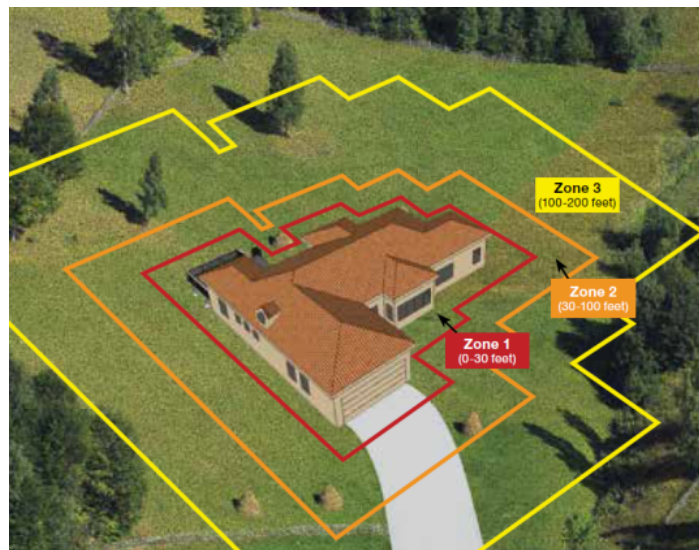




Sonoma Valley Fire District

Serving the communities of
Sonoma, Valley of the Moon, Glen Ellen, and Mayacamas

Requirements for Improved Parcels in the Local Responsibility Areas (LRAs)



Zone 1: From structures to 30 feet or the property line, whichever comes first.

Remove all portions of trees within ten feet (10 feet) of chimney and/or stovepipe outlets. SCC 13A-4(a)(4)*



There Should not be any part of a tree or plant within ten feet of any chimney or stove pipe outlet (whether the heating device is regularly used or not). This area emits heat and will eventually dry the vegetation potentially leading to a fire ignition.

Maintain the roof and gutters of any structure free of leaves, needles, or other dead/dying wood. SCC 13A- 4(a)(6)*



Roofs and gutters should be free from debris.

Sparks / embers that travel through the air during a fire may land in this area igniting a fire.

The installation of gutter guards and protectors can reduce the accumulation of this material.

Maintain the roof and gutters of any structure free of leaves, needles, or other dead/dying wood. SCC 13A- 4(a)(6)*



Dead and dying plants and trees need to be removed. This is especially important when adjacent to or overhanging a structure.

This dead material is especially susceptible to ignition and will contribute to the spread of a wildfire.

Climbing vines must be maintained to be free of dead and dying materials or removed from trees and structures. SCC 13A-4(a)(1)*



Dead and dying vines like all dead and dying portions of plants and trees need to be removed. This is especially important when this material comes into contact with other fuels like trees and structures.

This dead material is especially susceptible to ignition and will contribute to the spread of a wildfire.

Remove dead and dying vegetation from the property. SCC 13A-4(a)(10)*
Maintain shrubs to be free from dead and dying materials. SCC 13A-4(a)(1)*



Dead and dying vegetation needs to be removed.

This dead material is especially susceptible to ignition and will contribute to the spread of a wildfire.

Prune trees to 6 feet from ground. (or 1/3 the height of the tree, recommended). SCC 13A-4(a)(1)*



Trees should be pruned 6 ft from the ground.

You should be able to easily walk under tall trees.

Low branches can provide fire a ladder to ignite a tree and spread wildfire.

Smaller trees (as pictured) can be pruned up 1/3 the total height of the tree.

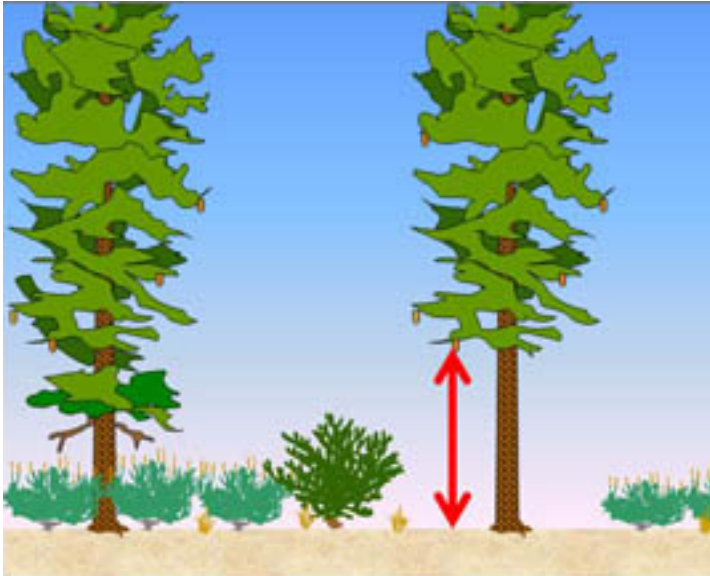
Cut grasses to 6 inches or less. To prevent erosion, do not cut to bare mineral soil. SCC 13A-4(a)(1)*



Keeping annual grasses and weeds short will reduce the intensity of an advancing fire. The flame length of a fire in short maintained grass / fuels burns slower and is less likely to ignite trees. The fire will move slower and be more easily controlled by fire personnel. In addition this less intense fire is less likely to generate the heat and energy to ignite a well prepared home.

Zone 2: Additional defensible space outward to one hundred feet 100' (or to the property line) from all structures may be required depending on the property slope, fuel load and/or fuel type.

Prune trees to 6 feet from ground. SCC 13A-4(a)(9)*



Trees should be pruned 6 ft from the ground.

You should be able to easily walk under tall trees.

Low branches can provide fire a ladder to ignite a tree and spread wildfire.

Remove dead and dying vegetation from the property. SCC 13A-4(a)(10)*



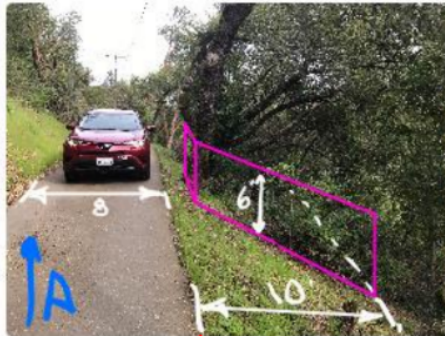
Dead and dying vegetation needs to be removed.

This dead material is especially susceptible to ignition and will contribute to the spread of a wildfire.

Other Requirements:

Within ten feet of roadway frontage: SCC 13A-4(a)(3)*

- Remove dead and dying vegetation.
- Remove tree branches up to six feet (6') above the ground (Recommended: Prun 6 feet from ground OR 1/3 of tree height)
- Trim grasses to four inches (4") or less but not to the bare soil.



The maintenance of roadside vegetation is essential to reduce the risk of fire spread. This management allows the roadway to serve as a "fire break" and provides fire resources a tactical position to stop a moving fire.

In addition this management will provide a safer evacuation route for occupants served by the roadway. It also provides for the safety of emergency responders.

Install a spark arrester on chimney and/or stovepipe outlets.

The spark arrester must be constructed of heavy wire mesh with openings not to exceed one-half inch ($\frac{1}{2}$ "). SCC 13A-4(a)(7)*



Its purpose is to catch flammable debris, embers or sparks coming up the flue from open fireplaces or wood-burning stoves. This theoretically prevents the ejected sparks from landing on the roof, nearby trees or flammable materials on the ground, potentially setting them alight.

Provide street address numbers that are clearly visible from the roadside, minimum height: Four inches (4"). SCC 13A-4(a)(8)*

- The address numbers should be posted on the house.
- If the house sits back from the street, post the address at the beginning of the driveway and on the house.
- The address numbers should be reflective in a contrasting color for visibility pursuant to Sonoma County Code Chapter 13



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All roadway and driveway structures having only one traffic lane shall be constructed to provide a minimum unobstructed width of twelve feet (12') and an unobstructed vertical clearance of fifteen feet (15') along the entire length. Ordinance 6296, Sonoma County Fire Code Sec 13-33 c



Roadways need to provide enough clearance for a fire engine to safely and efficiently navigate. Obstructions of any type including vegetation may delay the fire departments ability to respond in a timely manner and may damage equipment.

A well maintained roadway also reduces the ability for fire to spread from one side to another and assists occupants in safely evacuating.