

NEVADA COUNTY DEFENSIBLE SPACE PROGRAM

The County of Nevada’s Hazardous Vegetation & Combustible Material ordinance requires defensible space within 100 feet of a structure and along roadways that serve as primary ingress/egress routes on private roadways. Defensible space inspectors educate the community on requirements, conduct year-round inspections and enforce the Hazardous Vegetation & Combustible Material ordinance.

The Nevada County ordinance requires every parcel owner to adhere to the following sections:

- Maintain a defensible space of **100 ft** from each side and from the front and rear of the structure, but not beyond the property line except as provided by law.
- Maintain a **100 ft** wide area of land around structure(s) located on an adjacent improved parcel (some or all of this defensible space requirement may be required on an adjacent parcel depending upon the location of the structure on the improved parcel).
- Maintain free of ladder fuels a minimum of a **10 ft** wide strip of land beyond the shoulder of a roadway serving as primary ingress and egress to the parcel, to a height of **15 ft** along the boundary of a parcel.
- Remove the portion of a tree that extends within **10 ft** of the outline of a chimney or stovepipe.
- Climbing vines must be removed from trees and structures within the **100 ft** defensible space zone around structure(s).
- Maintain a tree, shrub, or other plant adjacent to or overhanging a building free of dead or dying wood.
- Maintain the roof of a structure free of leaves, needles, or other vegetative materials.
- Maintain the parcel free of ladder fuels within the **100 ft** defensible space area around structure(s).
- Ladder fuels are fuels that can carry a fire vertically between or within combustible material can carry a fire vertically between or within combustible material or hazardous vegetation.
- Provide a minimum of **10 ft** clearance of all combustible material and hazardous vegetation surrounding propane tanks, generators, privately owned power poles, and fuel storage tanks.
- Maintain a **5 ft** ember-resistant zone around structures and underneath decks, stairs, porches or other combustible material attached to structures.



FOR ADDITIONAL DEFENSIBLE SPACE ASSISTANCE CONTACT YOUR LOCAL FIREWISE COMMUNITY

The Fire Safe Council coordinates Firewise USA® which is a voluntary program that provides a framework to help neighbors get organized, find direction, and take action to increase the ignition resistance of their homes and community.

For more information on the Fire Safe Council, visit areyoufiresafe.com.