



Photo credit: Insurance Institute for Business & Home Safety

# DON'T GIVE EMBERS A CHANCE

## The majority of homes lost to wildfire are ignited by EMBERS

Embers can fly a mile or more and potentially ignite structures far from a main wildfire. The most effective and efficient way to protect lives and property from wildfire is to prepare and maintain defensible space "from the house out." Start by focusing on reducing fire danger in **Zone 0 – the area 0-5' around homes and structures.**



### PLEASE DO NOT FEED THE EMBERS



Flying embers that land on any combustible material on and around your home can start a fire

Clearing debris and other flammable materials in **Zone 0** can make a big difference in reducing the potentially devastating impact of wildfire on homes.



*Remove/reduce all combustibles in this space!*

## How to help your home SURVIVE if embers arrive!



- ❖ Ensure that **no easily combustible materials** (such as dry leaves, plant debris or fine bark/gorilla hair mulch) exist in Zone 0
- ❖ Well-watered, healthy small plants/bushes may be ok. Pick the right plants for fire-smart landscaping (Firescaping). Ensure they are adequately distanced from each other and your home. Plant maintenance is key!
- ❖ Remove dry leaves, needles, and plant debris from the roof and rain gutters
- ❖ Replace jute/natural fiber doormats with heavy rubber or metal grates
- ❖ Remove flammable materials on and underneath decks, patios, and porches
- ❖ Remove/replace combustible outdoor furniture
- ❖ Build fuel breaks (hardscaping) like walking paths, rocks, sand, pavers, or concrete
- ❖ See more details and related Guides on the Oakland Firesafe Council website at: [oaklandfiresafecouncil.org/prepare](http://oaklandfiresafecouncil.org/prepare)



**Prevent embers from entering your home** and potentially igniting a fire inside. Cover vents with 1/8 or 1/16-inch corrosion resistant metal mesh screen, or install commercially produced ember-resistant vents designed for fire and ember safety.



Ember graphics acknowledgment goes to BLM/National Interagency Fire Center

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