

defensible space concepts

for the High Fire Hazard Areas
Around Your Home in Glendale

Defensible Space Concepts
are presented in this pamphlet
to assist you in providing the
required 100' of brush clearance
around your home.

These concepts are
guidelines only
and may be modified
to suit specific conditions.



GLENDALE FIRE PREVENTION
420 W. Harvard Street
Glendale, California 91204
Website: fire.ci.glendale.ca.us

zone A

0 TO 5 FEET FROM THE HOUSE

The key purpose of Zone A is to have the least flammable type of landscaping immediately adjacent to the house to prevent ignition and direct exposure from flames.

- Remove all dead trees, shrubs and branches.
- Remove highly flammable native shrubs.
- Plant low growing vegetation with high moisture content such as flowers and ground covers. Keep plants maintained and irrigated.
- Remove plant material once it has cured (yellowed).
- Maintain 5 feet of vertical clearance from roof surface. Keep roof surface free of debris.
- Avoid planting evergreen shrubs and trees such as junipers and pines.

zone B

5 TO 30 FEET FROM THE HOUSE

This zone provides an area where firefighters can defend your home and where fuels have been substantially reduced.

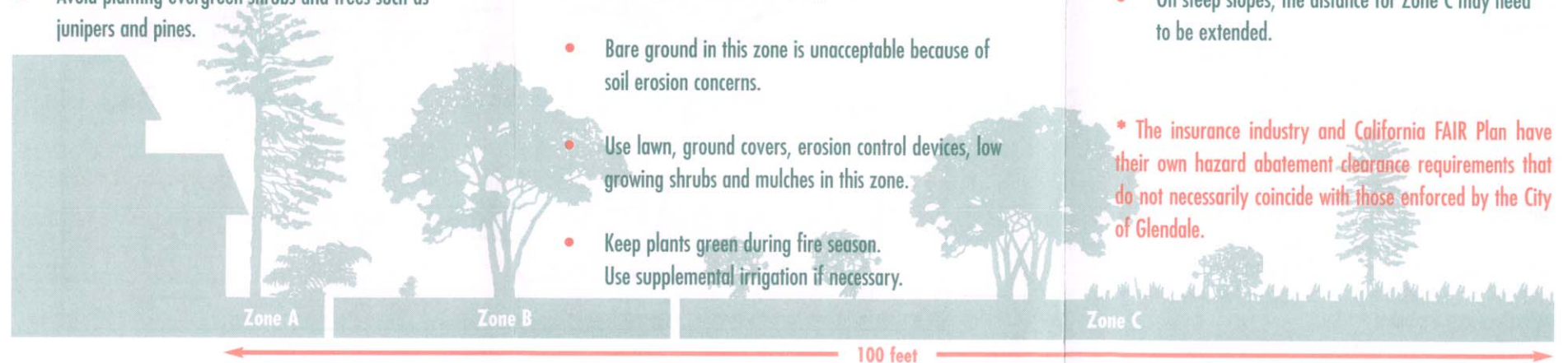
- Remove all dead trees, shrubs and branches. If you desire, leave small groups of existing native shrubs. Keep well maintained. Reduce height and remove branches that are near the ground.
- Dry grass, weeds and small shrubs must be maintained less than 3 inches.
- Native trees are allowable so long as the ladder fuels are removed (remove lower tree branches 3 - 6 feet from the ground.)
- A thin layer of cut grass that is compact and laying flat to the ground surface is acceptable.
- Bare ground in this zone is unacceptable because of soil erosion concerns.
- Use lawn, ground covers, erosion control devices, low growing shrubs and mulches in this zone.
- Keep plants green during fire season. Use supplemental irrigation if necessary.

zone C

30 TO 100 FEET FROM THE HOUSE*

The concept involved in this zone is to reduce fire intensity and flame length by modifying the native vegetation.

- Remove all dead trees, shrubs and branches.
- Remove dead woody material laying on the ground.
- Break up thick continuous stands of shrubs by selective removal: shrubs should average 18 feet apart. Remove the lower branches of remaining shrubs (within 3 feet of the ground).
- Grasses and small shrubs may be left as high as 18 inches from the ground on steep slopes for slope stability purposes.
- On steep slopes, the distance for Zone C may need to be extended.



* The insurance industry and California FAIR Plan have their own hazard abatement clearance requirements that do not necessarily coincide with those enforced by the City of Glendale.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

to Glendale Residents

In Glendale, hazardous vegetation is one of the major contributors to urban-interface wildfires. Wildfire danger is greatest to hillside and canyon homes, but dry grass, weeds, shrubs and flammable landscaping can bring the fire right to your home, whether you live on a hillside or not. Fire prevention steps must be taken now to be effective. **Inspections will commence MAY 1st to ensure compliance.**

To combat the threat of wildfire, follow the abatement actions listed in this brochure for Defensible Space Concepts. Not all native shrubs are hazardous however, so **do not strip the slope to bare soil** and do not rake all cover off of steep hillsides. These actions may accelerate soil erosion and are prohibited by City ordinance.

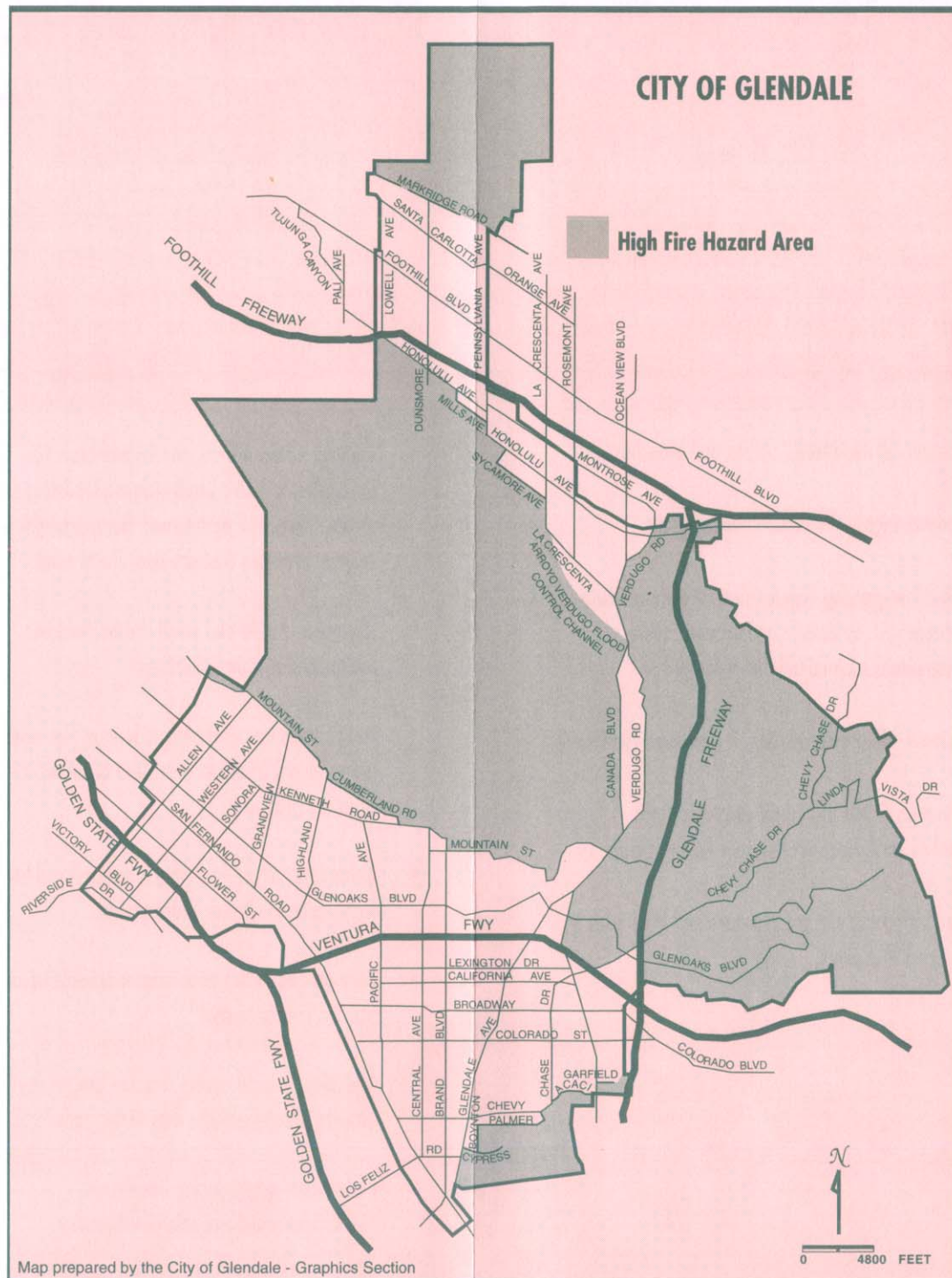
If upon Fire Department inspection, you have not completed the abatement work adequately, or in a timely manner, we will send you a **"Notice to Abate Fire Hazard"** informing you of the hazards to be abated. A compliance inspection will be conducted 30 days later. If the abatement is still not satisfactory, we will send you a **"Notice of intention to Abate Public Nuisance."** A final inspection will be conducted after 15 days to ensure compliance.

Failing all opportunities for voluntary compliance, the Fire Department may need to abate hazardous vegetation using an approved contractor. Fire Department costs to remove your vegetation may be higher than what it would cost you to have the job done privately, so be sure to ask us right away if you need clarification of what hazards need to be abated.

This brochure is being used to inform you of the inspection and notification process. Your cooperation in completing the abatement work before we inspect your neighborhood will improve the overall effectiveness of the program. Once you have completed and inspected the required abatement, return the enclosed Abatement Certification Card by **May 1st**. Fire Department Inspectors will inform you in writing of any additional abatement required.

We are dedicated to your protection and are available to assist you in your effort to reduce the threat of wildfires. Working together we can accomplish a common goal: **to ensure our community is fire safe.** You really can help us combat urban-interface wildfires in your own neighborhood, but you must start around your home. If you have any questions, or would like additional fire safety information, please call the Glendale Fire Department at (818) 548-4810, or contact your local fire station.

Thank you for partnering with us in Wildfire Protection.



*fire hazard
reduction
guidelines*

for the
**High Fire Hazard
Areas of Glendale**

**Fire Prevention steps
must be taken now
in order to be effective.**

**Inspections commence
annually beginning
on May 1st
to ensure compliance.**

Please read this brochure carefully.



**If you have any questions,
please call (818) 548-4810.**