

2020 Nevada Wildfire Awareness Month Talking Points

Wildfire can threaten Nevadan communities and impact homes, property and human life. The key to minimizing the wildfire impact in Nevada is proactive communities that take steps to prepare.

In response, representatives of Nevada's local, state, and federal firefighting agencies; wildfire prone communities; and University of Nevada Cooperative Extension have conducted a wildfire awareness campaign every May since 2006. This year, our message is **“Wildfire Knows No Boundaries. Make Yours”**

Some general tips to help you create defensible space include:

- Keep the first five feet away from your home free of combustible materials such as wood, mulch, dried leaves, pine needles and flammable shrubs such as sagebrush and juniper. Instead, plant flowers, succulents, lawn or groundcover, or use rock mulches, concrete, brick and pavers.
- Remove dead vegetation (i.e., dead trees and shrubs, dried grass and flowers, dead branches, fallen leaves, etc.).
- Within the five to 30 feet zone, keep this as the “Lean Clean and Green” zone with irrigated grass, short deciduous trees / shrubs and herbaceous plants.
- Beyond 30 feet, remove native shrubs to provide a separation between shrubs of approximately three times the shrub height (i.e., if shrub height is 2 feet, then 3 x 2 feet = 6 feet separation). Thin mature native trees to provide a separation of at least 10 feet between tree crowns.
- During the month of May and all year long, we encourage your community to prepare for wildfire. Learn more ways to get prepared at LivingWithFire.com or talk to your local fire service representative.