

## Canyons

If you live in close proximity to a canyon, the following information may be of use to you. Paying close attention to how you maintain your landscape is important.

### SAFETY TIPS:

- Landscape with wildfire in mind – “firescaping.”
- Properly maintain landscaping around buildings and homes.
- In preparing for wildfire, don’t ignore environmental law.
- If building a home in a canyon area, build at least 30 feet from your property line.
- Identify at least two roads out from your neighborhood.
- Designate an emergency meeting place outside the home, and one outside your neighborhood.
- Plan your evacuation long before fire threatens.
- Don’t wait to be told to evacuate.

### FACTS AND FIGURES:

- Firefighters can control about 97 percent of all wildfires that start; 3 percent overwhelm even the best-equipped, well-staffed agencies.
- There are three basic components of a wildfire: **weather, fuel, and terrain.**
- **Weather:** dry, hot and windy weather increases the likelihood of a major wildfire.
- These conditions: make ignition easier, help fuels burn more rapidly, increase fire intensity
- High wind speeds can transform a small, controlled fire into a catastrophic event.
- **Fuel:** fuel is required for any fire to burn, usually living vegetation and dead plant materials.
- Homes can become fuel.
- The quantity, size, moisture content, arrangement and other fuel characteristics influence the ease of ignition, rate of fire spread, length of flames and other fire behavior.
- **Terrain:** steepness of slope is among the most influential on fire behavior. The steeper the slope, the faster a fire will spread.