



# Fire-Resistant Landscaping

The landscaping around your home plays a crucial role in protecting it from wildfires. Fire-resistant landscaping uses plants that are less likely to catch fire, along with features like stone or gravel, to create a protective defensible space around your home. Proper fire-resistant landscaping can protect your home, preserve water, and still be attractive!



## Elements of Fire Resistant Landscaping

### 1. Fire Resistant Native Plants

Native plant species are adapted to the local environment and tend to be more resilient

### 2. Hardscaping Materials

Incorporate non-combustible materials like rock, stone, gravel, and/or pavers that act as a firebreak for wildfire fuels

### 3. Minimize Mulch

Mulch is highly flammable and not recommended around the first 5 feet of your home

### 4. Proper Plant Placement

Maintain a safe distance between vegetation and structures. Vegetation should be spaced apart, like “islands”, to reduce the risk of flames spreading.

### 5. Regular Maintenance

Regular and ongoing maintenance of your defensible space is vital. Keep plants healthy and trimmed to reduce the potential ignition risk.



# Fire-resistant native plants:

## Trees:

- Black Hawthorn
- Cascara
- Pacific Crabapple
- Pacific Dogwood
- Western Red Cedar

## Shrubs:

- Black Twinberry
- Blackcap Raspberry
- Evergreen Huckleberry
- Golden Currant
- Mock Orange
- Nootka Rose
- Osoberry
- Pacific Ninebark
- Pacific Rhododendron
- Red Flowering Currant
- Red Osier Dogwood
- Shrubby Cinquefoil
- Snowberry

## Perennials, Ferns, & Groundcovers:

- Deer fern
- Kinnikinnick
- Wild Ginger
- Sawbeak Sedge
- Western Sword Fern

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## Fire-resistant does not mean fire proof!

It is important to keep your plants healthy with appropriate watering and regular pruning.

### Fire Resistant Plant Characteristics

- Water-like sap with no strong odor
- Moist and open leaves
- Produces little dead wood or leaf litter
- Thick bark



Nootka Rose is fire resistant



Arborvitae is highly flammable

### Highly Flammable Plant Characteristics

- Resin based, odorous sap
- Leaves are waxy and aromatic
- Produces leaf litter and vegetation debris
- Thin, papery bark

## Considerations for Propane Tanks

Propane tanks should be at least 30 feet from the home, with 10 feet of hardscaping around them. Keep tanks free from vegetation and ensure there is 10 feet of vertical clearance if there is overhanging vegetation. Ask your service company to ensure that the pressure relief valve is functioning properly.



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