Glenwild Wildfire Mitigation

Wildfire Home Hardening Quick Start Guide

Reasons for hardening your home against wildfires:

- Protect yourself from the horrible loss of your home.
- Help maintain your home insurance policy.
- Help protect the Glenwild community and your neighbor's home!

Home hardening is a combination of structural upgrades and maintenance and strategic landscaping.

Taking at least 1 or 2 initial improvement steps is appreciated and will help make a difference for yourself and the community!

STRUCTURAL RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Roof and Gutters

- Use Class A fire-rated roofing materials (metal, tile, composition shingles).
- Install metal flashing where roof meets vertical walls.
- Keep gutters clear of pine needles and leaves; use metal gutter guards.

2. Vents ***(One of the MOST important steps in mitigating fire risk!!!)***

- Cover all vents with 1/8" metal mesh to prevent ember entry.
- Use ember- and flame-resistant vents where possible (e.g., Vulcan Vents).

3. Eaves, Soffits, and Fascia

- Box in eaves with non-combustible materials.
- Use vented soffits with ember-resistant mesh.

4. Siding and Walls

- Use non-combustible or ignition-resistant siding: fiber cement, stucco, metal, or brick.
- Keep vegetation and flammables away from walls.

5. Windows and Doors

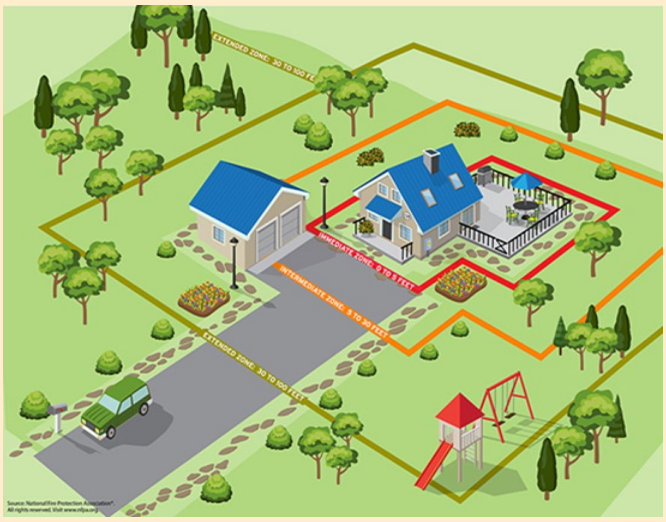
- Install dual- or triple-pane tempered glass windows.
- Use metal mesh screens on all windows.
- Use solid core or metal exterior doors.

6. Decks and Porches

- Use ignition-resistant decking materials (metal, composite).
- Box in the underside with non-combustible material.
- Clear underneath decks of vegetation and store nothing flammable there.

OVER

LANDSCAPING (Defensible Space Zones):



ZONE 0: Immediate Zone (0–5 feet around home)

Goal: Eliminate all combustible materials.

- Use non-combustible hardscaping (gravel, stone, concrete).
- Remove all mulch, dead vegetation, wood piles, and flammable plants.
- Use potted fire-resistant plants like succulents or alpine stonecrop.

ZONE 1: Intermediate Zone (5–30 feet)

Goal: Reduce flame height and intensity.

- Mow grasses to 4 inches or less.
- Prune trees up 6–10 feet from the ground or 1/3 of their height.
- Maintain 10–15 feet spacing between tree canopies.
- Choose fire-resistant plants:

  o Native grasses
  o Manzanita (low-growing types)
  o Serviceberry
  o Penstemon
  o Sagebrush (well-spaced)
  o Irrigate shrubs and plants regularly.

ZONE 2: Extended Zone (30–100+ feet)

Goal: Interrupt fire path and reduce ember travel.

- Thin trees to maintain proper spacing based on slope (steeper slope = wider spacing).
- Remove dead trees, ladder fuels, and heavy brush.
- Maintain healthy forest understory with low-flammability native plants.
- Create fuel breaks with driveways, gravel paths, or rock outcroppings.

Other Critical Hardening Tips

- Store firewood at least 30 feet from any structure.
- Use spark arresters on chimneys.
- Install metal mesh on open under-eave or crawlspace areas.
- Use non-combustible fencing materials adjacent to the house.
- Seal any gaps in roof tiles and siding where embers might enter.

THANKS FOR HELPING THE GLENWILD COMMUNITY!

Contact John Coyle at (435) 640-0650 with questions or for contractor recommendations