

Defensible Space is your property's front line defense against wildfire. Creating and maintaining defensible space around your home can dramatically increase your home's chance of surviving a wildfire and improves the safety of firefighters defending your property. 100 feet of defensible space is required by law.\*



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Prior to trimming trees contact the City of Monterey Urban Forester (831) 646-3860

For more information contact the Fire Prevention Office (831) 646-3908

# TWO ZONES MAKE UP THE REQUIRED 100 FEET OF DEFENSIBLE SPACE:

#### **ZONE 1: 30 feet of Lean, Clean & Green**

- Remove all dead plants, grass and weeds.
- 2 Remove dead or dry leaves and pine needles from your yard, roof and rain gutters.
- **3** Keep tree branches 10 feet away from your chimney and other trees.

## **ZONE 2: 30-100 feet of Reduced Fuel**

- 4 Cut or mow annual grass down to a maximum height of 4 inches.
- 5 Create horizontal spacing between shrubs and trees.
- 6 Create vertical spacing between grass, shrubs and trees.

## Use Equipment Properly to Keep from Sparking a Wildfire

7 Mow before 10 a.m., and never on a hot or windy day. String trimmers are a safer option (vs. lawnmowers) for clearing vegetation.



## **VERTICAL SPACING**

Large trees do not have to be cut and removed as long as all of the plants beneath them are removed. This eliminates a vertical "fire ladder."



## **HORIZONTAL SPACING**

Create horizontal and vertical spacing between plants, the amount of spacing will depend on how steep the slope is and the size of the plants.