



Berkeley Fire Department FireSafe Resident Assistance Program Fact Sheet

DEFENSIBLE SPACE RESIDENCE ASSISTANCE PILOT PROGRAM

This program will provide eligible property owners with inspection and contractor support to:

- 1) To remove hazardous vegetation
- 2) Ensure defensible space compliance



What is Defensible Space?

Defensible Space is the buffer you create between a building on your property and the grass, trees, shrubs, or any wildland area that surrounds it. Keeping the area closest to buildings, structures, and decks clear of vegetation and organic mulch (such as wood chips) will prevent embers from igniting materials that can spread fire to your home.



What are examples of defensible space treatments covered by the program?

- Removal of all dead plants, grass, and weeds.
- Removal of dead or dry leaves, pine needles and eucalyptus slash.
- Pruning and thinning of tree branches
- Removal of all branches within 10 feet of any chimney or stovepipe outlet.
- Chipping
- Prescribed treatments located between 0 and 30 feet of structures on property.



What are examples of Defensible Space treatments that are **not** covered by the program?

- Large and small diameter tree removal (like eucalyptus)
- Prescribed treatments located beyond 30 feet of structures on property.
- Hardscaping, like replacing combustible bark or mulch with pavers, gravel, or concrete.
- Replacing combustible fencing, gates, arbors.
- Prescribed burning and pile and burns.

Apply for financial assistance for defensible space treatments

Visit <https://www.berkeleyfiresafe.org>

I have more questions, Who can I talk to?

Contact our Program Administrator

FireSafeBerkeley@berkeleyca.gov