

Understanding A Brush Fire #3

Defensible Space: Clean, Lean and Green

Defensible Space or fire-scaping is the natural and landscaped area around a structure that has been maintained and designed to reduce fire danger.



Clean

Ideally, a good defensible space is 100 feet overall. The initial 30 to 50 feet of space surrounding a structure should be clean of fuel stockpiles (wood, trash, old vehicles)

Lean

Thinning trees and shrubs works two-fold to hamper wildfire spread. It reduces the amount of burnable fuel around the structure, and also increases the health of flora and fauna by opening space to provide more sunlight and oxygen. This reduces disease which can kill off plants and create more combustibles.

Green

A green and well maintained lawn creates more fuel moisture, which lessens the chance of burning and spreading fire.