WHAT IS YOUR GREATEST DANGER?

A DISCUSSION ABOUT:

FIRE ZONES - 1-4

DENFENSIBLE SPACE - The 3 R’s

FIRE RESISITIVE LANDSCAPING

ESCAPE ROUTES: HOME & NEIGHBORHOOD

SMART CONSTRUCTION
Is it a grassland wildfire?
Is it a wildland wildfire?
Or is it a structure fire?
The answer is ALL of the above!
Lake County Rocky Fire July 2015
DEFENSIBLE SPACE - DO YOU HAVE YOURS?
Use your ‘Living with FIRE in Sonoma County’ handbook as your guide!
Zone 1 = 0-5 ft. The area adjacent to your home.
Zone 2 = 5-30 ft. from home
The firebreak area.
Zone 3 = 30-100ft. The area beyond 30ft. from your home.
Zone 4 = The area well beyond 100ft. from your home.
DEFENSIBLE SPACE INCLUDES:

- Maintaining 100 feet of defensible space around all structures.
- Clearing all needles and leaves from roofs, eaves and rain gutters.
- Trimming branches six feet from the ground.
- Landscaping with fire-resistant/drought tolerant plants requiring little water.
DEFENSIBLE SPACE INCLUDES:

- Removing branches near roofs and within 10 feet of the chimney.
- Using trimming, mowing and powered equipment before 10 a.m., and not on hot or windy days.
- Keeping woodpiles and inflammables at least 30 feet away from the home.
Maintain 100 ft. defensible space around all structures.
Clear all needles & leaves from roofs, eaves and rain gutters.
Trim branches six feet from the ground.
Remove branches near roofs & within 10 feet of the chimney.
Avoid this happening by...
Trim, mow and use powered equipment before 10am, and not on hot or windy days.
Keep woodpiles and pyrophoric materials at least 30 feet away from the home.

Great Place!

Too close to home!
A home saved during the 1991 Oakland Hills fire - Defensible space likely saved this home.
Defensible Space - 3 R’s
Remove, Reduce, Replace

The Three “R’s” of Defensible Space
‘R’ #1 - REMOVAL

Removal involves the elimination of entire plants, trees and shrubs from a site.
Note the pyrophoric material (dead trees) near homes.

These trees should be removed.
‘R’ #2 - REDUCTION

Reduce the amount of plants, branches and leaves from the site.

Needs work

Getting better!
‘R’ #3 - REPLACEMENT

Plant fire-resistive, non-pyrophoric (less-flammable) plants.
Fire-resistive landscaping is sometimes called FIRESCAPING
Firescape with fire resistive and drought tolerant plants.

Use hardscape (rocks and boulders) that require no water.
Page 11 of your ‘Living with FIRE in Sonoma County’ handbook has fire-resistant plant material for use in Sonoma County.
Fire-resistive does not mean fireproof!

Even fire-resistive plants will burn if not well maintained. Be sure to appropriately water and prune your plants and trees to keep them healthy.
Plan your escape **before** the fire happens!
Don’t Wait!

This may have been too late!

When we couldn’t see the mountain anymore, we got nervous. When we couldn’t see the neighbor’s house, we figured we should go.
HOME AND NEIGHBORHOOD ESCAPE PLAN
Do you have yours?
Always know 2 ways out of your home and out of each room...

Make sure you have a meeting place outside the home!
Oakland Hills fire evacuation...

Have an alternate way out if possible!
Be ready to go and LEAVE EARLY...

Didn’t leave early enough with only 1 way out!

Better Planning!
Always know 2 ways out of your neighborhood...

OR make your plan to include leaving at the first sign of fire!
Note great multi-evacuation points

Skyfarm Dr. to Crosscreek, to Markwest Springs Rd. or to St. Andrews, down to Thomas Lake Harris Dr. to Fountain Grove Pkway.
More worrisome a neighborhood like this!

Only way out is via Parker Hill Rd. left or right!
Better 2 way access out!
Many Streets with 2 ways out!
Not many ways out for most homes!
Clearly an area that should leave early!
Gutter Guards = SMART Construction

Gutter guards keep debris out of gutters offering more fire-resistant qualities.
Closed eaves make for a more fire-safe home.

The under-eave area is vulnerable if embers enter the attic through any gaps or attic vents.
Fire Resistive Windows & Glass Blocks in SMART Construction Technology.

Dual-paned glass doubles the time for fire to break windows.

Glass blocks are extremely fire-resistive while still providing light.
Stucco - another Fire-Resistive material you may want to use.

Modern stucco is made of Portland cement, (sand and lime). It serves as an excellent and durable fire-resistant material.
Hardie Board is a great SMART Material instead of normal wood siding or shingles.

Hardie board siding is 90% sand/cement making it more fire-resistive. 50 ft. away from a fire Hardie Board remained unscathed in MN house fire.
SMART Bricks are one more Fire-Resistive Construction Material to consider.

Bricks are inherently fire-resistive due to the fact they are made of clay that is fired at 280,000° F.
Use Class ‘A’ Fire-resistive roofing materials for SMART Construction...
Choose composition shingles, metal, stone or tile for great fire resistance.
Metal Roofs
Hardie Board for Roofing
Tile or Stone Roofing Materials

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Check out samples of SMART Construction materials at our table in the back!

Gutter Guards

Other SMART Materials
Hopefully you now feel more prepared for your GREATEST DANGER!

Grassland Fire

Structure Fire

Wildland Fire
ARE THERE ANY QUESTIONS?

THANK YOU!
Presented to you by the:

City of Santa Rosa Fire Department