

A THINNER FOREST IS A HEALTHY FOREST

... AND A HEALTHY FOREST IS A FIRE-RESISTANT FOREST

SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY MOUNTAINS

Thinning live trees reduces the fire hazard by eliminating live and ladder vegetation and restoring the health of the remaining trees.

Spacing trees 20 to 30 feet apart is recommended by fire protection officials.

HEALTHY FOREST

Under the Forest Care program, administered by CAL FIRE and the San Bernardino National Forest Association, property owners are eligible for:

- Reimbursement for up to 75 percent of the cost of removing live trees.
- Free advice from a licensed, professional forester.

Contact the Forest Care program (888) 883-THIN, or complete the form online at www.sbnfa.com/forestcare.php

TREE-REMOVAL ADVICE

- San Bernardino County Hazardous Tree Abatement Program (909) 867-1240 or www.calmast.org

If you have trees near power lines, contact your local utility company:

- Southern California Edison, Tree Removal Program (800) 640-3652 or www.sce.com/barkbeetle
- Bear Valley Electric Service (800) 808-BVES or www.bves.com

INLAND EMPIRE FIRE SAFE ALLIANCE

To find your local fire safe council, please contact (866) 923-3473 or visit www.fireinformation.com

MOUNTAIN AREA SAFETY TASKFORCE SERVING THE MOUNTAIN AREA

Formed in 2002, the Mountain Area Safety Taskforce (MAST) is a coalition of local, state and federal government agencies, private companies and volunteer organizations in San Bernardino County concerned with public safety in the mountain areas.

MAST has significantly reduced the fire threat in the San Bernardino and San Gabriel Mountains, removing more than one million dead, dying or diseased trees—on private and public properties.



The one-millionth dead tree was removed in early 2007.

But there is still work to be done. MAST's focus has shifted to thinning green vegetation in strategic areas to reduce ladder fuels and to help restore the health of the forest so we can all enjoy this natural resource for generations to come.

WORKING TOGETHER, WE CAN PREVENT CATASTROPHIC WILDFIRES.

For more information, visit the MAST website: www.calmast.org



MOUNTAIN AREA SAFETY TASKFORCE

Working Together Toward Fire Safety in San Bernardino County



INSIDE

- MAST: Serving the Mountain Area
- Creating a Defensible Space
- Healthy Forest Initiatives

IN CASE OF EMERGENCY DIAL 911
TO REPORT ARSON CALL "WE TIP" AT (800) 47-ARSON

DON'T FUEL FIRE—CREATE DEFENSIBLE SPACE

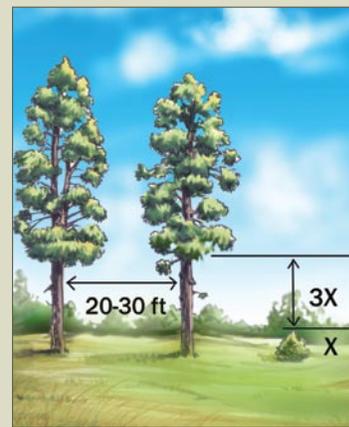
- Maintain a 100-foot defensible space around structures:
 - 0-10 feet: ignition zone
 - 10-30 feet: clean zone (or to property line)
 - 30-100 feet: reduced fuel zone (or to property line)
- Trim tree branches within 10 feet of a chimney or stovepipe
- Remove dead or dying trees and other dead or dry vegetation
- Eliminate ladder fuels that allow flames to climb upward
- Remove all needles and leaves from beneath decks and within 10 feet of any structure; in open areas, restrict needles and leaves to a depth of 2 inches to prevent erosion
- Trim grass to 4 inches in height
- Spacing trees 20 to 30 feet apart is recommended
- Replant trees with locally grown seedlings
- Landscape with plants that are resistant to fire and have low moisture requirements
- For detailed information, go to www.calmast.org or contact your local fire department



Creating defensible space helps protect your home from wildfire.



Fire safety is a community effort: When homes are close together, creating defensible space means neighbor helping neighbor.



Defensible space involves creating safe distances between fuels so that fire cannot easily jump from one fuel source to another.

PROTECT YOUR HOME FROM FIRE

- Maintain a screen constructed of nonflammable material over the flue opening of every chimney or stovepipe; officials recommend a screen mesh opening of 1/2"
- Remove portions of any tree extending within 10 feet of the flue opening of any stove or chimney
- Replace window glass with dual-pane windows
- Install screening under deck areas to prevent accumulations of leaves and pine needles
- Paint home exteriors with fire-retardant paints
- Instead of repainting, install non-combustible home siding and non-combustible wainscoting
- Replace 1/4" vent screens with 1/8" metal screens in roof, gable and subfloor vents to prevent embers from going into or under your house
- Replace wood shakes/shingles with asphalt composition shingles (Class A) or metal roofing
- Clear rain gutters and roof of leaves and pine needles
- Build fences with nonflammable materials; and cover open ground with gravel, rock, brick, paving or other nonflammable substances
- Move woodpiles away from your home
- Make your address visible from the road so firefighters can easily find it in an emergency
- Install nonflammable or fire-resistant window coverings inside the house
- Annuals and seasonal perennials are better choices for landscaping near your home than flammable plants such as junipers

FIRE SAFETY: IT'S UP TO YOU