



FALL CHECKLIST

Fall: The weather grows cooler, and foliage moves out of its growth period. However, dry, flammable leaves make it even more important to shore up your defensible space.

- Inspect your 5-foot fire-resistant perimeter; replace any gravel or other non-combustible material summer rains may have washed away.
- Set a firm schedule for yard debris clean-up and follow it strictly.
- Be sure to consistently clear your roof and gutters of debris.
- Make careful checks to clear areas such as decks and porches where dry vegetation can collect.
- As shrubs and other plantings shed leaves or become dormant, be sure you know which can/should be cut back to lessen their likelihood of catching fire.
- Don't ignore debris that gets caught in branches and shrubs; remove it.
- Have your chimney and fireplace professionally cleaned and inspected.
- Check the mesh on chimney tops and house vents, replacing any with holes.
- Review and practice your home evacuation plan.
- Evaluate summer growth and trim any trees and bushes to create vertical space between grass, brush, and trees.