

# HOME EVALUATION FORM



OWNER OR OCCUPANT \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE \_\_\_\_\_  
ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
(OR DESCRIPTIVE LOCATION) \_\_\_\_\_

People living in the wildland / urban interface should be prepared for wildland fires. The Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation is providing this wildland fire prevention inspection to help residents reduce fire hazards endangering their property. By following the suggestions listed here, you can help yourself to reduce the risk that an accidental fire could start on your property and also the risk that a fire starting elsewhere could cause damage to your property.

Acceptable

Recommend  
Improvement

*Within 3 feet of structure:*

Maintain an area of non-combustible material - flowers, plants, concrete, gravel, mineral soil, etc.

*Within 10 feet of structure (increase distance below structure if slope is >10%):*

Maintain surface vegetation at 3 inches or less in height.

Remove all downed woody fuels.

*From 10 to 30 feet of structure (increase distance below structure if slope is >10%):*

Thin trees to 10 feet between crowns.

Prune limbs of all remaining trees to 15 feet in height or one third of total live crown, which ever is less.

Maintain surface vegetation at 3 inches or less in height.

Remove all downed woody fuels.

*From 30 to 100 feet of structure (increase distance below structure if slope is >10%):*

Thin trees to 10 feet between crowns.

Prune limbs of all remaining trees to 15 feet in height or one third of total live crown, which ever is less.

Remove all downed woody fuels greater than 3 inches in diameter.

Clear or reduce vegetation from alongside your driveway or road edge, and make sure your driveway is wide enough and adequate for fire trucks to turn around.

Dispose of all slash and flammable debris from your property. If you intend to burn follow all applicable open burning regulations and requirements.

Have the power company cut overhanging branches away from power lines.

Clean the roof and gutters of needles, leaves, branches and other combustible debris.

Provide a 15 foot clearance between you chimney and nearest branches.

Make sure your chimney extends 3 feet above the roof and is capped with an approved spark arrester.

Roof should be of fire resistant material. A wood shake roof should be treated with UL approved fire retardant chemical or replaced.

Enclose open spaces beneath features such as decks, balconies and stilts to keep out hot embers.

Locate the propane tank at least 10 feet from the structure and clear a 10 foot area around the tank.

Stack your firewood at least 100 feet from the house, not on the downhill side.

Ensure that your water supply is usable during a fire emergency, and keep garden hoses readily available.

Keep storage areas clean. Do not allow oily rags, flammable chemicals or newspapers to accumulate.

Insure that all motorized garden equipment, lawnmowers and chainsaws have approved spark arresters.

Display your name and house number in front of your property to assist firefighters in locating your home.

Other Items: \_\_\_\_\_

INSPECTED BY: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

**THIS INSPECTION IS UNDERTAKEN AS A PUBLIC SERVICE AND IS ADVISORY ONLY**