

FIREWISE STANDARDS FOR LOT MITIGATION

Prescott Summit

Prior to starting work, take before photos. Your contractor may be able to provide this service for a fee.

- Vegetation will be cut and disposed of to the City of Prescott and National Firewise Standards.
- All cut vegetation must be hauled away from the property to the disposal station or chipped at the curbside. The owner may have the chips broadcast back onto their property or hauled away. Costs and ability for hauling or chipping should be determined in advance of contracting with that company.
- Overall vegetation mitigation will last for 2-3 years and must be maintained on that basis. This will reduce ongoing required maintenance costs. Annual rainfall is a factor in vegetation growth and must be taken into consideration, as maintenance may need to be done more frequently.
- All grasses must be cut to a height no greater than 6 inches tall.
- All vegetation should be cut to a minimum standard of a 50/50 mosaic cut. This creates islands of vegetation that will minimize spreading of fire from one island to the next. The distance between islands should be 12-15 ft. or greater. All dead brush and trees should be removed. All tall bushes that could ignite an adjacent tree canopy should be cut down to a height no greater than 2 feet.
- Slope of the lot, and hillside vegetation should be cut to eliminate the possibility of ignition of the sides of trees. Many lots have extreme slopes. Additionally vegetation removal should not cause erosion.
- Trees should be limbed up with branches removed to 5-6 feet above ground level. All vegetation, including small bushes and grasses should be eliminated within the drip line of the tree canopy. Removal of these ladder fuels will greatly reduce fire spreading up into a tree and causing a crown fire. Crown fires move from tree top to tree top and are extremely difficult to control and often have disastrous results.
- Trees smaller than a 4" trunk diameter may be removed if the density of trees is endangering an adjacent home, or if it creates an unsafe environment from a Firewise standpoint. The contractor will determine which small trees should be eliminated.
- Removal of trees greater than a 4" trunk diameter should be negotiated with the contractor. Unless a large tree is extremely close to an adjacent home or structure, removal of large trees is unnecessary however they must be limbed up as described above. If there is a dead tree on the property it should be removed.

When the work is complete, don't forget to have your "after" photos taken!

Follow the information on the sheet entitled "Information on the Grant Money available to Prescott Summit Property Owners" to submit for reimbursement