



Home Wildfire Safety Checklist

Is Your Home Firewise?

Forestry Topic 2

www.dof.virginia.gov

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This checklist helps to evaluate the fire-safe condition of a home and its surroundings. These “Yes” or “No” questions identify factors which contribute to wildfire hazard and will help to identify areas where change is needed to improve the fire-safe condition of a home and surroundings. Answer “Yes” or “No” to the following questions:

THE HOUSE	YES	NO
Untreated wood shake roof	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Flammable siding materials	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Home built on poles or pilings	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Wooden deck near fuels	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Large glass windows facing fuels	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Deck or porch vents not screened to keep out sparks	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Chimney does not extend above roof line	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Chimney spark arrester missing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Roof and gutters covered with debris	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
AROUND THE HOUSE	YES	NO
Lack of a fire safe zone, 30-100 feet around the home	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Inadequate clearance of phragmites grass and brush	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Leaves not raked	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Trees and shrubs too close to the house, especially if they are flammable evergreens	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Tree limbs overhang roof, or are within 15 feet laterally of a chimney	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
House location or address not clearly marked	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Firewood or other burnable materials are stored too close to the house (within 30 feet)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
There is an abundance of mulch near wooden structures	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
ACCESS	YES	NO
Emergency vehicles cannot easily reach this home	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The road is too narrow and cannot accommodate two-way traffic	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The road is winding with sharp turns	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
There is no place for large vehicles to turn around	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
There is a long driveway from the main road	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
There is only one way into and out of the developed area, limiting access and evacuation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
WATER SUPPLY	YES	NO
Pressurized hydrants not available	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Non-pressurized dry hydrants not available	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Water resources such as ponds or streams unavailable or inaccessible to firefighters	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Outside water faucets and water hose to reach all sides of the house are missing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Power lines are not buried and are susceptible to fire damage and interruption of electricity for well pumps	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

All items with a “Yes” answer require change to improve the fire-safe condition of a home.

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