

Learn the 10 steps to being Safer from Wildfires

Every action under Safer from Wildfires will qualify you for an insurance discount. By doing more, you can save more. [Read the full text of the new Safer from Wildfires insurance regulation.](#)

- **Class-A fire rated roof** – Most roofs qualify including asphalt shingles, concrete, brick, or masonry tiles, and metal shingles or sheets. Wood shake shingles are not Class A fire-resistant rated. [The Office of the State Fire Marshal maintains a list of tested and approved materials.](#)
- **5 foot ember resistant zone, including fencing** – Removing greenery and replacing wood chips with stone or decomposed granite 5 feet around your home prevents fire from getting a foot in the door. Replacing wood fencing connecting to your home with metal is critical because it can act like a candle wick leading fire straight to your home.
- **Ember- and fire-resistant vents** – Installing 1/16 to 1/8 inch noncombustible, corrosion-resistant metal mesh screens over exterior vents can keep wind-blown embers out of your house.
- **Non-combustible 6 inches at the bottom of exterior walls** – Having a minimum of 6 vertical inches measured from the ground up and from any attached horizontal surface like a deck can stop embers from accumulating and igniting your walls. Noncombustible materials include brick, stone, fiber-cement siding or concrete.
- **Enclosed eaves** – Installing soffits under your eaves can prevent heat and embers from getting trapped and igniting. When enclosing eaves, non-combustible or ignition resistant materials are recommended.
- **Upgraded windows** – Multi-paned windows are more resistant to breaking during a wildfire, which helps keep flames from entering. Multi-paned glass or added shutters all qualify.
- **Cleared vegetation, weeds and debris from under decks** – Noncombustible materials like concrete, gravel, or bare soil are permitted.
- **Removal of combustible sheds and other outbuildings to at least a distance of 30 feet** – These include sheds, gazebos, accessory dwelling units (ADUs), open covered structures with a solid roof, dog houses and playhouses.
- **Defensible space compliance** – following state and local laws requiring defensible space including trimming trees and removal of brush and debris from yard. See [CAL FIRE's defensible space page](#) and your local city or county for details.
- **Being safer together** – Safer from Wildfires recognizes two community-wide programs, Firewise USA and Fire Risk Reduction Communities as small as 8 dwelling units or as big as 2,500 can create an action plan and start being safer together. Firewise USA is a nationally recognized program with proven results, sponsored by the National Fire Prevention Association.