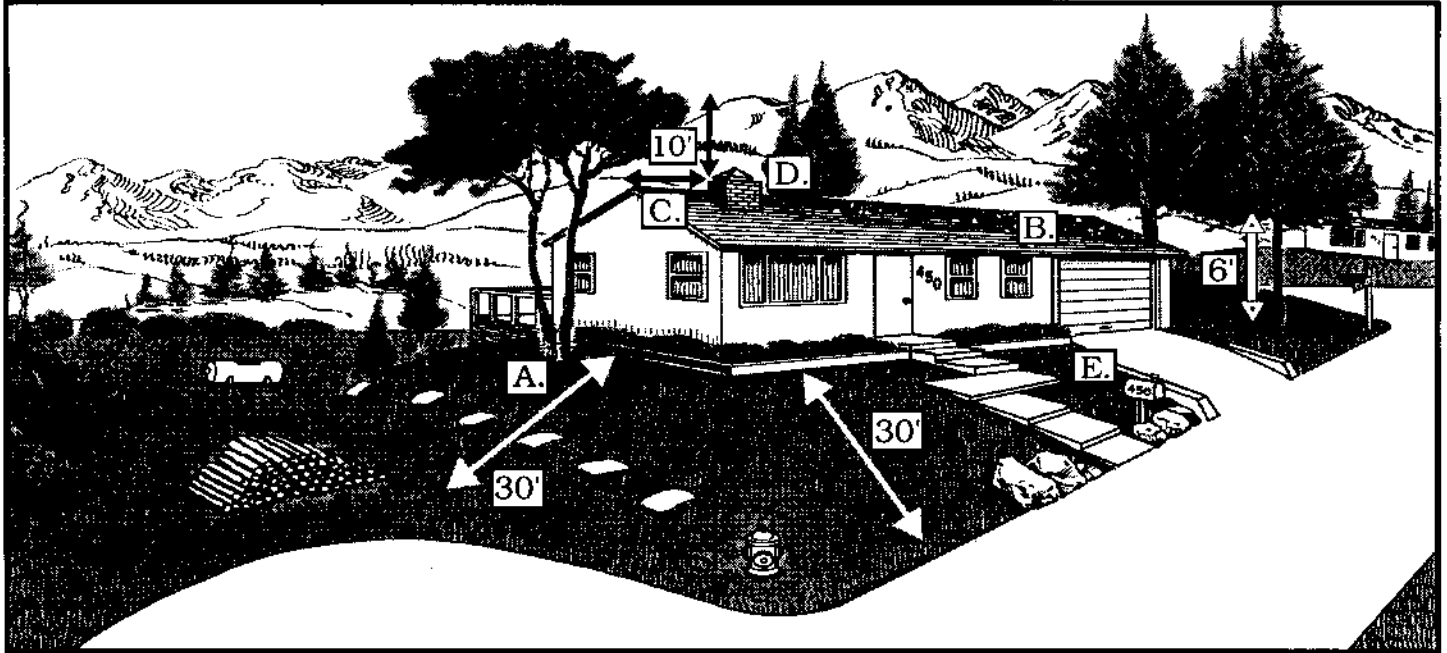




# Hillside Fire Safety Homeowner Checklist

408.378.4010 or 1.800.800.1793



## HAZARDOUS FIRE AREA—Enforced Safety Regulations

The Santa Clara County Fire Department has developed the following list of preventative measures that—when completed—will bring your property in compliance with the applicable regulations and will greatly reduce the risk of loss or damage to your home in the event of a hillside fire. To help ensure that your property meets these regulations, please complete the requirements listed below.

- A. Remove all flammable vegetation a MINIMUM of 30 feet around all structures. Clear ornamental shrubbery and trees of dead leaves and branches.**
- B. Remove all pine needles and leaves from roofs, eaves and rain gutters.**
- C. Trim tree limbs 10 feet away from chimneys or stovepipes and remove any dead limbs hanging over roof tops.**
- D. Cover chimney outlets or flues with a spark arresting, 1/2" mesh, screen.**
- E. Post a clearly visible house address, using at least 4" high numbers, for easy identification.**

See reverse side for additional safety recommendations...

# Additional Safety Recommendations

For the safety of your family and preservation of your property, Santa Clara County Fire Department recommends the following for additional protection:

## 1. YOUR HOME

- Build or re-roof with fire resistant roof coverings
- Build or remodel with fire resistive materials (e.g., brick or stucco)
- Enclose underside of deck or balconies with fire resistive materials
- Protect windows and glazed areas (thermal panes, louvers, plywood)

## 2. ACCESS TO YOUR HOME

- Maintain bridges to support the weight of emergency vehicles (35,000 pounds)
- Remove parked or abandoned vehicles or other obstructions from roadways and driveways
- Clear vegetation 10 feet from roadside, 5 feet from driveway, and 15 feet vertically
- Ensure that your street has visibly posted street signs at each intersection

## 3. LANDSCAPING AND MAINTENANCE

- Landscape with plants that are fire resistive  
Some characteristics of fire resistive plants:
  - Grows close to the ground
  - Low sap or resin content
  - Drought tolerant or has high moisture content
  - Grows without accumulating excessive amounts of dead branches, needles, etc.
- Trees 18 feet or taller should have limbs cut 6 feet from the ground
- Regularly **maintain** your "Defensible Space"

## 4. INSTALLATION OF EMERGENCY WATER SUPPLY

- Maintain community or private water/hydrant system
  - Location of nearest hydrant \_\_\_\_\_
  - Gallons per minute \_\_\_\_\_
- Maintain a water storage facility (minimum 2,500 gallons) on your property
- Ensure system has 2.5" outlet, National Standard Threads, and is a maximum of 8' from road
- If on a well, provide an auxiliary power source (e.g., a generator) to operate water system

## 5. EMERGENCY PREPARATION

- Test smoke detectors monthly and change their batteries annually
- Install a multipurpose fire extinguisher and train family members how to use it
- Draw a home escape plan and practice it with all family members
- Store emergency supplies (First aid kit, food, water, flashlights, batteries, radio, etc.)
- Identify two escape routes out of your neighborhood
- Prepare a list of valuables to take if evacuation ever becomes necessary



For more information contact  
**Santa Clara County Fire Department**  
**408.378.4010 or 1.800.800.1793**

A California Fire Protection District serving  
Santa Clara County and the communities of Campbell, Cupertino, Los Altos,  
Los Altos Hills, Los Gatos, Monte Sereno, Morgan Hill and Saratoga