

# Can We Avoid Devastating Wildfire?

## Yes, we can. Together!

Devastating wildfires that destroy communities feel like a new normal across the west. But such destruction is not inevitable. When each of us takes responsibility to do our part, we will make our town dramatically safer against wildfire. Help us prevent catastrophic loss in Ashland by doing your part.

**Embers account for 90% of home ignitions during a wildfire!**

*Through a firestorm of embers and flames, these homes survived.*



The key is working together – as a community – to make our town safer against windblown embers, stopping flames before they start!

It is no longer a question of whether a wildfire will ever be upon us, but when it will happen again. Together, we can prevent catastrophic loss within our town.

**APRIL**

**Harden your home!**

Protect against embers and flames

**MAY**

**Be Firewise!**

Keep your yard lean, clean and green

**JUNE**

**Be Ready!**

Prepare to evacuate or shelter in place

**JULY**

**Be Smokewise!**

Prepare for smoke



Learn more online:  
[fireadaptedashland.org](http://fireadaptedashland.org)



SCAN ME

# This April, harden your home's exterior to embers and flames.

## We ALL must do this work to protect our community

### **COMPLETE THESE 3 HIGH-PRIORITY ACTIONS FIRST:**

- Clean your roof and gutters of leaves and needles. Can't do this yourself? Ask a neighbor for help or hire someone to do the work.
- Keep wood decks clear of leaf and needle debris above and below the deck surface. Do the same around the base of walls and storage areas.
- Relocate woodpiles at least 30 feet from buildings and out from under decks. If you cannot move woodpiles 30-feet from buildings, place inside an enclosed structure, or store as far away from all structures as possible and cover with a fireproof tarp that can resist embers.

### **COMPLETE THESE TASKS NEXT:**

- Cover exterior vent openings with 1/8-inch metal-mesh screens to resist ember penetrations into the home. This includes attic, crawlspace, or basement vents \*
- It's critical to keep the space under decks clean of debris. If your deck is less than 2-feet off the ground, it's recommended to fully enclose the space under the deck, or screen-in with 1/8-inch metal-mesh. This keeps embers out.
- Replace wood fencing with metal (*or other non-combustible materials*) for the last 5-feet of any fence that attaches to a house, detached garage, or outbuilding\*\*

*\*rolls of 1/8" screen are sold at hardware and big box stores or can be ordered online. Consider buying a roll and sharing it with your neighbors! Also, remember to clean out lint build-up from dryer vents!*

*\*\*several stores in the Rogue Valley sell non-combustible gates or panels that can replace wood fence attachments against the home. Fencing contractors can construct non-combustible alternatives as well.*

### **IF YOUR BUDGET PERMITS:**

- Install metal flashing between wood siding and decks. Consider replacing the first 1-2 deck boards closest to the home with fire-resistant products.
- Install  $\geq 8$ " high metal flashing along walls where wood siding intersects roofing.
- Keep your roof in good condition. Keep your eye out for warping or missing shingles and repair as needed.

### **WHEN IT COMES TIME TO REPLACE:**

- When replacing siding, upgrade to fire resistant materials like fiber cement, stucco, masonry, cement, or plaster.
- New windows should have metal frames, be tempered double-pane, and have metal-mesh screens.