

CONNECTED ACTIVITIES, ROUTINE HOMEOWNER MAINTENANCE AND DEFENSIBLE SPACE COMPLIANCE

Applying to the program and having a home assessment performed does not necessarily mean a homesite will become part of the program.

A homeowner is not considered to be formally enrolled or connected to the program until a contractor has been engaged and a written agreement with the local jurisdiction and selected contractor has been signed describing the work to be performed (the Tri-party agreement). The homesite becomes formally connected to the program when the Tri-party agreement is in place for the property.

After the homesite becomes formally connected to the program, all property conditions established by FEMA for the Home Hardening Initiative will apply (see table below). Homeowners will be asked to enter into a formal agreement with the local jurisdiction and selected contractor. As part of the agreement, homeowners will be asked to acknowledge connection to the program and agree to notify the local jurisdiction should it become necessary to perform any routine maintenance or defensible space work on their homesite prior to the contractor's commencement of work through completion of contractor work on the homesite. After the point of connection, the local jurisdiction will utilize the "EHP Site Specific Checklist" to determine any scope of work flags or environmental compliance factors that may require review by a Subject Matter Expert and FEMA approval.

Please refer to the "EHP Site Specific Checklist" for the complete list of property conditions.

Zone 0 (0- 5 feet from structure)	Mark if allowable as homeowner maintenance (x)
Remove all vegetation within 5 feet of the structure, including adjacent to or under decks. This includes all grass, herbaceous ground covers, plants, shrubs, and bushes, both dead or dying or living. (Previously: remove all vegetation except drought and fire-resistant vegetation that is no more than 6 inch in height)	X
Shrub and bush root balls may be removed within the 0 – 5' zone; however, tree root balls will be treated consistent with all other zones (cut and ground to grade)	X
Remove all woodchips, bark, combustible mulch, or synthetic lawns.	X
Remove all live and dead tree branches 10 feet above the roof and 10 feet away from chimneys and stovepipe outlets. The contractor will remove all live or dead branches or ladder fuels within five feet (5 feet) of the sides of the structure.	X
Install a permeable weed barrier and gravel.	X
Additional soil may be applied for erosion control and drainage.	X
Qualified contractors shall prepare a hardscaping site plan that includes all areas around the structure including any attached decks with procedures for avoiding utilities and securing irrigation lines.	
Hand tools such as shovels and rakes will be used to remove vegetation and smooth the surface in preparation for gravel installation.	X
Zone 1 (5-30 feet from structure)	Mark if allowable as homeowner maintenance (x)

Removal of all branches within 10 feet (or more if local ordinance is more stringent) of any chimney or stovepipe outlet	X
Removal of leaves, needles, cones, bark, etc. from roofs, gutters, decks, porches, stairways, etc.	X
Removal of dead and dying trees, branches and shrubs or other plants adjacent to or overhanging buildings. <i>There is a scope of work flag in place for tree root ball removal. Root balls should be left intact, though stumps may be ground to surface level. Should a homeowner exceed these conditions after the homesite is connected to the program, this measure will require additional reviews by Environmental and Historic Preservation (EHP) Subject Matter Expert(s) and FEMA approval.</i>	X
Removal of dead and dying grass, plants, shrubs, trees, branches, leaves, weeds and needles within (the distance provided by state or local ordinance) of the home. <i>There is a scope of work flag in place for tree root ball removal. Root balls should be left intact, though stumps may be ground to surface level. Should a homeowner exceed these conditions after the homesite is connected to the program, this measure will require additional reviews by EHP Subject Matter Expert(s) and FEMA approval.</i>	X
Creation of separation of (the distance provided by state or local ordinance) between shrubs and live flammable ground cover and all structures. Tree root balls should not be removed, shrub and bush root balls within the 0 -5' zone may be removed.	X
Removal of any flammable vegetation or items that could catch fire that are adjacent to or below combustible decks,	X

balconies, and stairs. Tree root balls should not be removed, shrub and bush root balls within the 0 -5' zone may be removed.	
Relocation of firewood and lumber not completely covered in fire-resistant material to Zone 2 or distance established by local ordinance if more stringent.	X
Installation of hardscape like gravel, pavers, concrete and other non-combustible mulch materials. No combustible bark or mulch.	X
Replacement of combustible fencing, gates, and arbors attached to the residence with non-combustible alternatives <i>Any ground disturbing work or any work on buildings or structures 45 years old or older will require review by EHP Subject Matter Experts and FEMA approval.</i>	
Zone 2 (within 30-100 feet from structure)	
Removal or cut annual grass and forbs that exceed (the height provided by state or local ordinance).	X
Trimming or removal of any tree branches to the distance from the ground provided by state or local ordinance.	X
Creation of vertical space (3 times the height of shrub) between grass, shrubs and trees.	X
Creation of effective horizontal space between shrubs and trees. <i>There is a scope of work flag in place for tree root ball removal. Root balls should be left intact, though stumps may be ground to surface level. Should a homeowner exceed these conditions after the homesite is connected to the project, this measure will require additional reviews by EHP Subject Matter Expert(s) and FEMA approval.</i>	X

If woodpile(s) are exposed, creation of a minimum of 10 feet of clearance, down to bare mineral soil, in all directions.	X
Removal of any dead and dying woody surface and aerial fuels.	X
Removal of fallen leaves, needles, twigs, bark, cones, and small branches.	X
Removal of logs or stumps embedded in the soil that are close to other vegetation. <i>There is a scope of work flag in place for tree root ball removal. Root balls should be left intact, though stumps may be ground to surface level. Should a homeowner exceed these conditions after the homesite is connected to the project, this measure will require additional reviews by EHP Subject Matter Expert(s) and FEMA approval.</i>	
Ensuring 10 feet of clearance to the bare mineral soil and no flammable vegetation for an additional 10 feet around their exterior.	X
Relocate propane tank if necessary	
Replacing address numbers displayed in contrasting colors (4" min. size) and place where readable from the street or access road.	X