

Evaluation Form

Use this checklist to evaluate what you may need to do to comply with the Oregon Forestland-Urban Interface Fire Protection Act's standards.



Within 30-50 feet of the house, evaluate what you may need to do to create a primary fuel break:

- Is the area substantially composed of nonflammable ground cover? If not, tall grass will need to be cut, and needles and leaves raked and removed.
- Are trees and shrubs green and healthy? If not, remove dead branches, and dead or dying trees and shrubs.
- Are the lowest branches of trees directly above shrubs or tall, dry grass? If so, these lower branches must be pruned, or the vegetation beneath them trimmed or removed, or the grass trimmed to a height no greater than four inches.
- Are trees and shrubs growing in large, continuous thickets? If so, consider thinning some of them; it is recommended that you consult a forester before cutting trees.
- Is your roof covered with flammable material, such as cedar shakes? If so, a secondary fuel break needs to extend beyond the primary fuel break an additional 20-70 feet.

Other considerations:

- Is your driveway longer than 150 feet? If so, brush needs to be cleared 10 feet from both sides of the centerline, and overhead branches must be removed to 13' 6".
- Are any tree branches within 10 feet of a chimney that vents a wood-burning fireplace or stove? If so, the branches will have to be removed.
- Do any dead branches hang over the roof? If so, the dead branches will have to be removed.
- Are lumber piles or firewood piles stored under wooden decks or stairways? If so, the firewood and lumber will have to be removed.
- Is there an accumulation of tree needles, leaves and other fine, woody debris under wooden decks or stairways? If so, this debris will have to be raked and removed.
- Is a pile of firewood next to the house? If so, by the time fire season starts, the firewood pile will need to be fully enclosed, or moved at least 20 feet from the house.
- Are there vents in attic, soffits and foundation? Are there openings to the undersides of wooden decks and stairways? If so, these openings need to be covered with 1/4" metal screen, or other nonflammable material.
- Are there spark arresters in the chimneys and vents of all wood-burning devices, such as fireplaces, wood stoves, barbecues and incinerators? Is there a safe disposal site for ashes and charcoal? If not, screens must be installed and a disposal site created.
- Do the gutters contain dry leaves, needles and other fine woody debris? If so, these need to be cleaned, and fitted with screens or covers to keep debris out.