



ENHANCING FIRE SAFETY IN ROLLING HILLS

The following set of guides aims to encourage and inform residents to take action to enhance fire safety in Rolling Hills. A primary goal is to reduce the potential damage from wildfire in a sustainable manner.

The guides address the ‘why, who, what and when’ of managing vegetation for fire safety.

- The first guide, *Making and Creating a Fire Safe Home Site*, describes the specific requirements of the Los Angeles County Fire Department regarding defensible space. It also clarifies responsibilities of the resident for the zones on his/her property: 200-feet from a structure, roadsides and easements, and canyons.
- The second guide, *How to Do the Work*, presents tips on the process of choosing someone to help with the task.
- The third guide, *Creating Fire Safe Canyons*, leads the resident through the steps involved in deciding how to manage canyons and describes three broad strategies for doing so.
- The fourth guide, *Best Practices for Fuel Management*, covers how to refine fuel treatments to increase aesthetics, and environmental sensitivity.
- The last guide, *Choosing Fuel Treatment Methods*, describes the options for managing vegetation: hand labor, mechanical equipment, livestock and herbicide use. Suitability and tradeoffs of each are discussed. A chart comparing the many techniques involving hand labor and mechanical treatments present the advantages and considerations of each.
- A *Checklist of Actions* serves to remind a resident of the activities that should be taken to comply with the fire department regulations.

With this knowledge, residents can work incrementally to improve fire safety of their community. This effort can be sustainable economically and environmentally, even though the initial effort may be substantial. Maintenance – done annually and periodically – is a less involved task.

The combination of guides and charts provide instruction on creating a more fire safe situation in Rolling Hills. However, fire safety can not be guaranteed, and when an evacuation is ordered, follow the direction of the fire and police department. Questions may arise and the City of Rolling Hills, Rolling Hills Community Association and the Los Angeles County Fire Department are all sources for further information.