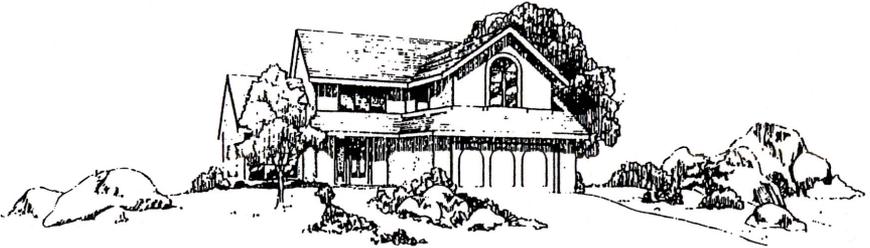


Fire-Resistant / Water-Wise Landscaping

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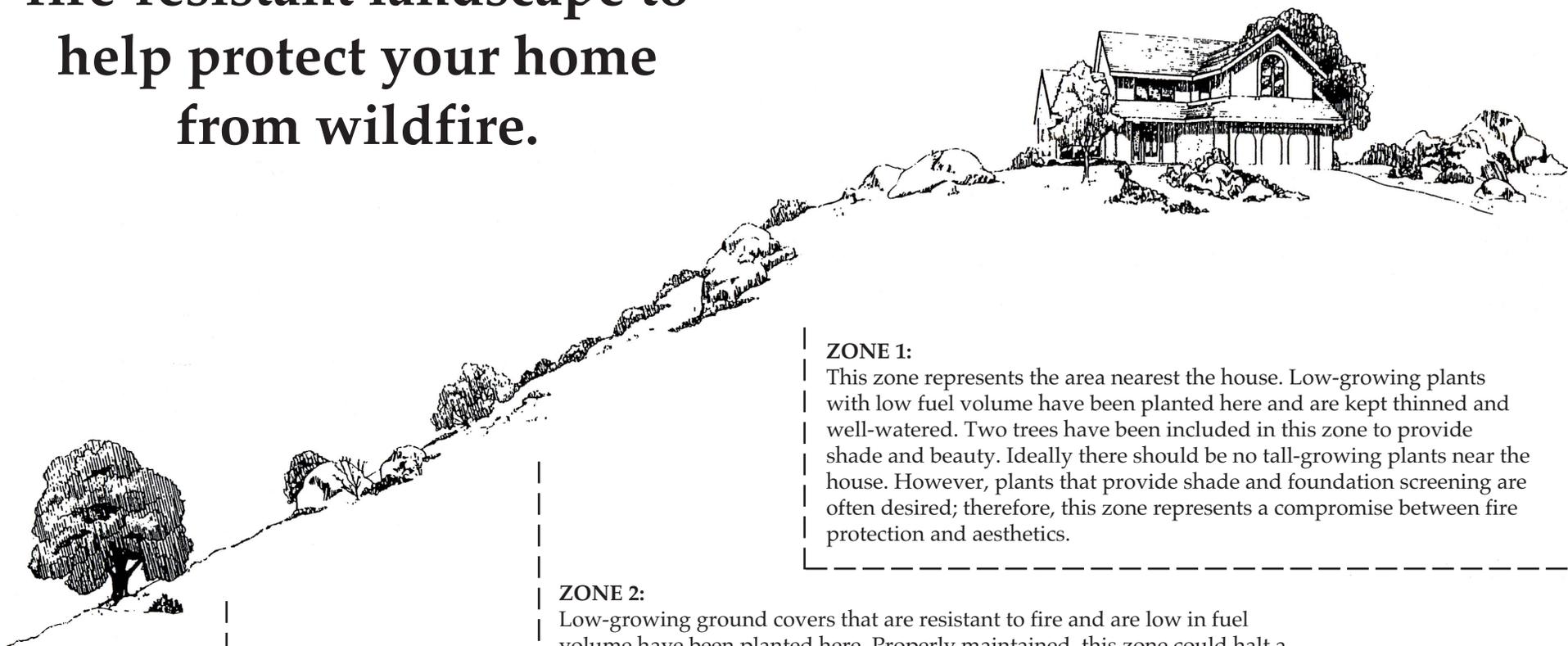
The goal in fire protection is to reduce the potential fuel for wildfires. Many Southern California homes are located in brush or chaparral land, and in the dry season much of this native vegetation is highly flammable. These same homes are often located on hillsides whose steep slopes are particularly vulnerable to soil erosion when native vegetation is removed for fire control. Therefore, a balance is struck between fire protection and erosion control.

Help protect your home from wildfire by following these guidelines:

- Trim tree limbs within 10 feet of your chimney. Remove all foliage and dead limbs from trees and shrubs within three to four feet off the ground. Thin trees and shrubs by removing every third or fourth limb.
- Remove highly flammable native brush. Clear flammable vegetation for a minimum distance of 30 to 100 feet around structures in areas subject to wildfire.
- Do not plant cypress, eucalyptus, or junipers close to the house as they contain combustible oils that can cause fire to spread rapidly.
- To stabilize slope areas, plant deep-rooted woody ground covers. Add some widely-spaced taller shrubs and trees to maximize slope stability.
- Install a zoned fire-resistant landscape, as demonstrated inside. Plant succulents and other plants with a high moisture content close to the house to create a line of defense. Space woody shrubs, perennials, and trees, keeping them thinned and well-maintained.

Visit and learn at
Landscapes
*Southern California Style*SM
See the back for details

Install a zoned fire-resistant landscape to help protect your home from wildfire.



ZONE 1:

This zone represents the area nearest the house. Low-growing plants with low fuel volume have been planted here and are kept thinned and well-watered. Two trees have been included in this zone to provide shade and beauty. Ideally there should be no tall-growing plants near the house. However, plants that provide shade and foundation screening are often desired; therefore, this zone represents a compromise between fire protection and aesthetics.

ZONE 2:

Low-growing ground covers that are resistant to fire and are low in fuel volume have been planted here. Properly maintained, this zone could halt a fire before it reaches the house.

ZONE 3:

This zone is a transition area that has been planted with low fuel-volume plants such as low shrubs and perennials. There are both native and introduced species here.

ZONE 4:

This zone consists of native vegetation that has been thinned to reduce fuel volume. Whole plants are also removed to provide for at least 20 feet of space between large shrubs and trees. The width of your zones will depend on the type, size, and density of the native vegetation surrounding your home.

Plants

Following is a partial list of “fire-resistant” water-wise plants grouped according to the fire zones which are described inside. This list is simply meant as a guideline, however—some plants may be used in different zones if arranged and maintained properly. Visit *Landscapes Southern California Style*^{SM*}, a water conservation demonstration garden, to see these plants growing in a natural setting.

	<u>BOTANICAL NAME</u>	<u>COMMON NAME</u>
ZONE 1	Agapanthus	Lily-of-the-Nile
	Armeria maritima	Common Thrift
	Dietes vegeta	Fortnight Lily
	Hemerocallis	Daylily
	Punica granatum ‘Nana’	Dwarf Pomegranate
	Pyracantha ‘Santa Cruz’	Firethorn
ZONE 2	Agave americana	Century Plant
	Nerium oleander ‘Petite Pink’	Dwarf Oleander
	Pittosporum tobira ‘Wheeler’s Dwarf’	Dwarf Tobira
	Schinus molle	California Pepper
	Sedum rubrotinctum	Pork and Beans
	Tulbaghia violacea	Society Garlic
ZONE 3	Achillea	Yarrow
	Centaurea cineraria	Dusty Miller
	Cistus	Rockrose
	Lantana montevidensis	No common name
	Lavandula	Lavender
	Limonium perezii	Sea Lavender
	Oenothera berlandieri	Mexican Evening Primrose
	Rosmarinus officinalis	Rosemary
	Salvia leucantha	Mexican Bush Sage
Sisyrinchium bellum	Blue-eyed Grass	
ZONE 4	Ceanothus	Mountain Lilac
	Heteromeles	Toyon
	Romneya coulteri	Fried Eggs
	Rhus ovata	Sugar Bush
	Zauschneria californica	Hummingbird Flower

* Western Municipal Water District’s *Landscapes Southern California Style*SM is a water conservation education garden located at 450 Alessandro Blvd. in Riverside. Visitors to the garden can see more than 250 species of water-wise plants in a natural setting and the irrigation systems that contribute to their water-efficiency. The garden is open to the general public daily from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m., closed holidays. Admittance is free. For more information, call 789-5087.