

## Defensible Space Annual Checklist

- Trees and shrubs are properly thinned and pruned within the defensible space. Slash from the thinning is disposed of.
- Roof and gutters are clear of leaves, needles, and other debris.
- Branches overhanging the roof and chimney are removed.
- Chimney screens are in place and in good condition. Trees and branches are at least 10 feet from chimney.
- Grass and weeds are mowed to a low height below 8 inches.
- An outdoor water supply is available, complete with a hose and nozzle that can reach all parts of the house.
- Fire extinguishers are checked and in working condition.
- The driveway is wide enough (approximately 12 feet). The clearance of trees and branches is adequate for fire and emergency equipment (approximately 15 feet). (Check with your local fire department.)
- Road signs and your name and house number are posted and easily visible.
- There is an easily accessible tool storage area with rakes, hoes, axes and shovels for use in case of fire.
- You have practiced family fire drills and your fire evacuation plan.
- Your escape routes, meeting points and other details are known and understood by all family members.
- Attic, roof, eaves and foundation vents are screened and in good condition. Stilt foundations and decks are enclosed, screened or walled up.
- Trash and debris accumulations are removed from the defensible space.

He knows what to do  
during a wildfire. Do you?



## Safety Tips During Wildfire Season

Wildfires can strike quickly—spreading fear, inconvenience and loss. So be prepared. It's the best way to protect your family and property.

### Before:

- Review suggested preparations for wildfires with your propane supplier and any other utility suppliers. Advise them in advance of any special needs you may have.
- Know how and where to shut off your propane supply and other utilities.
  - Consult your local police, fire department, civil defense and other authorities for suggested courses of actions.
  - Know your community's disaster warning signals and how to tune into local broadcast media or the Emergency Broadcast Network.
  - Post all of your emergency numbers in a convenient spot.
  - Always store propane tanks outdoors.



### During:

- If it's safe, remove any debris or combustible material from around storage tanks.
- If it's safe, move any smaller cylinders, such as barbecue tanks away from the structure.
- Use caution when evacuating. Turn off the service valve on the propane container in a clockwise direction and the shutoff valve on all propane appliances.

### After:

- Use caution when re-entering the residence or returning to the site.
- Check for gas odors. If a gas odor is detected, do not operate electrical switches, appliances, telephone or cell phones. These actions could ignite an explosion.
- If your propane tank has shifted position, gas lines are bent, broken or damaged; or you notice something unusual about your system or appliance, safety permitting, turn off the main supply valve.
- Contact your propane supplier or qualified technician to schedule a complete inspection of your propane containers, piping and system to determine if fire damage has compromised its integrity.
- If valves have been shut off, a leakage test is required prior to reinitiating service. Storage containers may have to be repaired.



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