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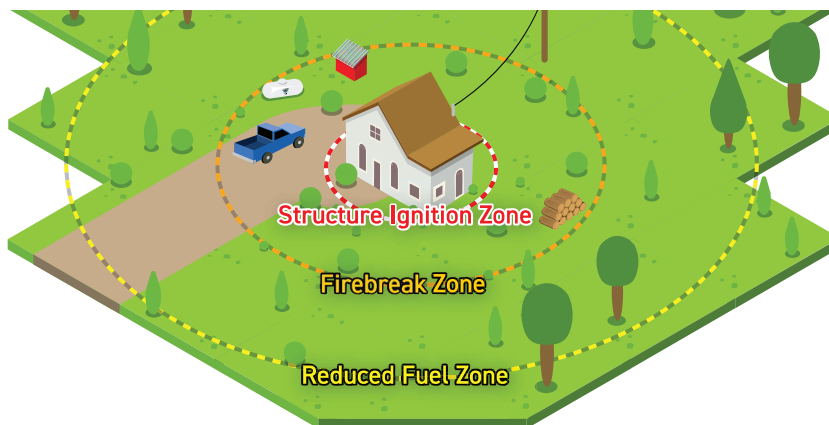
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WA-18



# 12 Steps to Keep Your Home Safe From Wildfire

Throughout the year KPUD makes improvements on rights-of-way clearing. As we approach fire season, KPUD makes every effort to ensure that both our electric systems and backup systems for water and wastewater are ready.

It is useful to take preparations against wildfire around your home. Here are some steps you can take to safeguard your home and property, based on recommendations from the Washington State Department of Natural Resources.

- Rake leaves, dead limbs, and twigs. Remove all leaves and rubbish from under structures, and remove vines from the walls of your home.
- Thin a 15-foot space between tree crowns, and remove limbs within 15 feet of the ground.
- Remove dead branches that extend over your home's roof.
- Prune tree branches and shrubs within 15 feet of a stovepipe or chimney outlet.
- Ask KPUD to clear branches from power lines.
- Mow grass regularly.
- Clear a 10-foot area around propane tanks and your barbecue. Place a screen over the grill—use nonflammable material with mesh no coarser than ¼-inch.
- Regularly dispose of newspapers and rubbish at an approved site. Follow local burning regulations.
- Place stove, fireplace and grill ashes in a metal bucket, and soak in water for two days. Then, bury the cold ashes in mineral soil.
- Store gasoline, oily rags and other flammable materials in approved safety cans. Place cans in a safe location away from the base of buildings.
- Stack firewood at least 100 feet away—and uphill—from your home. Clear combustible material within 20 feet.
- Review your homeowner's insurance policy, and prepare and update a list of your home's contents. ■