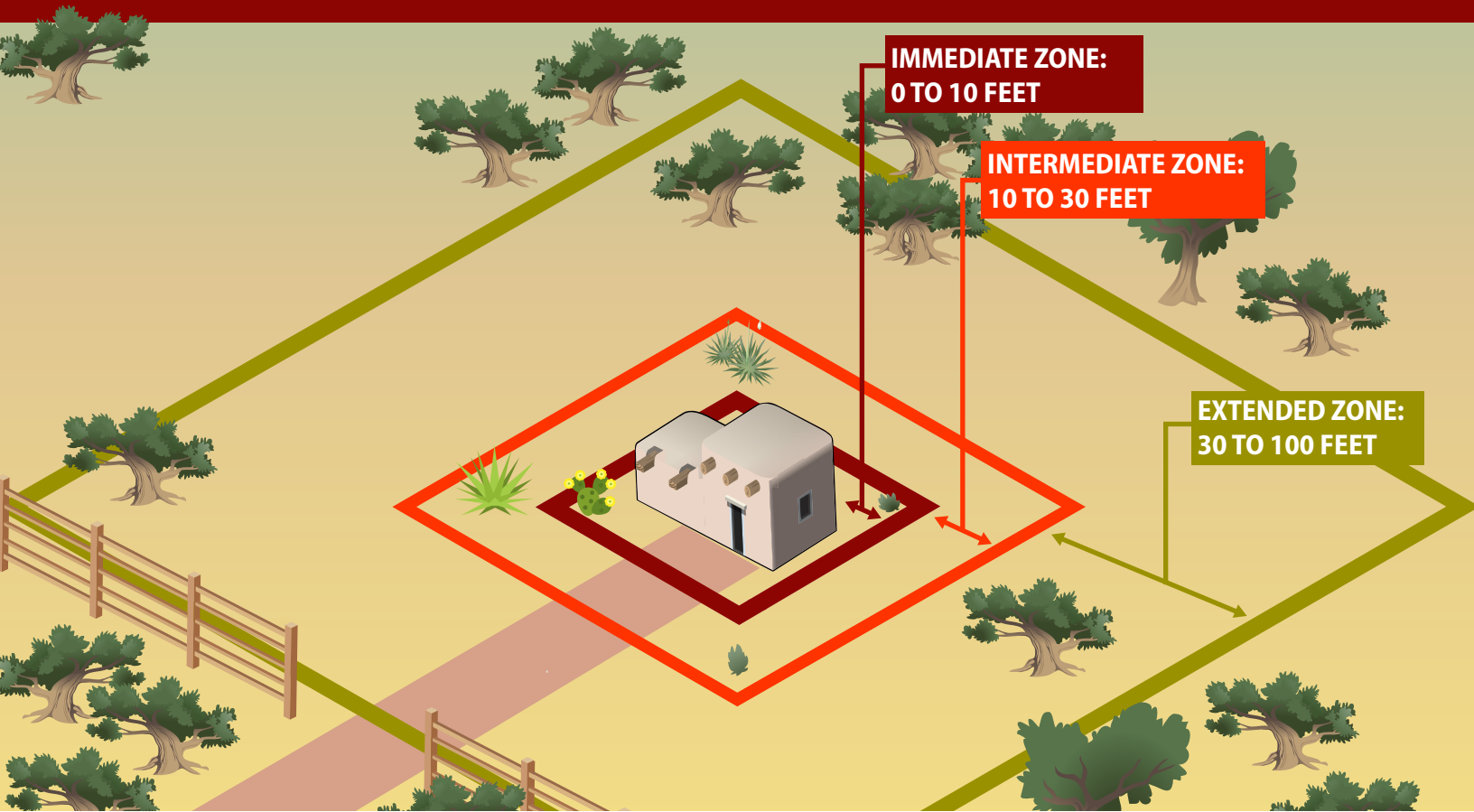


Wildfire Readiness: Pueblo de San Idefonso



We can work together to take actions that ensure homes and structures in our community survive wildfires. Follow the tips included in this flyer.

There are three zones of wildfire protection you can create around homes and other important structures. These three zones work together to reduce fire intensity and build fire breaks to keep fire low and stop it before reaching your home. The following tips can make it less likely that any flying embers will ignite the structure.



Wildfire Protection Zones

Immediate Zone – 0 to 10 feet around your home

Make the space around your house non-flammable as much as possible. Working outwards, remove flammable materials. This is the most important step you can take to protect your home.

1. Remove Flammable Materials

- Do not store anything flammable within the 10-foot zone, e.g. propane tanks, grills, stored fuels.
- Move anything that can burn at least 30 feet away from exterior walls, such as firewood piles, plants, leaves and pine needles, mulch, or anything stored under porches or decks, etc.



2. Check, Clear and Repair Roofs and Windows

- Clear roofs of flammable materials, such as dead leaves, pine needles, and other debris.
- Clear gutters, ledges, and any area where debris gathers.
- Repair or replace missing roof tiles or shingles to prevent embers from catching.



3. Use Non-Flammable Landscaping

- Use crushed stone or gravel mulch in the immediate zone. Limit the amount of flammable vegetation and landscape materials.
- Remove or replace fuel plants that contain resins, oils, and waxes like junipers and pines.



Intermediate Zone – 10 to 30 feet

Use landscaping to create fire breaks before it reaches structures.

4. Landscape to Create Fire Breaks

- If you have patches of grasses, keep them mowed within this area. Remove vegetation under trees (or ladder fuels) to ensure surface fires do not reach tree crowns. For tall trees, prune branches that are 6 feet or lower to the ground.
- Limit trees and shrubs to small clusters of a few each. Leave 12 feet between each cluster.

Extended Zone – 30 to 100 feet

Use landscaping to keep flames low and reduce the amount of fuel on the ground.

5. Landscape to Keep Flames Low

- Remove ground litter, dead plants, and tree debris.
- Remove small conifers growing between mature trees, leave 6 feet between trees.
- Remove vegetation next to outbuildings or sheds in this area.



Outbuildings, Sheds, and Other Structures

- Keep grasses and vegetation short and away from propane tanks.
- Use fire-proof storage for flammable chemicals and materials in sheds, such as gasoline, pesticides, paints, etc.
- Remove vegetation and flammable materials that touch the exterior of other structures.
- Consider concrete bases and/or non-flammable materials for outbuildings, play structures, etc., within the immediate and intermediate zones.
- Consider placing and storing grills, outdoor ovens, and other materials such as propane, charcoal, etc. away from structures and flammable vegetation or other materials.



Landscaping Tips

Remove or Reduce Fuel Plants

Keep these plants out of the **immediate zone**. If they are in the **intermediate** or **extended zones**, clear them of dead wood and leaves and prune to reduce the amount of fuel (especially any low branches).

- **Trees/Shrubs:** Juniper, Piñon Pine, oaks, and other pines
- **Grasses:** Sagebrush, Bitterbrush, Rabbitbrush/Chamisa, Yucca, Broom Snakeweed, and other dry grasses

Choose Less Flammable Plants

Use plants that stay shorter and do not fuel fires. Evergreen plants typically have oils, waxes, and resins that make them more flammable. Deciduous plants (plants that drop leaves seasonally and are not evergreen) are less flammable but may need leaf clean-up.

Generally, these plants are better choices:

- Are shorter, less than 2 feet tall
- Are green and herbaceous (grass and non-woody flowers)
- Are deciduous plants or shrubs

Use Hard Surfaces

Use mostly non-flammable materials, especially in the immediate zone:

- Concrete, asphalt, rocks, pavers, or bricks for pathways
- Stone or crushed gravel for mulch
- Garden beds edged with rocks or bricks instead of logs or wooden fencing
- Consider fire-rated and non-flammable deck, fencing, and outdoor furniture (fencing, trellises, and picnic tables)

More Landscape and Plant Tips

Find more information on landscaping and the spacing and maintenance of plants within the zones by scanning this QR code.



For more information on fire management and mitigation, visit*:

New Mexico Energy, Mineral, and Natural Resources (EMNRD) Fire Prevention Programs:

<https://www.emnrd.nm.gov/sfd/fire-prevention-programs/>

FEMA Wildfire Information:

<https://www.usfa.fema.gov/wui/>

Firewise USA (NFPA – National Fire Protection Association): <https://www.nfpa.org/education-and-research/wildfire/firewise-usa>

*Note that while these sites recommend a 5-foot immediate zone, the Pueblo de San Ildefonso recommends a 10-foot immediate zone in our community.

