

# Important Information on Defensible Space!

**Make a copy of this and walk your property!**

When the North Lake Tahoe Fire Department evaluates your property for defensible space, they have a mandated checklist that is similar to this.

## Defensible Space Checklist

- Make street address easily visible from street. **Make sure it contrasts with the background with 5 or 6" numbers**
- Rake and remove pine needles **30 feet** from the house or property line
- Remove accumulated pine needles from roof
- Cut grasses and manzanita bushes. They must be at **least 5 feet** apart!
- Clear debris and needle piles, construction debris, and flammable storage from around the structure
- Limb **adult** trees up a minimum of **ten feet** from the ground, smaller trees up the bottom third of tree height
- Remove dead tree limbs touching or overhanging roofs and decks
- Remove all tree limbs a minimum of ten feet from chimneys and stovepipes
- Remove all dead and dying trees from the property
- Clear all debris on and under porches and decks
- All firewood must be completely covered by an ember resistant fire cover (purchasable at Ace Hardware/True Value/Online)
- Non Combustible Space at least **five feet wide** around the base of your home using irrigated plants such as flowers, lawn, ground cover **or** hard surfaces such as gravel, pavers, brick, and rocks. **KEEP THIS AREA FREE OF woodpiles, wood mulch, pine needles/cones, flammable shrubs (native non-irrigated vegetation)**

Spring and summer are almost upon us, and that means fire season is fast approaching. We **need** you to clean up your defensible space! On February 9<sup>th</sup>, the winds clocked at the top of Alpine Meadows was **135 MPH**. That's what a wildfire thrives on. Much of the research shows that wildfires can use those winds to travel over ten miles. Here is your checklist to ensure you have defensible space to protect your home, family, and neighborhood.

There are also two important links suggested by the NLTFD and the Wildfire Committee of Dollar Point:

How to maintain a defensible space with plant spacing and fire-resistant landscaping:

<https://www.readyforwildfire.org/prepare-for-wildfire/get-ready/defensible-space/>

What kind of colorful and unique plants are fire-resistant and drought-resistant for your landscaping?

<https://www.readyforwildfire.org/prepare-for-wildfire/get-ready/fire-resistant-landscaping/>

Remember **Manzanita is highly flammable**. You want to either eliminate it from your yard or keep it cut knee length and trimmed from the ground up a minimum of eight inches.

Dumpster Day (Cul-de-sac at the beach) **MARK YOUR CALENDARS**

Monday, May 25<sup>th</sup> (8:00 AM – 4:00 PM)

Monday, June 29<sup>th</sup> (8:00 AM – 4:00 PM)

Friday, August 7<sup>th</sup> (8:00 AM – 2:00 PM)

Thanks to the Dollar Point Board! They've budgeted and approved all three dumpster days!

**Remember: Look for the Wildfire News Letter to come out at the end of every month!**

Who to contact in the Wildfire Committee:

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