Home Owners Association Guide

For Fire Resistant Communities

Community Awareness

for the Greater Thurston County area

WSU Master Gardener Program – Thurston County

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Executive Summary

Wildfires in Washington, including Southwest Washington have become fairly common and more intense. Suburban growth in our communities has placed homes next to and within forest as well as heavily treed and bushed areas. We do need to move from emergency reactions to fires, to becoming more proactive in the prevention of fires. Homeowners and their neighbors can choose to better protect their home and their community. These fire-resistant guidelines can be empowering and are becoming vital. Vital because we want to reduce the mortality rates from fires. Vital because fire fighters are being stretched and at times overwhelmed as fires exceeded their suppression abilities, leaving homes without defense. Vital because of the economic impact fires are having on our country.

It is great to live in an urban forest environment with city amenities mixed with forest land and its associated wildlife. We experience the best of both worlds and we need to ensure we practice the best measures for protecting it. Living in our urban forest environment adds beauty, form, and structure to our community experience. It also creates unique challenges than include keeping our forest areas safe for its wildlife; as well as maintaining our communities in a way that reduces the risk of wildfire spread.

These guidelines provide proven science-based recommendations for keeping homes and communities safer from wildfire danger. They are a consolidation of many resources available today that are tested fire-deterrent standards. The goal is to encourage local involvement with homeowners and community leadership in reducing wildfire destruction. And promote planning, design and maintenance of homes and their surrounding landscapes.

We include a fire-resistant plant list as well as landscape maintenance guidance for homes and communities. It is important to note that dry unmaintained landscape, no matter what is planted, can create a hazard that can easily spread throughout a community.

Understanding the fire ignition zones and plant limitations in those zones protects a whole community. Know the troubling plant species to avoid. Understand the recommended distance between a specific plant and structures to provide fire resistant landscaping. Timely maintenance is also key for keeping landscapes across a community more fire-resistant and adaptable for sustaining our homes, and our urban forest areas.

Like moving to green energy, this momentum of moving more toward fire-resistant landscapes will take time. As homeowners and neighbors build and renew their landscapes, these guidelines can help them become more aware of fire-resistant options.

Audience

The intended target audience is specifically homeowners, their homeowner associations, community landscape designers and landscape maintenance companies living and working within our urban forest communities in Thurston County.

Homeowner associations and communities are encouraged to incorporate fire-resistant recommendations in their guidelines and standards for residences. Encourage and educate homeowners. Ensure your communities are planning and maintaining fire resistant properties. This will take adapting landscapes due to droughts, living in a more fire-resistant space and the adapting for overall climate change impacts.

Community and Home Owner Awareness

Communities have the ability to manage the threat from fire destruction across their neighborhoods. Below is a checklist of items that HOAs and communities can use to assess their readiness for wildfire protection throughout their neighborhood homes, shared areas and common spaces.

Homeowner Association Fire Risk Assessment Checklist

(Can be extracted from document separately)

1. **Visually inspect Community structures.** Are the structures in good condition including homes and common areas? Exterior walls should be in good condition with eaves and air vents covered and protected, and outside debris stored well away from walls.
2. **Provide Firewise Awareness to your Community**. Educate homeowners of fire-resistant landscaping around their property for fire prevention. One home fire can put the entire community at risk.
3. **Periodically assess street conditions.** Can the streets quickly and safely lead emergency personnel to a fire or burning structure? Knocking a fire down quickly is vital to preventing it from spreading.
4. **Periodically assess homesites.** Is vegetation cleared of all dead, dying and diseased plants removed.
5. **Assess all community common areas.** Dead material needs to be removed and flammable weeds cut down and removed. Check for ample distance between shrubs and trees to prevent the fire from jumping. Are the common areas behind homes being overlooked? This can lead to dry distressed land and become fire hazard situations.
6. **How is power provided to your community?** If it is not underground, are community leadership working with utility companies to monitor overhead lines or planning to move to underground power distribution?
7. **Have an Emergency Plan in place for a neighborhood fire.** Resources should be on hand at all times, including an evacuation plan, backup power and water, and emergency communications.
8. **Invite a speaker to an annual community meeting.** Keep fire-wise landscaping in the forefront of your community. Invite local experts from Emergency Management Thurston County or the Department of Natural Resources.
9. **Encourage removal of hazardous plants.** Review and remove any fire hazardous plants from your community approved plant list. Make owners aware of fire potential, offer alternative plants.
10. **Provide easy access to preferred fire-wise websites.** Include any preferred fire-wise link on your community website for homeowner reference and for education. Include awareness in a summer newsletter.
11. **Follow Thurston County's new Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) Codes.** This is critical if your community is still expanding. WUI addresses fire prevention building and landscape codes in new communities.
12. **Encourage Sign Up for The Fire Ready Neighborhood Program for homeowners.** https://wildfireready.dnr.wa.gov/

Background and Definitions

Research comparing home destruction vs. home survival in wildfires point to embers and small flames as the main way that the majority of homes ignite in wildfires. Embers are burning pieces of airborne wood and/or vegetation that can be carried more than a mile through the wind and can cause spot fires and ignite homes, debris and other objects. One house fire can threaten the rest of the community. Research has found that fire suppression planning reduces the vulnerability of any one home and the rest of the community.

Photo Courtesy of West Thurston Regional Fire Authority – Capital Forest fire May 2023

Wildfires are becoming more destructive. The elephant in the room is Climate Change. Are recent wild fires and the resulting disasters in communities across the West just unlucky, one-off events? Evidence is accumulating otherwise. A recent study found a 246% increase in the number of homes and structures destroyed by wildfires in the contiguous Western U.S. in the past two decades, 1999-2009 and 2010-2020 (from Washington to Arizona)[1].

There are methods for homeowners to prepare their homes to withstand ember attacks and minimize the likelihood of flames or surface fire touching the home or any attachments. Experiments, models and post-fire studies have shown homes ignite due to the condition of the home and everything around it, up to 200' from the foundation. This is called the Home Ignition Zone (HIZ).

This document will reference the described HIZ as defined by the National Fire Protection Association[2]. It describes multiple zones fanning out from the homes themselves. In this document, we will also offer suggestions for the types of plants to consider for each zone that will best keep homes within a safety zone of a wildfire. We describe mitigation steps to take to keep your home and communities more resistant to wildfire spread.

The good news is that people have the ability to affect change. Preventing wildfire disasters necessarily means minimizing unplanned human-related ignitions and reducing wildfire risks across communities.

What is the Home Ignition Zone?

The concept of the home ignition zone (HIZ) was developed by the USDA Forest Service in the 1990s following some research into how homes ignite due to the effects of radiant heat. The HIZ is divided into three zones.

The Zone Theory imagines your home as the bullseye on a giant target, with each of the zones spreading out in concentric areas. The first zone extends 5 feet from any structure and is designed and maintained to withstand an onslaught of embers. The second zone, or extends 30 feet and its goal is to stop a ground fire. Zone three is set up to reduce the severity of a fire and slow its spread.

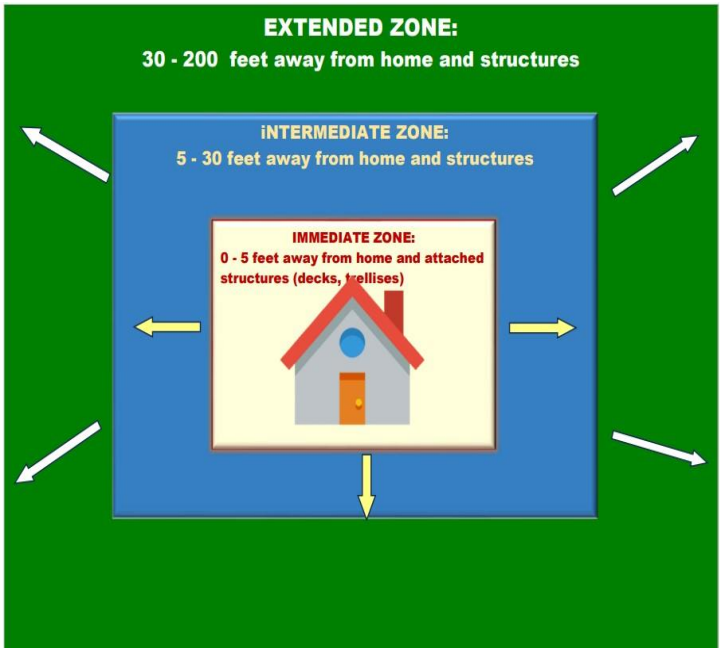
[1] (Philip Higuera, 2023) https://theconversation.com/western-wildfires-destroyed-246-more-homes-and-buildings-over-the-past-decade-fire-scientists-explain-whats-changing-197384https://www.nfpa.org/About-NFPA

[2] National Fire Protection Association Home Ignition Zones.

Protecting your home by landscaping with fire resistant plants, and adhering to the zone recommendations, has two purposes:

1. Defending your home first for catching fire
2. If it does begin to burn, preventing the flames from spreading further

Home Ignition Zones



Immediate Zone (0 – 5 feet) closest to your home.

(Appendix A for detailed plant list)

The home and the area 0'- 5' from the furthest attached exterior point of the home is defined as a non-combustible area. This is the most important zone to take immediate action on as it is the most vulnerable to embers. Start with the house maintenance itself then move into the landscaping alternatives for this Immediate Zone.

The first 5 feet from a house foundation wall, deck or wood overhead structure is the most critical area for a home's survivability if threatened by fire. This would also include any attached structures such as trellises or arbors.

The Immediate Home Ignition Zone should be planted with fire resistant plants that are high in moisture content and sizzle when exposed to flames and intense heat, but rarely ignite. Examples include lily of the Nile, coral bells and roses. Most succulents are also fire-resistant.

The first line of defense in this zone is to properly ensure maintenance of your home to inhibit embers from easy access.

- Clean roofs and gutters – remove dead leaves, debris and pine needles. It is recommended that no trees be planted in this zone area.
- Determine if roof needs any shingle or vent replacement.
- If you currently do not have screening on your vents, install 1/8-inch metal mesh screening to stop embers from getting in attic. Clean any accumulated debris from vents.
- Repair or replace needed window screens and any broken windows
- Screen or box-in areas below patios and decks with wire mesh to prevent combustible material from accumulating.
- Move any flammable material away from exterior of structure – flammable mulch and/or plants, leaves and needles, firewood piles. Wood fencing should not be attached to homes providing a wick to the home's structure. Use metal, vinyl or noncombustible materials for fencing near the home.
- Create a Non-combustible border.. Replace flammable mulch with noncombustible mulch or attractive rock structures and designs such as dry creek beds.
- Within five feet of a home, it's best to only grow low growing plants with high moisture content including perennials and annuals.

Fencing in the Immediate Zone

Many homeowners in communities like fences for privacy and security reasons. Wood fencing should not be attached to a home. This is providing a wick for a fire to enter the structure of the house. Wood fencing is more appropriate for the property borders or at least outside this Immediate Zone. Some communities are combining different materials to support homeowners' privacy and security needs as well as adhere to fire-resistant installations.

Intermediate zone (5 – 30 feet)

(Appendix A: Detailed Plant list for Intermediate Zone)

This area allows for more shrubs and trees but it is important to allow for spacing between areas of vegetation. Break areas slow the spread if a fire becomes a threat Clear vegetation from underneath any structures including tanks.

- Create fuel breaks with dry creek beds, paths of stone or pavers.
- Keep lawns to a height of no more than 4 inches.
- Remove vegetation under trees (ladder fuels) helping prohibit fire from reaching high crowns of trees.
- Prune trees ten feet from the ground or for shorter trees 1/3 of the overall tree height (whichever is shorter).
- Space trees to have a minimum of eighteen feet between crowns with the distance increasing with the percentage of slope.
- Tree placement should be planned to ensure mature canopies are no closer than ten feet from home structure.
- Limit trees and shrubs to small clusters of a few each to break up the continuity of the vegetation across the landscape. Certain deciduous trees and shrubs may safely be planted sparingly within the 5-to-30-foot home ignition zone.

Extended zone (30 to 100+ feet)

(Detailed Plant List is in Appendix A)

Fire cannot be totally eliminated but the goal is to plan landscaping and maintenance to keep the spread of flames at a slower pace and lower to the ground; thereby giving more time to control and contain any fire.

- Dispose of heavy accumulations of dead debris and dried plant and tree material
- Remove small conifers growing between mature trees.
- Remove vegetation adjacent to storage sheds or other outbuildings within this area.
- Trees 30 to 60 feet from the home should have at least 12 feet between canopy tops.
- Trees 60 to 100 feet from the home should have at least 6 feet between the canopy tops.
- Remove ladder fuel from under Conifer Trees – small trees or brush that would allow fire to burn from the ground to the branches of the conifer trees
- Limb up Conifers – prune tree branches from ground level up to a height of 10' or up to 1/3 the height of the tree, whichever is less

**The distances listed for crown spacing are suggested based on NFPA 1144. However, the crown spacing needed to reduce/prevent crown fire potential could be significantly greater due to slope, the species of trees involved and other site conditions. Check with your local forestry professional to get advice on what is appropriate for your property.*

Selecting Plants using the Home Ignition Zone

(Detailed Fire-Resistant Plant list is in Appendix A)

Fire-resistant, low-flammable plants help create fire-wise landscaping. Many Pacific Northwest native plants have a natural tolerance for summer dry periods common in our Zone 8 climate west of the Cascade Mountains.

- Your drought-tolerant plants will perform best and require less care if you group them together. It is important to note where (sun/shade) grows best along with drainage needs. Also, drought-tolerant does not always mean fire resistant. Some drought-tolerant plants contain resins and oils which can fuel fire. So, cross reference your search for drought tolerant planting with a list of fire-resistant plants. You can also check the material content of the plant.

- During establishment, provide enough water to encourage development of a healthy root system. This can take two–three years. Reduce the amount of extra irrigation gradually and watch carefully for signs of water stress, such as wilting or curling leaves, or a “dull” appearance of the leaves, during these years.

- Some Pacific Northwest natives die back naturally during the dry summer months. Maintain and/or trim the dry-backs.

- Look to neighboring ecosystems for other drought-tolerant plants. Examples of plants that do well in western Washington are the golden currant (Ribes aureum) or flowering currant native to the PNW.

Including native plants that thrive in local conditions and require less maintenance also offer more wildlife habitat value.

Eventually, any plant will burn. That being said, some plant species burn easily, and others do not. Some plants are high in moisture and are less likely to ignite. Succulents for example store moisture within their leaves and resist fire.

Use rock, composted or heavy bark mulch, flower beds, and gardens as ground cover for bare spaces. They can create great firebreaks. Carefully selected and maintained hedges and screens can “catch” embers before they reach your house if placed in strategic locations.

Arranging hardscape spaces adjacent to the home and planting areas further out creates a defensible space around the home.

Popular fire-resistant plants include bold and colorful rhododendrons. They are not just a beautiful fire-resistant plant for your backyard--it's also Washington's state flower. The rhododendron can reach around 24 feet high so design with zone 2 or 3 in mind.

There are a few fire-wise evergreens. One is called *Cotoneaster dammeri*, commonly known as Bearberry Cotoneaster. Following its blooming season, small red berries fill the shrub with color. Its berries are not edible.

Whether you’re looking for succulents or something with deep roots to protect a hillside and prevent erosion, there are colorful and plentiful fire-resistant plants available to beautify your yard.

Al Murphy, a WSU Master Gardener in Eastern Washington and retired professional fire fighter with a renewed focus on fire resistant landscapes, says “Plant more lean, green, clean plants”. Lean - meaning not bushy, open branches such as a dogwood tree; green - those plants that hold moisture; and clean – plants that shed little to no debris.

Charisse Sydoriak, a wildfire mitigation expert in Oregon, created the Plant List Generator. It is a downloadable database of fire-wise plants. The plant list generator will help homeowners and their communities choose landscaping plants that are fire-resistant, drought tolerant; and also list whether they are pollinator friendly and deer resistant. Associations and their Communities can provide access to this database for their homeowners by downloading to their community websites.

Mitigation – Maintenance Matters

Maintain landscape near a home by reducing and/or replacing with ignition defensive components (such as using decorative stone at the base of a structure). Greater efforts are needed within close proximity of the structure and gradually decreasing efforts beyond that. Follow the Home Ignition Zone defense recommended distances of appropriate plants.

- Removing leaves, needles, and other organic debris from decks, roofs, and near the base of exterior walls.

- When tree branches touch or lean close to a structure, they can easily transmit flames and embers. They also drop their leaves on rooftops and in rain gutters, making houses more likely to ignite.
- Do not plant highly flammable shrubs and trees, not even dwarf varieties in an urban forest environment, especially arborvitae, bamboo, broom, cedar, cypress, juniper, pampas grass, rabbitbrush or sagebrush.

  Removing combustible materials from around structures and beneath decks. Locating firewood, fuel tanks, and LPG tanks at a safe distance from structures.

- Remove invasive plants such as butterfly bush, Himalayan blackberry, ivy, mullein, thistle and tree of heaven.
- Outline separate planted areas with rock, gravel, brick or pavers. Avoid massive plant areas without separation as breaking areas up allows for fire breaks. And it is also anesthetically pleasing.

- Maintain grass heights at 4” or less.

- Do not select plants that have waxy, oily, resinous leaves. They provide fuel for any fire.

- Avoid plants that are prone to diseases and accumulate dry twigs and branches.

Common Hazardous Plants

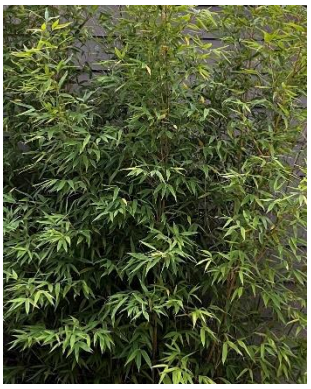
Plants that are hazardous for fire spread share characteristics. This makes them biologically more prone to burn due to chemical composition (often containing oils); and the density of shrubs, and also the accumulation of dead material in locations where it is difficult to remove (centers of shrub). They are also prone to rapid changes in moisture content in response to environmental conditions, losing moisture within hours of exposure to hot, dry weather. The following list are plants that are highly combustible, their embers carry and are not recommended in an urban forest environment.

Arborvitae

Some fire experts refer to this conifer as “the torch” and is an extremely fire prone species. It contains very ignitable oils, dead materials on inside with green on outside. It produces 1000s of sparks when burning and ambers and spread quickly through a community.

Other unfavorable trees or shrubs include Cypress and Junipers. Firewise experts recommend that junipers be removed from within 100’ of structures and a minimum of 10’ from driveways and roadways. Reference: Arborvitae or Juniper? It doesn’t matter.

Pampas Grass - and all Cortaderia are fire prone and should be avoided or removed in a fire-resistant zone.



Bamboo

Bamboo includes more than 1500 species all are considered fire-hazardous when planted in yards. Bamboo is commonly grown as a screen or hedge. Bamboo should be removed within 30 ' of structures or 10' of roads and driveway. All bamboo genus or species is “flammable” because they all share the same woody stem structure (culms) and other fire prone characteristics. All bamboos form tight clusters of culms (stems). These tight masses of stems tend to accumulate lots of decay resistant, dead material and inhibit the removal of internal dead culms. Some bamboo species are shorter and have more slender culms then others, and therefore have less fuel volume. However, they also lose their live fuel moisture more quickly when exposed to hot dry winds compared to species with larger culms.

Bark Mulch - is a fire hazard, especially the shredded “gorilla hair”. There is a place for certain types of bark mulch in a fire-wise landscape, but the traditional route of using mulch to blanket beds along houses, decks, and other landscape features puts those structures at greater risk of catching fire. Mulch is ignitable, burns slowly and has been known to smolder for days and reignite fires that were thought out days before.

Vines Attached to Walls – Also avoid tall plants under eaves, and similar situations where vegetation could likely ignite structures.

Also, drought tolerant plants are not necessarily fire resistant. They can avoid drying out better than species with higher water requirements. Plants with lots of wax, oil, or resin content burn more readily. Many conifers fall into this category. Plants with a dense structure are more likely to burn than a plant with an open structure, particularly if dead plant matter like leaf litter or branches accumulates within the foliage. Plants that shed lots of leaves, needles, dead branches, bark, and other litter accumulate fuel at their bases, making them more likely to burn. Plants with fuzzy, stiff, small, or fine, lacey leaves all tend to burn more easily.

Evergreens with needles or blade-leaves are quick to burn.

Most importantly, consult a reliable resource like a local nursery or fire-safety organization if you have concern of a plant's fire-resistance.

Appendix A. Fire Resistant Plant List

The following tables are a collection of popular plant selections that will thrive in Plant Hardiness Zone 8. They are a consolidation from multiple sources (see Appendix B. Sources) of fire-resistant plant guides. You can incorporate plants from this list into your landscaping designs though this list is not all-inclusive list of fire-resistant plants. If you have questions regarding your plant selections, please contact your local nurseries, Master Gardeners, Thurston County conservation programs.to help determine its fire resistance structure.

Plant Hardiness Zone 8 contains two subsets: Zone 8a (with the lowest average temperatures between 10- and 15-degrees Fahrenheit) and Zone 8b (with minimum temperatures between

15- and 20-degrees Fahrenheit). The plants selected have viable hardiness for both Zone 8 a and b, as well as other zones listed in the tables.

Plants	Species	Hardiness Zone	Home Ignition Zone
Annuals	Those thrive in zone 8	Zone 8 plants	1,2,3
Native grass kept to 4”	Native, irrigated grass	zone 8	1,2,3

Groundcover and Grasses

Plant	Species	Climate Zones	Home Ignition Zones
Carpet Bugleweed	*Ajuga reptans*	4-8	1,2,3
Kinnickinnick	*Artostaphylos uva-uri*	3-8	2,3
Aubrieta	*Aubrieta deltoidea*	4-9	1,2,3
Mahala Mat	*Ceanothus prostratus*	4-8	1,2,3
Yellow Ice Plant	*Delosperma nubigenum*	4-10	1,2,3
Purple Ice Plant	*Delosperma cooperi*	5-10	1,2,3
Garden Carnations	*Dianthus species*	3-9	1,2,3
Wild Strawberry	*Fragaria species*	5-9	1,2,3
Dead Nettle	*Lamium species*	3-8	1,2,3
Japanese Pachysandra	*Pachysandra terminalis*	5-9	1,2,3
Creeping Phlox	*Phlox subulata*	3-9	1,2,3
Sedum/stonecrop	*Sedum species*	3-8	1,2,3,
Hens and Chicks	*Sempervivum species*	4-10	1,2,3
Creeping Thyme	*Thymus praecox*	4-10	1,2,3
Speedwell	*Veronica species*	3-8	1,2,3
Many Succulents		7-10	1,2,3

Perennials

Plant	Species	Climate Zones	Home Ignition Zones
Lily of the Nile	*Agapanthus*	8-11	1,2,3
Yarrow	*Achillea species*	4-8	2,3
Chives	*Allium schoenoprasum*	4-8	1,2,3
Columbine	*Aquilegia species*	4-8	1,2,3
Swamp Milkweed	*Asclepias incarnata*	4-9	2,3
Sea Thrift	*Armeria maritima*	4-8	1,2,3
Aster	*Aster species*	3-8	2,3
Heartleaf Bergenia	*Bergenia cordifolia*	3-8	1,2,3
Sedges	*Carex species*	4-9	1,2,3
Trumpet Vine	*Campsis radicans*	4-9	2,3
Fireweed	*Chamerion angastifollum*	2-7	2,3
Tickseed/Moonbeam	*Coreopsis species*	3-9	2,3
Coneflower	*Echinacea purpurea*	3-8	2,3
Blanket Flower	*Gaillardia varieties*	3-10	2,3
Grayleaf Cranesbill	*Geranium cinereum*	4-9	1,2,3
Daylily	*Hemerocallis species*	3-9	2,3
Coralbells	*Heuchera sanguinea*	3-8	2,3
Hosta Lily	*Hosta species*	3-8	2,3
Iris	*Iris hybrids*	3-10	2,3
Torch Lily	*Kniphofia uvaria*	4-9	2,3
Lavender	*Lavandula species*	4-8	2,3
Blue Flax	*Linum perenne*	2-8	1,2,3
Honeysuckle	*Lonicera species*	4-9	2,3
Lupine	*Lupinus varieties*	4-8	2,3
Penstemon/Beardtongue	*Penstemon species*	3-8	2,3
Mexican Hat/Prairie Coneflower	*Ratibida columnifera*	4-9	2,3
Sage	*Salvia species*	4-9	1,2,3
Lamb's Ear	*Stachys byzantina*	4-8	2,3
Yucca	*Yucca species*	4-10	2,3

Shrubs (Evergreen)

Plant	Species	Climate Zones	Home Ignition Zones
Point Reyes Ceanothus	*Ceanothus gloriosus*	7-9	2,3
Orchid Rock Rose	*Cistus purpureus*	8-10	2,3
Carol Mackie	*Baphne ubrkwoodii*	4-8	2,3
Oregon Grape	*Mahonia aquifolium*	3-9	2,3
Creeping Holly	*Mahonia repens*	3-8	2,3
Salal	*Gaultheria shallon*	6-8	2,3

Oregon Boxwood	*Paxistima myrtifolia*	5-8	2,3
Cherry Laurel	*Prunus laurocerasus*	6-8	2,3
Rhododendron	*Rhododendron Macrophyllum*	6-9	1,2,3

Shrubs (Deciduous)

Plant	Species	Climate Zones	Home Ignition Zones
Vine Maple	*Acer circinatum*	4-8	3
Rocky Mountain Maple	*Acer glabrum*	3-8	3
Serviceberry	*Amelanchier species*	4-8	3
Blue-mist Spirea	*Caryopteris clandonensis*	5-10	2,3
Dwarf Burning Bush	*Euonymus alatus compactus*	4-8	2,3
Scarlet Cinquefoil	*Potentilla thurberi*	5-9	2,3
Redosier Dogwood	*Cornus sericea*	2-8	3
Oceanspray	*Holodiscus discolor*	5-9	2,3
Tree Mallow	*Lavatera maritima*	8-10	2,3
Mockorange	*Philadelphus species*	4-8	2,3
Russian Sage	*Perovskia atriplicifolia*	4-8	2,3
Western Sandberry	*Prunus besseyi*	3-8	2,3
Fernleaf Buckthorn	*Rhamnus frangula asplenifolia*	2-8	2,3
Western Azalea	*Rhododendron occidentale*	6-9	2,3
Sumac (nonpoisonous)	*Rhus species*	6-9	2,3
Flowering Currant	*Ribes species*	2-8	2,3
Hardy Shrub Rose	*Rosa species*	2-9	1,2,3
Nuka Roses	*Rosa species*	2-9	2,3
Willow	*Salix species*	2-9	2,3
Bumald Spirea	*Spiraea bumalda*	3-8	1,2,3
Snowberry	*Symphoricarpos albus*	3-8	2,3
Western Spirea	*Spiraea douglasii*	4-8	2,3
Lilac	*Syringa species*	3-8	2,3
Adam Needle	*Yucca filamentosa*	4-10	2,3
Viburnum	*Viburnum trilobum cranberry*	3-8	2,3

Trees (Conifer)

Plant	Species	Climate Zones	Home Ignition Zones
Western Larch	*Larix occidentalis*	4-8	3
Ponderosa Pine	*Pinus ponderosa*	3-6	3

Trees (Deciduous)

Plant	Species	Climate Zones	Home Ignition Zones
Amur Maple	*Acer ginnala*	2-8	2,3
Red Horse Chestnut	*Aesculus x carnea*	5-8	3
Mountain Alder	*Alnus tenuifolia*	5-8	2,3
Red Alder	*Alnus rubra*	5-8	3
Birch	*Betula species*	2-9	3
Western Catalpa	*Catalpa speciosa*	4-8	3
Common Hackberry	*Celtis occidentalis*	2-9	3
Red Twig Dogwood	*Cornus sericea*	3-8	2,3
Flowering Dogwood	*Cornus florida*	5-9	2,3
Eastern Redbud	*Cercis canadensis*	4-9	2,3
Hawthorn	*Crataegus species*	4-8	2,3
Green Ash	*Fraxinus pennsylvanica*	3-9	2,3
White Ash	*Fraxinus americana*	3-9	2,3
Thornless Honeylocust	*Gleditsia triacanthos*	3-9	3
Kentucky Coffee Tree	*Gymocladus dioicus*	3-8	3
Walnut	*Juglans species*	4-9	3
Crabapple	*Malus species*	4-8	2,3
American Sweeetgum	*Liquidambar styraciflua*	5-9	3
Aspen	*Populas tremuloides*	1-8	3
Western Sycamore	*Platanus racemosa*	7-9	3
Chokeberry	*Prunus virginiana*	2-8	2,3
Red Chokeberry	*Prunus virginiana schubert*	3-8	2,3
Oregon White Oak	*Quercus garryana*	6-9	3
Pine Oak	*Quercus palustris*	4-8	3
Red Oak	*Quercus rubra*	4-8	3
Purple Robe Locust	*Robina pseudoacacia*	3-8	3
Mountain Ash	*Sorbus aucuparia*	3-8	2,3

Appendix B: Resources

Washington State University Extension - Chelan and Douglas County 2018. Fire Resistant Landscapes. https://extension.wsu.edu/chelan-douglas/gardening/firewise-landscapes/

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Unless otherwise noted, photos courtesy of Paige Pajot, Master Gardener Thurston County.