

HOME EVALUATION FORM

EQC Agency Oversight Subcommittee
 2003-2004 Interim
 Meeting Minutes
 January 13, 2004
 Exhibit 28

OWNER OR OCCUPANT _____ F _____
 ADDRESS _____
 (OR DESCRIPTIVE LOCATION) _____

People living in the wildland/urban interface should be prepared for wildland fires. The Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation is providing this wildland fire prevention inspection to help residents reduce fire hazards endangering their property. By following the suggestions listed here, you can help yourself to reduce the risk that an accidental fire could start on your property and also the risk that a fire starting elsewhere could cause damage to your property.

Completed Recommend Improvement

Within 3 feet of structure:

Maintain an area of non-combustible material-flowers, plants, concrete, gravel, mineral soil, etc.

Within 10 feet of structure (increase distance below structure if slope is >10%):

Remove all trees and downed woody fuels.

Maintain surface vegetation at 3 inches or less in height.

From 10 to 30 feet of structure (increase distance below structure if slope is >10%):

Thin trees to 10 feet between crowns.

Prune limbs of all remaining trees to 15 feet in height or one third of total live crown, whichever is less.

Maintain surface vegetation at 3 inches or less in height.

Remove all downed woody fuels.

From 30 to 100 feet of structure (increase distance below structure if slope is >10%) :

Thin trees to 10 feet between crowns.

Prune limbs of all remaining trees to 15 feet in height or one third of total live crown, whichever is less.

Remove all downed woody fuels greater than 3 inches in diameter.

Clear or reduce vegetation from alongside your driveway or road edge, and make sure your driveway is wide enough and adequate for fire trucks to turn around.

Dispose of all slash and flammable debris from your property. If you intend to burn, follow all applicable open burning regulations and requirements.

Have the power company cut overhanging branches away from power lines.

Clean the roof and gutters of needles, leaves, branches and other combustible debris.

Provide a 15 foot clearance between your chimney and nearest tree branches.

Make sure your chimney extends 3 feet above the roof and is capped with an approved spark arrester.

Roof should be of fire resistant material. A wood shake roof should be treated with UL approved fire retardant chemicals or replaced.

Enclose open spaces beneath features such as decks, balconies and stilts to keep out hot embers.

Locate the propane tank at least 10 feet from the structure and clear a 10 foot area around the tank.

Stack your firewood at least 100 feet from the house, not on the downhill side.

Ensure that your water supply is useable during a fire emergency, and keep garden hoses readily available.

Keep storage areas clean. Do not allow oily rags, flammable chemicals or newspapers to accumulate.

Ensure that all motorized garden equipment, lawnmowers and chainsaws have approved spark arresters.

Display your name and house number in front of your property to assist firefighters in locating your home.

Other items _____

INSPECTED BY _____ DATE _____

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

This inspection is advisory only. Due to the often unpredictable nature of wildland fires, and the many factors affecting the survivorability of any particular structure, a completed inspection by the Department does not guarantee or warrant that the property will survive a wildfire event. By completing this inspection, the Department accepts no liability for any loss, damage, or injury resulting from a wildfire event.

HOME EVALUATION FORM

OWNER OR OCCUPANT _____ PHONE _____
 ADDRESS _____
 (OR DESCRIPTIVE LOCATION) _____

People living in the wildland/urban interface should be prepared for wildland fires. The Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation is providing this wildland fire prevention inspection to help residents reduce fire hazards endangering their property. By following the suggestions listed here, you can help yourself to reduce the risk that an accidental fire could start on your property and also the risk that a fire starting elsewhere could cause damage to your property.

Completed	Recommend Improvement	
_____	_____	<p style="text-align: center;">Within 3 feet of structure:</p> <p>Maintain an area of non-combustible material—flowers, plants, concrete, gravel, mineral soil, etc.</p>
_____	_____	<p style="text-align: center;">Within 10 feet of structure (increase distance below structure if slope is >10%):</p> <p>Remove all trees and downed woody fuels. Maintain surface vegetation at 3 inches or less in height.</p>
_____	_____	<p style="text-align: center;">From 10 to 30 feet of structure (increase distance below structure if slope is >10%):</p> <p>Thin trees to 10 feet between crowns. Prune limbs of all remaining trees to 15 feet in height or one third of total live crown, whichever is less. Maintain surface vegetation at 3 inches or less in height. Remove all downed woody fuels.</p>
_____	_____	<p style="text-align: center;">From 30 to 100 feet of structure (increase distance below structure if slope is >10%):</p> <p>Thin trees to 10 feet between crowns. Prune limbs of all remaining trees to 15 feet in height or one third of total live crown, whichever is less. Remove all downed woody fuels greater than 3 inches in diameter.</p>
_____	_____	<p>Clear or reduce vegetation from alongside your driveway or road edge, and make sure your driveway is wide enough and adequate for fire trucks to turn around.</p>
_____	_____	<p>Dispose of all slash and flammable debris from your property. If you intend to burn, follow all applicable open burning regulations and requirements.</p>
_____	_____	<p>Have the power company cut overhanging branches away from power lines.</p>
_____	_____	<p>Clean the roof and gutters of needles, leaves, branches and other combustible debris.</p>
_____	_____	<p>Provide a 15 foot clearance between your chimney and nearest tree branches.</p>
_____	_____	<p>Make sure your chimney extends 3 feet above the roof and is capped with an approved spark arrester.</p>
_____	_____	<p>Roof should be of fire resistant material. A wood shake roof should be treated with UL approved fire retardant chemicals or replaced.</p>
_____	_____	<p>Enclose open spaces beneath features such as decks, balconies and stilts to keep out hot embers.</p>
_____	_____	<p>Locate the propane tank at least 10 feet from the structure and clear a 10 foot area around the tank.</p>
_____	_____	<p>Stack your firewood at least 100 feet from the house, not on the downhill side.</p>
_____	_____	<p>Ensure that your water supply is useable during a fire emergency, and keep garden hoses readily available.</p>
_____	_____	<p>Keep storage areas clean. Do not allow oily rags, flammable chemicals or newspapers to accumulate.</p>
_____	_____	<p>Insure that all motorized garden equipment, lawnmowers and chainsaws have approved spark arresters.</p>
_____	_____	<p>Display your name and house number in front of your property to assist firefighters in locating your home.</p>

Other items _____

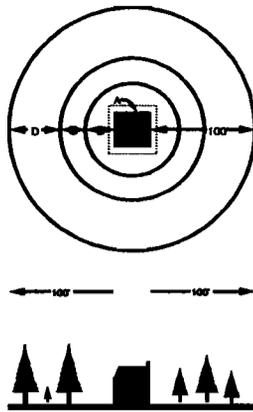
INSPECTED BY _____ DATE _____

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

This inspection is advisory only. Due to the often unpredictable nature of wildland fires, and the many factors affecting the survivorability of any particular structure, a completed inspection by the Department does not guarantee or warrant that the property will survive a wildfire event. By completing this inspection, the Department accepts no liability for any loss, damage, or injury resulting from a wildfire event.

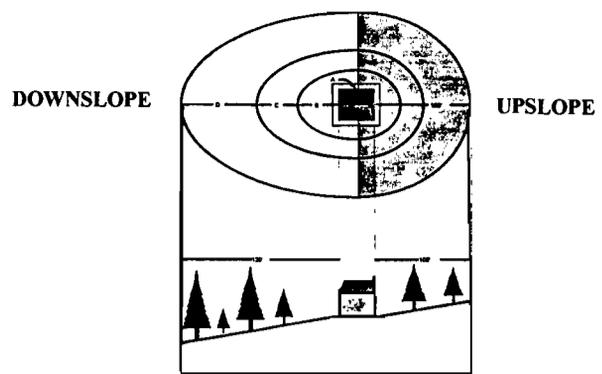
6x 28

VEGETATION REDUCTION STANDARDS 0% TO 10% SLOPE



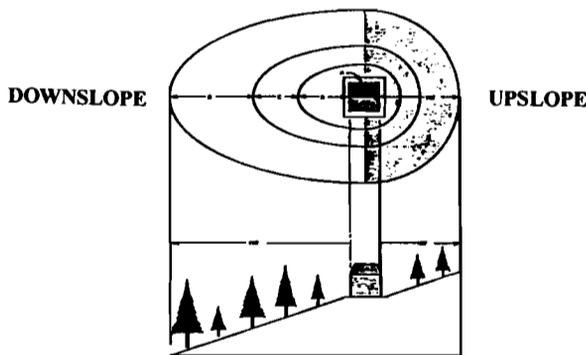
- A = THE FIRST 3 FEET OF B**
Maintain an area of non-combustible material - flowers, plants, concrete, gravel, mineral soil etc..
- B = 10 FEET**
Remove all trees and downed woody fuels.
- C = 20 FEET**
Thin trees out to 10 feet between their crowns.
Prune the limbs of all remaining trees to 15 feet or one third the total height whichever is less.
Maintain surface vegetation at 3 inches or less.
Remove all downed wood fuels.
- D = 70 FEET**
Thin trees out to 10 feet between their crowns
Prune the limbs of all remaining trees to 15 feet or one third the total height whichever is less.
Maintain surface vegetation at 12 inches or less.
Remove all downed woody fuels more than 3 inches in diameter.

VEGETATION REDUCTION STANDARDS 10% TO 20% SLOPE



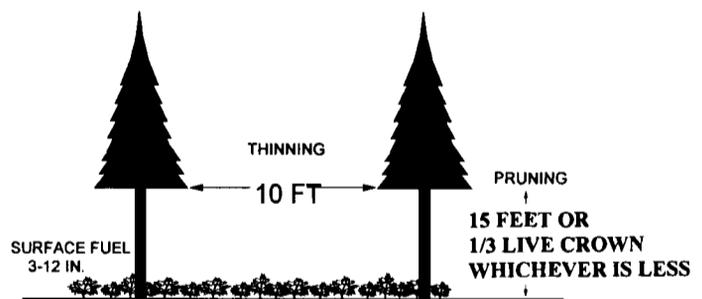
- The shaded areas (up-slope) of B, C, D remain a constant distant of 10' 20' and 70' respectively. The shaded area begins from the mid-section of a structure. The unshaded areas (down-slope) of B, C, and D increase with slope as detailed below:
- A = THE FIRST 3 FEET OF B**
Maintain an area of non-combustible material - flowers, plants, concrete, gravel, mineral soil etc..
 - B = 15 FEET**
Remove all trees and downed woody fuels.
 - C = 25 FEET**
Thin trees out to 10 feet between their crowns.
Prune the limbs of all remaining trees to 15 feet or one third total height whichever is less.
Maintain surface vegetation at 3 inches or less.
Remove all downed wood fuels.
 - D = 80 FEET**
Thin trees out to 10 feet between their crowns
Prune the limbs of all remaining trees to 15 feet or one third total height whichever is less.
Maintain surface vegetation at 12 inches or less.
Remove all downed woody fuels more than 3 inches in diameter.

VEGETATION REDUCTION STANDARDS 20% TO 30% SLOPE



- The shaded areas (up-slope) of B, C, D remain a constant distant of 10' 20' and 70' respectively. The shaded area begins from the mid-section of a structure. The unshaded areas (down-slope) of B, C, and D increase with slope as detailed below:
- A = THE FIRST 3 FEET OF B**
Maintain an area of non-combustible material - flowers, plants, concrete, gravel, mineral soil etc..
 - B = 20 FEET**
Remove all trees and downed woody fuels.
 - C = 30 FEET**
Thin trees out to 10 feet between their crowns.
Prune the limbs of all remaining trees to 15 feet or one third total height whatever is less.
Maintain surface vegetation at 3 inches or less.
Remove all downed wood fuels.
 - D = 100 FEET**
Thin trees out to 10 feet between their crowns
Maintain surface vegetation at 12 inches or less.
Remove all downed woody fuels more than 3 inches in diameter.

VEGETATION REDUCTION STANDARDS THINNING AND PRUNING GUIDE



In areas where vegetation modification is prescribed use the following guidelines:

- A. THINNING**
Thin trees out to 10 feet between their crowns.
- B. PRUNING**
Prune the limbs of all remaining trees to 15 feet or one third total height whichever is less.
- C. SURFACE VEGETATION**
Maintain surface vegetation at 3" to 12" as detailed.

Roadside Vegetation:

Maintain roadside vegetation to protect roads from radiant heat, so they can be used both as escape routes and fire breaks (Figure 1). Local conditions will dictate how much vegetation to clear. It is suggested that developers, landowners, and local officials:

- a. Thin trees to 10 feet between crowns.
- b. Remove ladder fuels and prune tree limbs up to 15 feet, or one-third of the live crown of the tree, whichever is less.
- c. Remove dead vegetation, logs, snags, etc. Remove snags to a distance that prevents them from falling into cleared right-of-way or on roads.
- d. In the clear zone and where practical, reduce brush, grass, and

