GROW GREEN
LANDSCAPE PROFESSIONAL TRAINING

AUSTIN FIRE
WILDFIRE
DIVISION
Austin's Wildfire Threat
Wildland/Urban Interface

Where combustible fuels meet human improvements
Understanding the Threat

Igniting Homes

Urban fuel = Homes

Close enough

FUEL

HEAT

OXYGEN
One Year Later – Sept. 2011
Home Ignition Zone
The Home Ignition Zone is a home's characteristics and immediate surroundings.
Thinking in Terms of ZONES
Assessment Approach

1. Overview of Surroundings
2. Peaks to Eaves
3. Eaves To Foundation
4. Foundation to Immediate Landscaped Area
5. Immediate landscaped area to the extent of the Home Ignition Zone
IT'S THE LITTLE THINGS

- Space between siding & eaves gables
- Vents & screens
- Window boxes
- Spackle around window
- Cellar wells & vents
IT'S THE LITTLE THINGS

CAULKING, WINDOWS & VENTS
DECORATIVE WOOD WORK
WIRE SCREENS
GUTTERS & DOWNSPOUTS
Landscape Wisely

Choose plants that are less volatile and more resistant to fire

Consider placement and proximity to structures and improvements

Limb up trees to minimize the ladder fuel effect

Keep lawns mowed short and green

Use concrete or gravel walkways as fire breaks
Shaded Fuel Break Project

Shaded fuel breaks are wildfire mitigation techniques used for wooded areas near homes and other structures. The foliage is reduced by trimming low hanging branches, the clearing of undergrowth, and the removal of dead and downed trees. The shade-providing canopy overhead is maintained and promoted. The shaded fuel break is designed so that a wildfire that reaches this area may be more easily controlled.

Contact us for more information on how you can better prepare for wildfires at (512)974-0270 or visit our website at: www.ATXfire.com
Home Ignition Myth Busting
Homes that are constructed with noncombustible materials should survive
Homes with minimal vegetation survive
Decks are the weakest link on many otherwise fire resistant structure.
Store firewood at least 30 feet away (not directly uphill or downhill) from structures.

Don’t store firewood near anything you would like to save.
Dumping