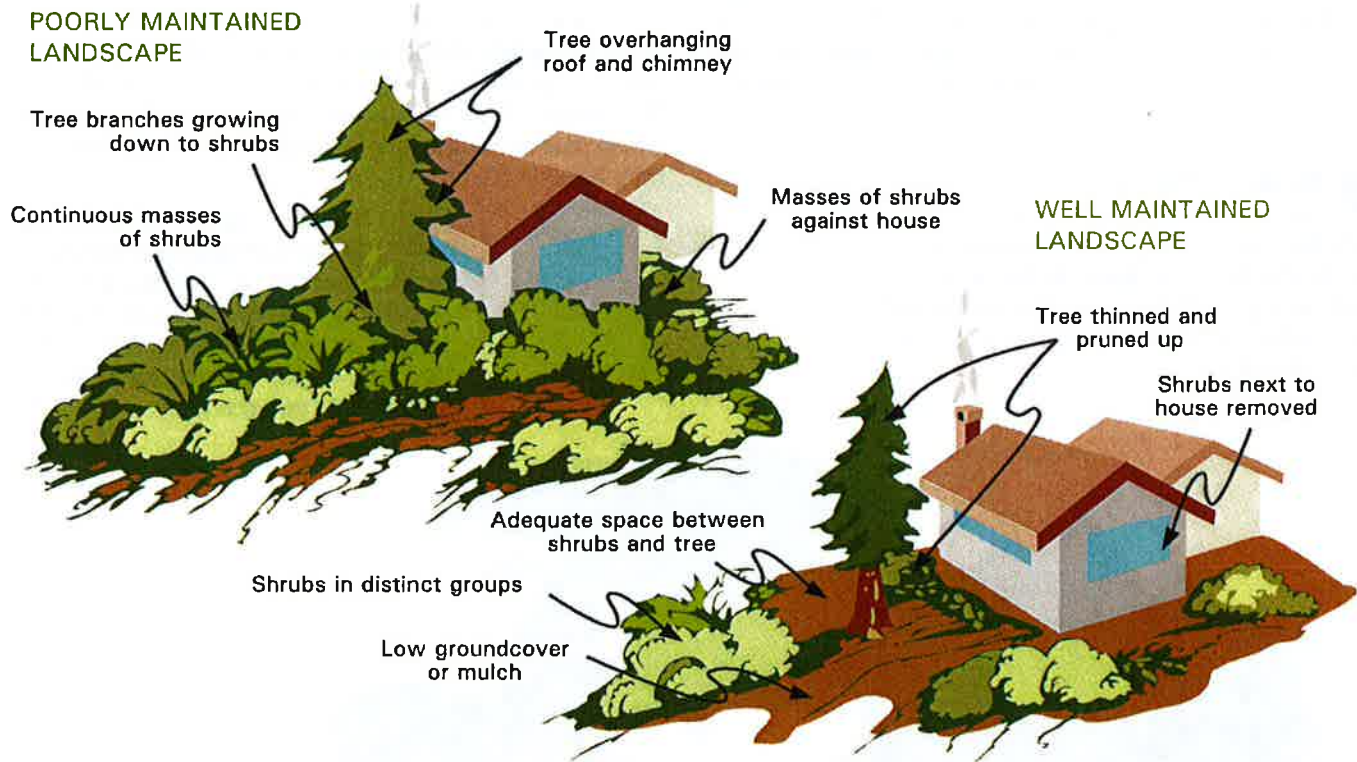


Firewise Landscaping

Maintenance is key to a firewise landscape. Here are some ways to create or modify your home's landscape to make it fire-resistant.



For more information on making your home and landscape firewise, visit these websites:

Utah Web Resources

www.utahfireinfo.gov – Fire information for all agencies in Utah (prevention, restrictions, prescribed fire, helpful links).

www.utahfireinfo.gov/prevention/livingwithfire/intro.htm – Resources to help you make your home or cabin firewise.

http://extension.usu.edu/forestry/HomeTown/HO_Firewise.htm – Lists of firewise plants from Utah State University Extension.

www.ffsl.utah.gov – Utah Division of Forestry, Fire & State Lands (community fire planning).

www.planning.utah.gov/CRMPFirePreparedness.htm – Fire preparedness planning.

www.utahredcross.org – Greater Salt Lake Chapter of the American Red Cross (Salt Lake, Tooele, Wasatch, Summit, and South Davis Counties).

National Web Resources

www.firewise.org – Official “Firewise” site with tools and information for individuals and communities.

www.myfirecommunity.net – A community fire planning resource site.

www.smokeybear.org – Official home page of Smokey Bear.

www.ecosmart.gov – An interactive landscape planning tool with firewise choices.

Defensible Space Planning

ZONE 1 This area, closest to the house, is the most critical for fire protection. Have nothing flammable, including tall grass, evergreen trees and shrubs, next to the house. Also, avoid trees that overhang the house or deck as well as leaves, brush, firewood piles, bark, mulch, and other burnables.

ZONE 2 Maintain a well-kept lawn, and avoid evergreens that catch fire easily and burn quickly. Occasional trees and shrubs should be at least 10 feet from the house and up to 20 feet away on the downhill side. Remove all downed wood fuel such as logs or branches.

ZONE 3 Rake or use a leaf blower to remove needles, leaves, and twigs at least 20 feet from the house and up to 50 feet on the downhill side. Firewood and other burnables should be stored at least 30 feet from the house. Maintain surface vegetation at 3 inches high or less. This will help keep fire from spreading to or from your house. It also provides a space for fire fighters to defend your home from fire.

ZONE 4 Space trees with 10 to 15 feet between tree crowns, and prune trees 10 to 15 feet up from the ground or one-third the total live crown height, whichever is less. Also, avoid fire ladders, where fire can climb from the ground into tree branches.

