



Wildfire Ready Tip : Identify Your Home's Wildfire Risk

Did you know embers are the leading cause of wildfire-related home ignitions?

Embers are small pieces of burning material that can travel by wind and cause spot fires. During a wildfire, embers can travel over a mile ahead of a flame front. Thousands of embers can rain down on your home, and if they come in contact with flammable materials, your home could ignite.

"Home Hardening" is the process of preparing your home for wildfire by addressing the most vulnerable components and retrofitting them with fire-resistant building materials.

By taking 15 minutes to walk around your home, you can identify its wildfire vulnerabilities to prepare for and plan home hardening projects.*

*Stay tuned, for future tips on how to address wildfire vulnerabilities and make a home hardening project plan!

Walk Around Your Home

Start outside your home and inspect:

- Fences, decks, exterior siding and eaves
- Five-foot non-combustible zone (the first five feet around your home)
- Roof, including gutters and chimneys
- Entry points such as windows, skylights, and vents

When walking around your home, take note of combustible materials such as wood; locations where embers could enter your home; and areas where flammable debris, such as pine needles or leaf litter, could collect.

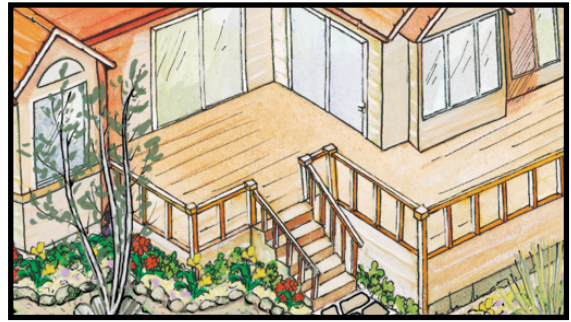
Things to look out for:

Fences



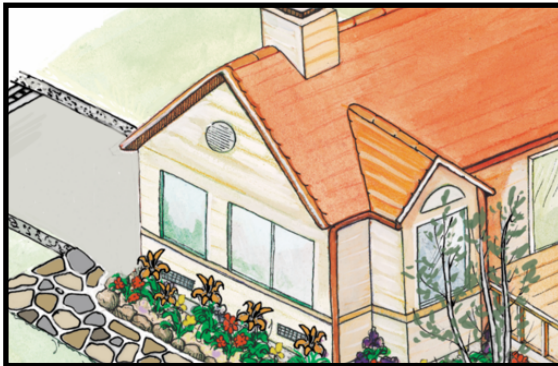
- Combustible fencing material within 5 feet on your home

Decks



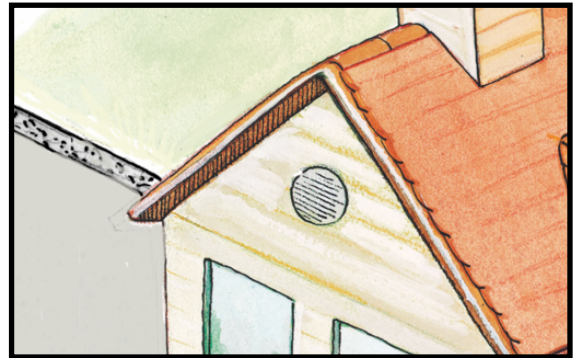
- Flammable material (such as firewood) underneath, on, or next to your deck

Exterior Siding



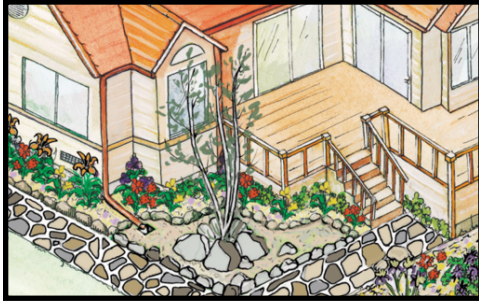
- Flammable siding material such as wood boards, panels, or shingles
- Flammable material within the first 6 inches between the ground and the start of the siding

Eaves



- Open or exposed eaves that could allow ember entry

Five-Foot Non-Combustible Zone



- Flammable landscaping such as wood mulch
- Debris such as pine needles, leaves or twigs

Roof



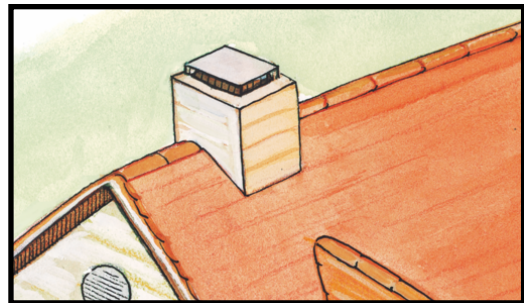
- Flammable material such as wood-shake or shingle
- Debris such as pine needles, leaves or twigs

Gutters



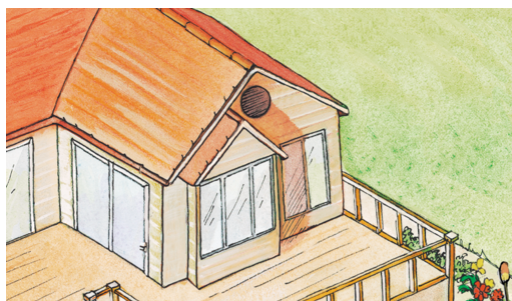
- Debris such as pine needles, leaves or twigs

Chimneys



- Chimneys without a mesh screen or covering

Windows & Skylights



- Single-pane windows that could easily break from heat exposure
- Debris such as pine needles or leaves gathering around skylights

Vents



- Mesh screens larger than 1/8
- Gaps that could allow ember entry

Additional Resources

Embers are the #1 Threat to Your Home

Watch this video to learn why it's important to harden your home.

Be Ember Aware !

Learn about home ember vulnerabilities.

Is Your Home Hardened to Survive a Wildfire Ember Storm?

Learn how homes catch fire and how to harden your home to survive an ember storm.

[Learn More about Becoming Wildfire Ready](#)

Thank you for reading this tip, and we hope you feel more prepared for wildfire !

Front Range Partnership of Wildfire Ready Communities
rotarywildfireready.com



This newsletter has been adapted from the Tahoe Network of Fire Adapted Communities newsletter. Learn more at TahoeLivingWithFire.com