



Fence Recommendations for Wildfire

Home hardening and defensible space are scientifically proven to help protect your home from wildfire. Hardening your home means taking steps to reduce the vulnerability of homes to embers and heat that accompany most wildfires. Good construction technique and choice of building materials greatly increase the resistance of homes to wildfire. So why wouldn't you follow this advice??

One area that often gets overlooked is your fence so we wanted to give you some ideas.

Here is what the science says:

- Use non-combustible fencing and gate products when placed within five feet of a building or attached to the building.
- Keep the area at the base of the fence clear of debris.
- When neighboring buildings are within 20 feet of each other, using steel fencing for the perimeter area can serve as a radiant barrier, providing added protection should a neighboring building ignite and burn. Research in Australia demonstrated the ability of panelized steel fencing to resist radiant heat exposure.
- Use fiber cement- a noncombustible product composed of cement, sand and cellulose fibers. The product comes in many different styles, heights and colors with texture options that can mimic a wood fence.



Your gate to safety:

There are many noncombustible gate options to choose from. Several manufacturers have ready made steel and aluminum gates in a variety of styles and colors. Hardie board is a good option and if privacy is not a major concern, hogwire gates are a less expensive option. Many manufacturers can fabricate a custom ornamental metal gate.

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