

# FIRE SMART YARD CHECKLIST

Did you know that most home ignitions are caused by burning embers that start fires in yards that spread to the home? You can prevent this! Creating and maintaining a firesmart yard will protect your home and neighborhood. Follow this weekly checklist to keep your home safe.

If you contract someone to care for your yard, review this checklist with them. And remember – the key to fire safety is maintenance, maintenance, maintenance!

## CLEAR ZONE 0

- Remove combustible items within the first 5 feet around the house
- Remove hazardous plants like juniper, Italian cypress and bamboo
- Use non-combustible mulch, like gravel, stones or pavers

## LIMB UP TREES & TRIM BRANCHES

- Prevent fire from spreading from the ground to tree tops by removing the lowest branches of the trees to at least 6 feet
- Keep bushes and plants low beneath trees to avoid “fire ladders”
- Remove dead branches
- Trim branches 10 feet from the roof

## REMOVE LEAVES AND DEBRIS FROM

- Zone 0
- Gutters
- Rooftops
- Beneath bushes
- Under decks and staircases
- Behind garage or sheds

## RAISE “SKIRTS” OF BUSHES & HEDGES

- Trimming bushes a couple feet from the ground will allow you to keep the bed beneath clear of leaves

## KEEP SPACE BETWEEN PLANTS

- Thin out bushes and plantings to allow space between plants to prevent the spread of fire
- Weed and clean beds regularly



**UNDER DECKS**



**UNDER SHRUBS**



**YOUR GUTTERS**