



*Defensible Space is an area between your house and an oncoming wildfire, where the vegetation has been controlled, trimmed, or removed to reduce wildfire threat from embers, flames, and intense heat.*



*Creating Defensible Space is the duty of every resident living in an area at risk for wildfires.*



**Orange County  
Fire Authority**

[www.ocfa.org/RSG](http://www.ocfa.org/RSG)

In order to offer wildfire protection, Defensible Space should reach at least 100 feet from the house, garage, and other buildings on the property, or to the property line. In many cases, Defensible Space is simply the front, side, and back yards of your home.

Guidelines for Vegetation Management within 100 feet of your home include:

- Remove all dead and dying plants
- Recommend removal of vegetation found on the Undesirable Plant List and replant using drought-tolerant, fire-resistive plants
- Trim or remove plants to create the recommended vertical and horizontal separation between them
- Remove dry leaves, twigs, pine needles, etc. from the yard, roof, and rain gutters
- Install hard surfaces, reduce vegetation, and eliminate combustible mulch within 5 feet of home

It's not necessary to remove all vegetation around your home, but creating Defensible Space will give firefighters a better chance of keeping wildfire from spreading to your home. Mowing, weeding, pruning, thinning, spacing, and careful plant selection can make the difference between survival and losing your home during a wildfire. Consult a geologist prior to beginning maintenance if you have slope stability issues.



For more information, please visit the OCFA website or call **(714) 573-6774** to schedule a Wildfire Home Assessment.