
CAL FIRE NEWS RELEASE

California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection



San Mateo-Santa Cruz Unit

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Inspectors Conducting Defensible Space Inspections

Felton – Inspectors from the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE) have been conducting defensible space inspections in the unincorporated areas of San Mateo and Santa Cruz counties. Over 1,200 residences have been inspected since April 1st this year and many more are scheduled. These inspections are aimed at educating and advising the homeowner on how they can best achieve defensible space around their homes and structures. In addition, the inspectors are ensuring home owners come into compliance with Public Resource Code 4291 (PRC4291).

Homeowners can dramatically increase the chance of their home surviving a wildfire by taking a few simple steps to make their homes fire safe. California state law (PRC 4291) requires homeowners living in state responsibility areas to create a 100-foot “Defensible Space” zone around their homes. All flammable vegetation within the first 30 feet of all structures should be removed. An additional 70 feet should have a reduced fuel zone by spacing trees and plants from each other. All needles and leaves should also be cleared from roofs, eaves, and rain gutters.

Homeowners in San Mateo and Santa Cruz counties can contact their local fire station to schedule an inspection.

More information about making your home safe can be found on the CAL FIRE website: www.fire.ca.gov or www.readyforwildfire.org , or by visiting your local fire station.