface fires from touching it or any attachments.



Houses that don't ignite don't burn down. Consider these zones (immediate, intermediate and extended) in your home-hardening efforts, focusing especially on the first five feet.



FOCUS ON THE CLOSEST
IMMEDIATE: ZERO TO FIVE FEET

- Clean leaves, pine needles, etc. from roof and gutters
- Repair loose or missing roof shingles, windows or screens
- Install 1/8-inch metal mesh screening over attic, crawlspace and eave vents
- Remove flammables (mulch, leaves, needles, firewood) away from wall exteriors and under decks
- Use non-combustible ground cover (cement pavers, crushed stone, mineral soil)



RAKE IT BEFORE FIRE TAKES IT
INTERMEDIATE: FIVE TO 30 FEET

- Mow lawn and rake debris/leaves regularly
- Landscape with fire-resistant plants
- Prune low-hanging and wide tree branches from within five feet of house
- Mark street signs/house numbers clearly for emergency vehicles



MAKE FLAMES STAY AWAY
EXTENDED: 30 TO 100 FEET

- Store firewood at least 30 feet from house
- Create fuel breaks with hardscape features
- Keep vegetation moist to prevent floating embers from causing fires
- Minimize ladder fuels (vertical flammables) to decrease fire intensity

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT:



Bend Fire & Rescue
bendoregon.gov/fire
541-322-6300



Deschutes Rural Fire Dist. #2
dcrfpd2.com
541-322-6377