

SIERRA SPRINGS REGIONAL FIRE SAFE COUNCIL DEFENSIBLE SPACE EVALUATION

Homeowner(s) Name: _____

SSRFSC Evaluator: _____

Address: _____

Date: _____

Zone 1 Requirements: / Within 30 feet of all structures or to the property line:

Checked items indicate violation.

- _____ A. Remove all branches within 10 feet of any chimney or stovepipe outlet, [(PRC Section 4291(a)(4) and 14 CCR Section 1299.03(a) (2)].
- _____ B. Remove leaves, needles or other vegetation on roofs, gutters, decks, porches, stairways, etc. [(PRC Section 4291(a) (6) and 14 CCR Section 1299.03(a) (1)].
- _____ C. Remove all dead and dying trees, branches and shrubs, or other plants adjacent to or overhanging buildings, [(PRC Section 4291 (a) (5) and 14 CCR Section 1299.03 (a) (2)].
- _____ D. Remove all dead and dying grass, plants, shrubs, trees, branches, leaves, weeds and needles, [(14 CCR Section 1299.03 (a) (1)].
- _____ E. Remove or separate live flammable ground cover and shrubs, [(PRC Section 4291 (a) (1) and BOF General Guidelines item 1)]. BOF Guidelines state, "Maintain a firebreak by removing and clearing away all flammable vegetation and other combustible growth within 30 feet of each building or structure, with certain exceptions pursuant to PRC Section 4291 (a). Single specimens of trees or other vegetation may be retained provided they are well-spaced, well-pruned, and create a condition that avoids spread of fire to other vegetation or to a building or structure."
- _____ F. Remove flammable vegetation and items that could catch fire which are adjacent to, or below, combustible decks, balconies, and stairs, [(14 CCR Section 1299.03 (a) (4)].
- _____ G. Relocate exposed wood piles from Zone 1 unless completely covered in a fire-resistant material, [(14 CCR Section 1299.03 (a) (3)]. 14 CCR Section 1299.03 (a) (3) states "Zone 1" extends thirty feet (30ft.) out from each "Building or Structure," but not beyond the property line.

Zone 2 Requirements: / Within 30 -100 feet of all structures or to the property line:

Checked items indicate violation.

- _____ H. Dead and dying woody surface fuels and aerial fuels shall be removed. Loose surface litter, normally consisting of fallen leaves or needles, twigs, bark, cones, and small branches, shall be permitted to a maximum depth of three inches, [(14 CCR Section 1299.03(b) (2) (A)].
BOF guidelines provide the following definitions:
Surface fuels - loose surface litter on the soil surface, normally consisting of fallen leaves or needles, twigs, bark, cones, and small branches that have not yet decayed enough to lose their identity; also grasses, forbs, low and medium shrubs, tree seedlings, heavier branches and downed logs.
Aerial fuels - All live and dead vegetation in the forest canopy or above surface fuels, including tree branches, twigs and cones, snags, moss, and high brush. Examples include trees and large bushes.
- _____ I. Cut annual grasses and forbs down to a maximum height of 4 inches, [(14 CCR Section 1299.03(b) (2) (B)].
A forb is defined as a herbaceous flowering plant other than a grass.
- _____ J. All exposed wood piles must have a minimum of 10 feet of clearance, down to bare mineral soil, in all directions, [(14 CCR Section 1299.03(b) (2) (C).)]
- _____ K. Create horizontal and vertical spacing among shrubs and trees using the "Fuel Separation" method, the "Continuous Tree Canopy" method or a combination of both to achieve defensible space clearance requirements according to BOF General Guidelines. Refer to the Plant Spacing Guidelines on back and illustrations on Attachment A.

Zone 1 & 2 Requirements: / Within 0 -100 feet of all structures or to the property line:

- _____ L. Logs or stumps embedded in the soil must be removed or isolated from other vegetation, (BOF General Guidelines item 3).

Other Requirements:

Checked items indicate violation.

- _____ M. "Outbuildings" and Liquid Propane Gas (LPG) storage tanks shall have 10 feet of clearance to bare mineral soil and no flammable vegetation for an additional 10 feet around their exterior [(14 CCR Section 1299.03(c) (1)]. This includes vertical and horizontal distance.
- _____ N. Address numbers shall be displayed in contrasting colors (4 inch minimum size) and readable from the street or access road, (2016 CFC Section 505.1.)
- _____ O. Road and driveway accessible for emergency equipment (EDC 1273.10) (Minimum 14 feet wide & 15 feet high).

Approved March 13, 2019 Board Meeting

Plant Spacing Guidelines

Guidelines are designed to break the continuity of fuels and be used as a “rule of thumb” for achieving compliance with Regulation 14 CCR 1299.

Trees	Minimum horizontal space from edge of one tree canopy to the edge of the next	
	<i>Slope</i>	<i>Spacing</i>
	<i>0% to 20%</i>	10 feet
	<i>20% to 40%</i>	20 feet
	<i>Greater than 40%</i>	30 feet
Shrubs	Minimum horizontal space between edges of shrub	
	<i>Slope</i>	<i>Spacing</i>
	<i>0% to 20%</i>	2 times the height of the shrub
	<i>20% to 40%</i>	4 times the height of the shrub
	<i>Greater than 40%</i>	6 times the height of the shrub
Vertical Space	Minimum vertical space between top of shrub and bottom of lower tree branches: 3 times the height of the shrub	

NOTE: Groups of vegetation (numerous plants growing together less than 10 feet in total foliage width) may be treated as a single plant.

Zone 3 Requirements: / From 100 feet of all structures to the property line(s): &

Vacant Lot Requirements: / Parcels that have no structure:

- _____ P. Remove dead trees and vegetation from the property. Pine needles and leaves shall not exceed a maximum of 3 inches in depth, (SSOA Fire Prevention Safety Rules).
- _____ Q. Remove tree limbs within 6-10 feet of the ground according to the slope, not to exceed 1/3 the height of the tree, (SSOA Fire Prevention Safety Rules).

COMMENTS:

ATTACHMENT A

REDUCED FUEL ZONE: 'FUEL SEPARATION' METHOD



REDUCED FUEL ZONE: DEFENSIBLE SPACE WITH 'CONTINUOUS TREE CANOPY' METHOD



To achieve defensible space while retaining a stand of larger trees with a continuous tree canopy apply the following treatments:

- Generally, remove all surface fuels greater than 4 inches in height. Single specimens of trees or other vegetation may be retained provided they are well-spaced, well-pruned, and create a condition that avoids spread of fire to other vegetation or to a building or structure.
- Remove lower limbs of trees (“prune”) to at least 6 feet up to 15 feet (or the lower 1/3 branches for small trees). Properties with greater fire hazards, such as steeper slopes or more severe fire danger, will require pruning heights in the upper end of this range.

