

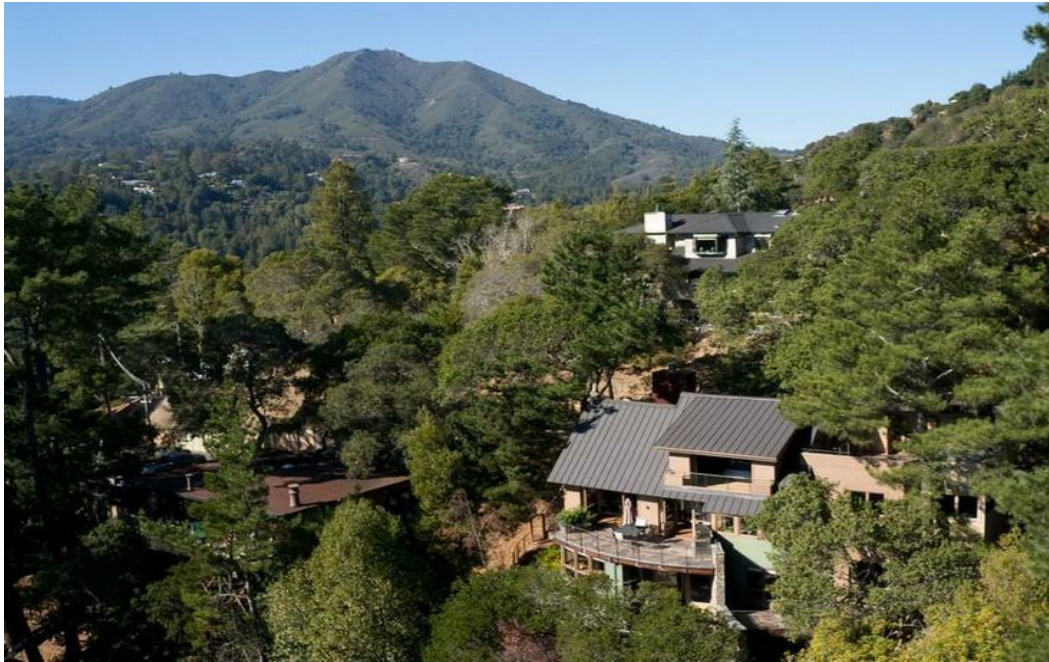
CANYON CREEK FIREWISE



Austin's Wildfire Threat

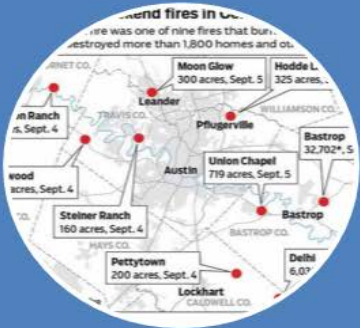


Wildland/Urban Interface



Where combustible fuels
Meet human improvements

Austin's Wildfire Threat



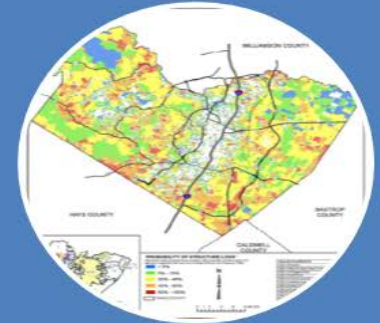
Multiple simultaneous starts



Relatively small wildfires

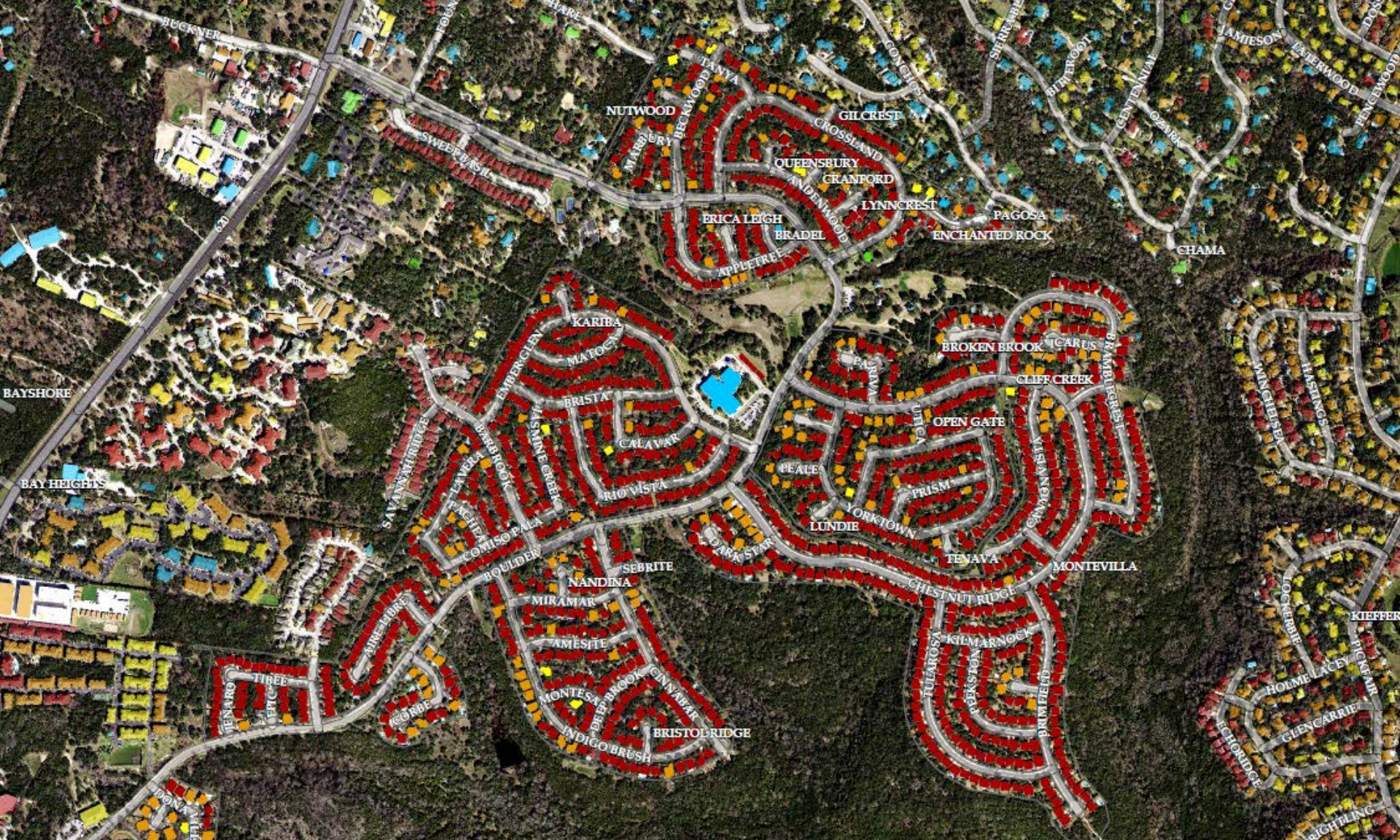


Relatively large losses

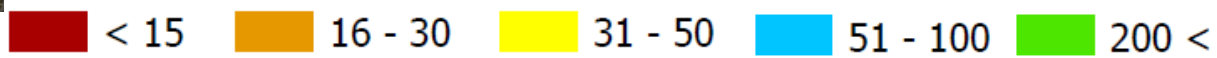


More exposures than available resources





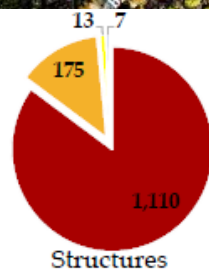
Canyon Creek Structure Conflagration Risk Map



The proximity of structures in feet

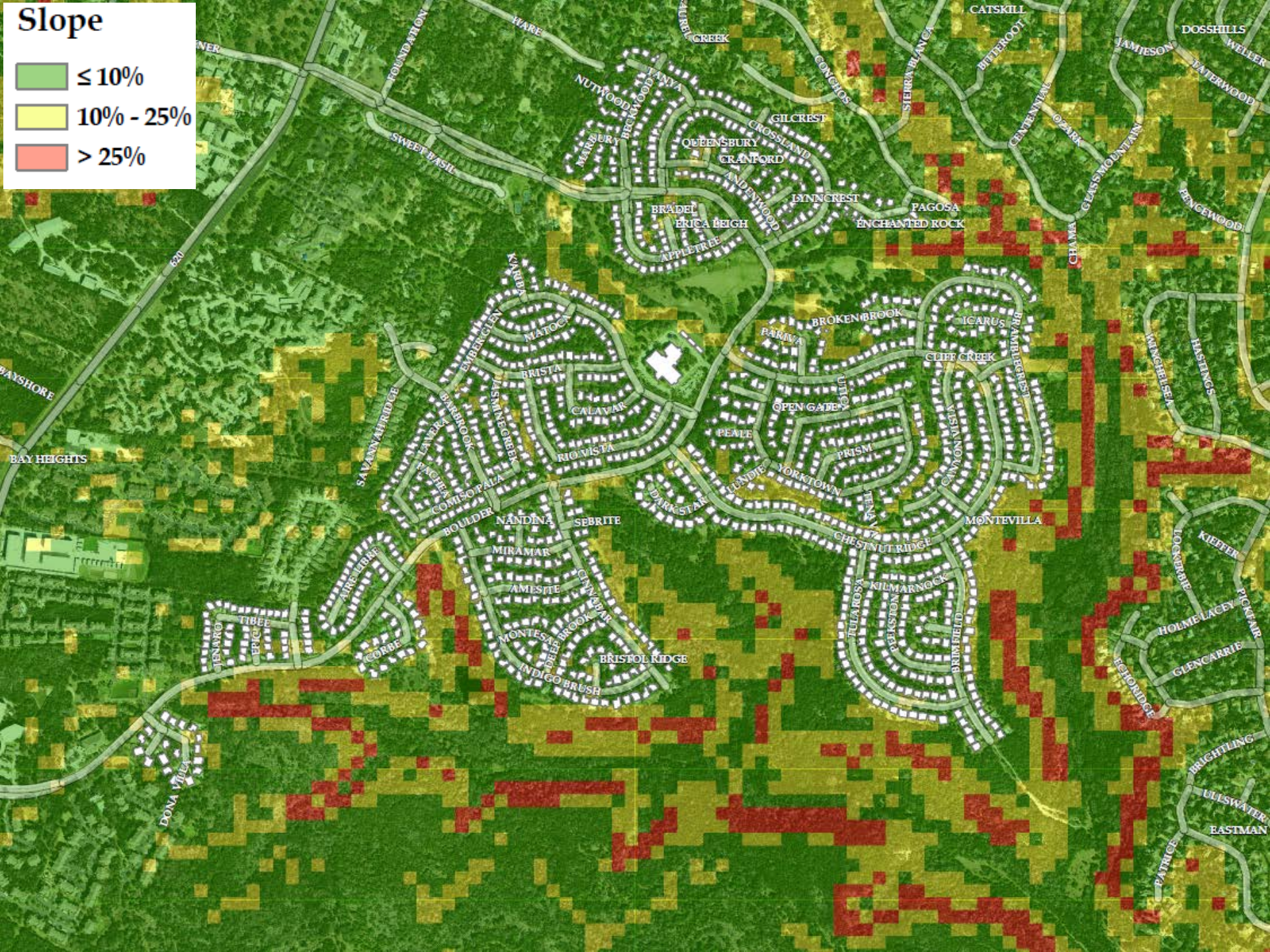
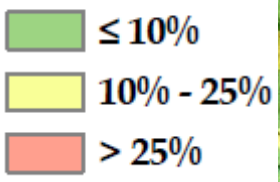


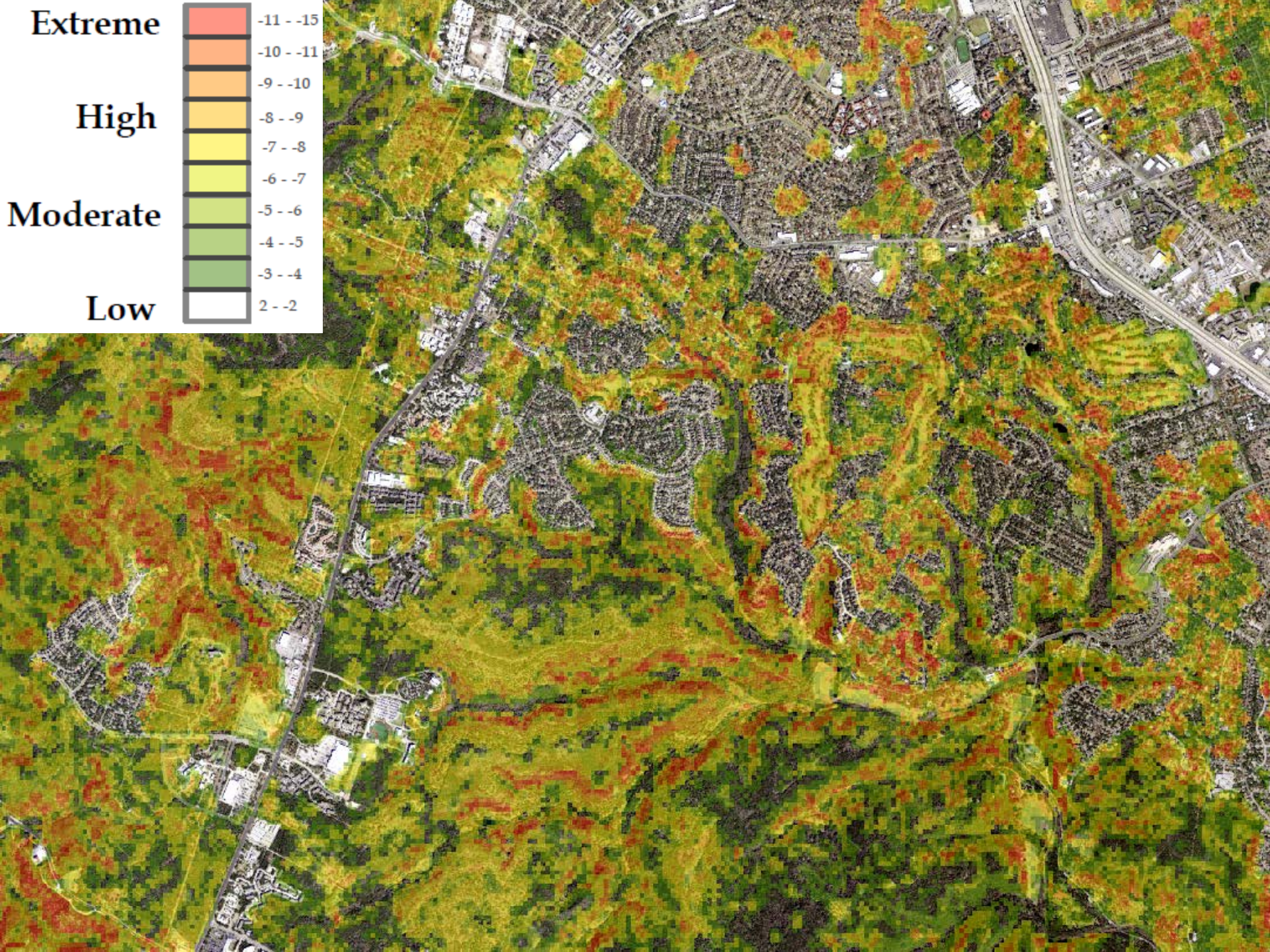
Structure to structure proximity is a major indicator of conflagration risk



Structures

Slope





Extreme

-11 - -15

-10 - -11

-9 - -10

High

-8 - -9

-7 - -8

-6 - -7

Moderate

-5 - -6

-4 - -5

-3 - -4

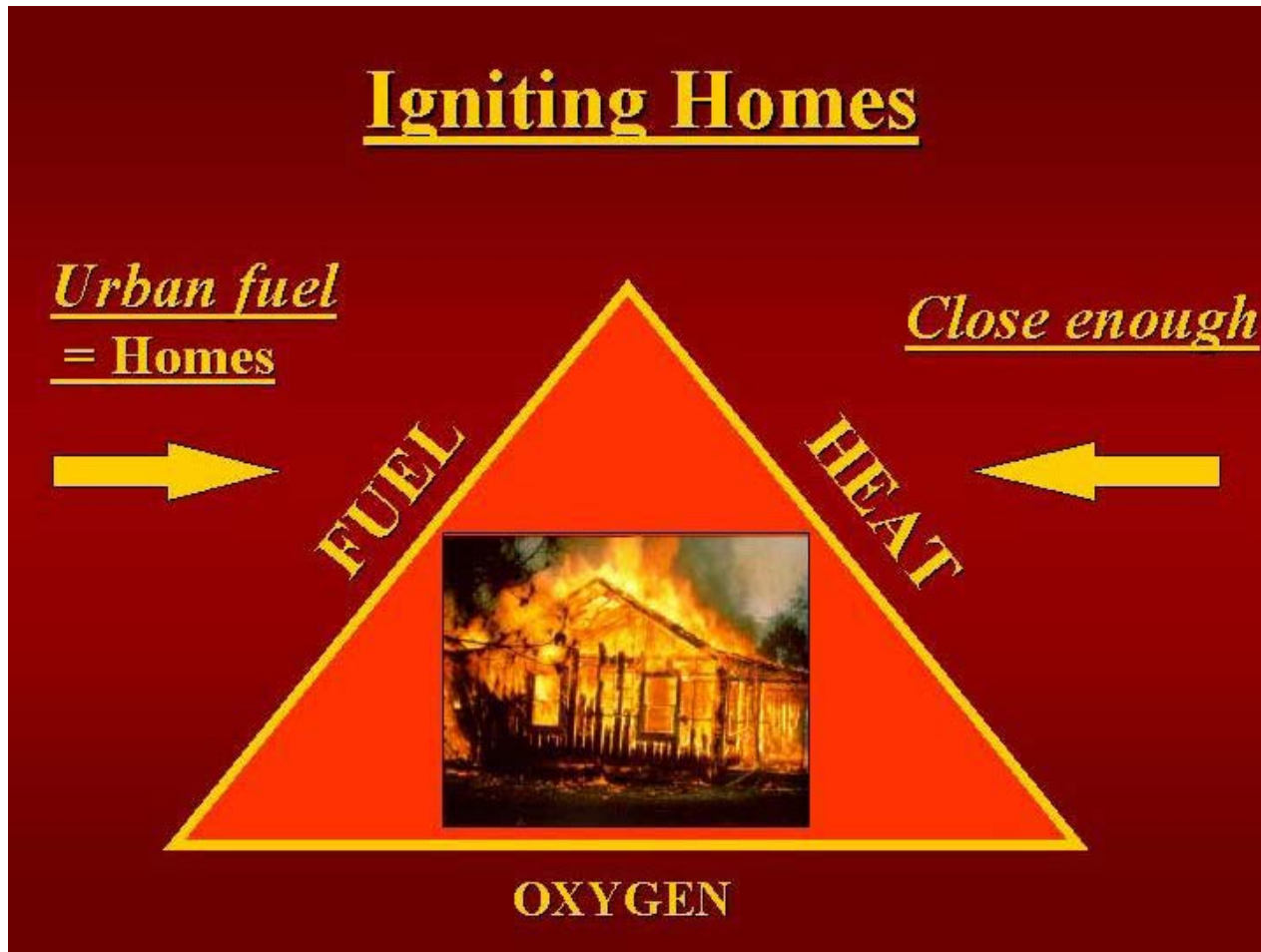
Low

2 - -2

Fire Behavior



Understanding the Threat



Debunking Wildfire Myths

Firefighters will save my home during a wildfire.

During a wildfire, I'll defend my home using my lawn sprinklers and a garden hose.

Direct contact with the wildfire flame front is why most homes are destroyed.





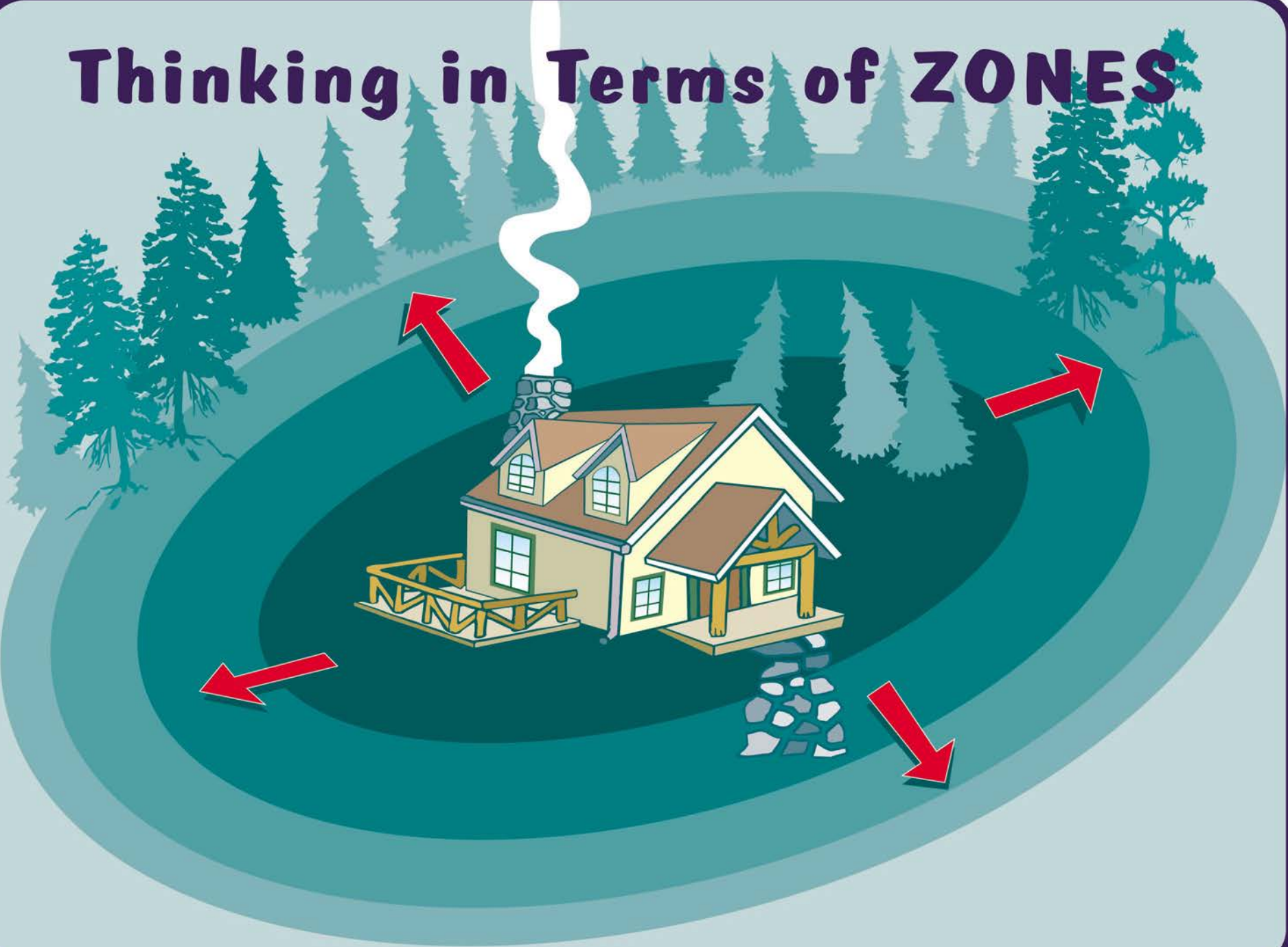
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Home Ignition Zone

The Home Ignition Zone is a homes 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**

Defensible Space

Landscape Wisely

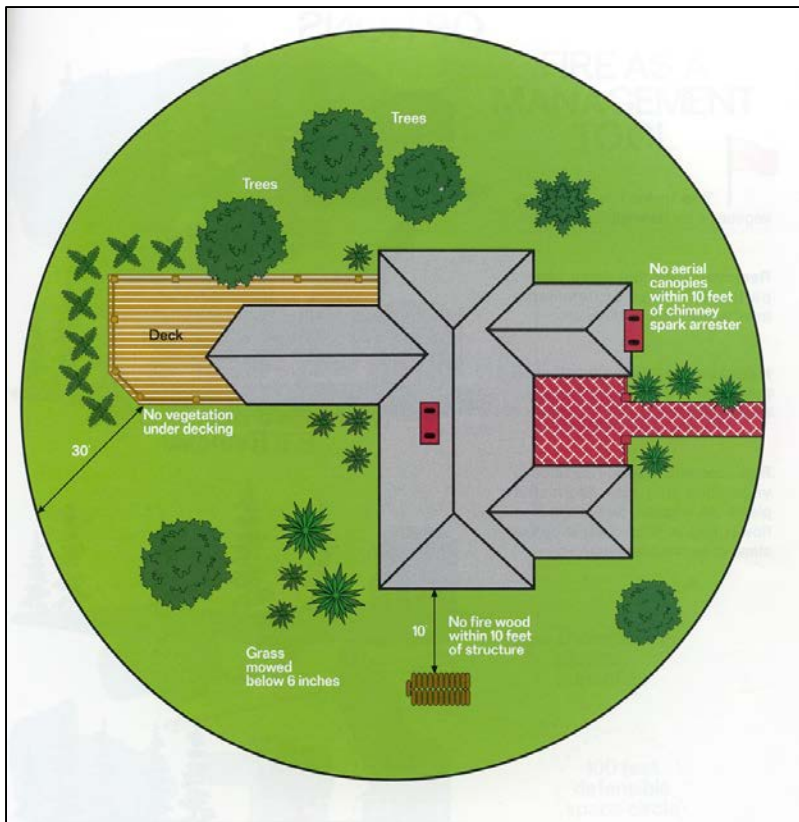
Choose plants that are less volatile and more resistant to fire

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.



BEFORE



AFTER

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



13158
STATE FARM
CONNELL





Decks are the weakest link on many otherwise fire resistant structure.





FIREWOOD



**Don't store
firewood near
anything you
would like to
save.**

**Store firewood at
least 30 feet away
(not directly uphill
or downhill) from
structures.**



Dumping









Next Steps:

Ready, Set, GO!

Becoming a Fire Adapted
Community

What is Ready, Set, GO!

READY

Prepare your family and home

SET

“Fire weather awareness”

Defensive actions if fire occurs

GO

Don't delay when it comes time to evacuate.

Ready (Firewise)

- HAVE A PLAN TO GET OUT...KNOW WHAT YOU WANT TO TAKE

People...what if your kids are home alone?

Pets

Possessions (computer files, photographs...what can't be replaced)

- STORE BACKUP COMPUTER FILES AND COPIES OF IMPORTANT PAPERS OFFSITE

-
- UPDATE INSURANCE AND VIDEO CONTENTS,

Store video offsite

- HAVE AN EVACUATION PLAN AND A "TO GO KIT" THAT INCLUDES IMPORTANT PAPERS AND PRESCRIPTIONS.

Set

PREPARE TO LEAVE

Execute your plan to gather family members, pets and possessions

Contact family members...we want everyone accounted for

PREPARE YOUR HOME

Wet deck and combustibles around base of home at grade
(Asphalt shingle and metal roofs should resist ignition.)

Bring patio furniture inside or toss away from home

Put out garden hoses and ladders

Open wood fence sections in backyard if you're near wildland

GO! – often times in less than 5 min

1. EVACUATE AS SOON AS YOU ARE SET!

2. ALERT FAMILY, FRIENDS OR NEIGHBORS.

3. DRESS IN APPROPRIATE CLOTHING (I.E. - COTTON CLOTHES AND WORK BOOTS) HAVE GOGGLES AND DRY BANDANA/MASK HANDY.

4. TAKE YOUR EMERGENCY SUPPLY KIT AND PETS.

5. STAY TUNED TO YOUR LOCAL RADIO STATIONS FOR UPDATES, OR CHECK EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AND FIRE DEPARTMENT WEBSITES.

Fire Adapted Community

- Establish a local Firewise Board, Committee or Similar Task force
- Assess Community Vulnerabilities to wildfire
- Identify community goals and create a plan of action – Working Document
 - CWPP – Community Wildfire Protection Plan
 - Details the Community's Risk
 - Evacuation Preparedness (Methods of communicating evacuation, sites of refuge, signage etc;)
 - Coordinates outreach events and community awareness workshops
 - Home Safety Awareness Assessments
 - Community Brush Clean Up
 - Fuels Reduction Plan in partnership with Austin Fire Department's Support
 - Apply for National Recognition

Resources

City of Austin-Travis County Wildfire
Protection Plan

Ready Set Go Guide

- WarnCentralTexas.org
- ATXFire.Org

311

Texas Wildfire Risk Assessment
Council Resolution

Questions?

Nia Henry – Fire Adapted Community Coordinator

(512)974-0111

Nia.Henry@austintexas.gov