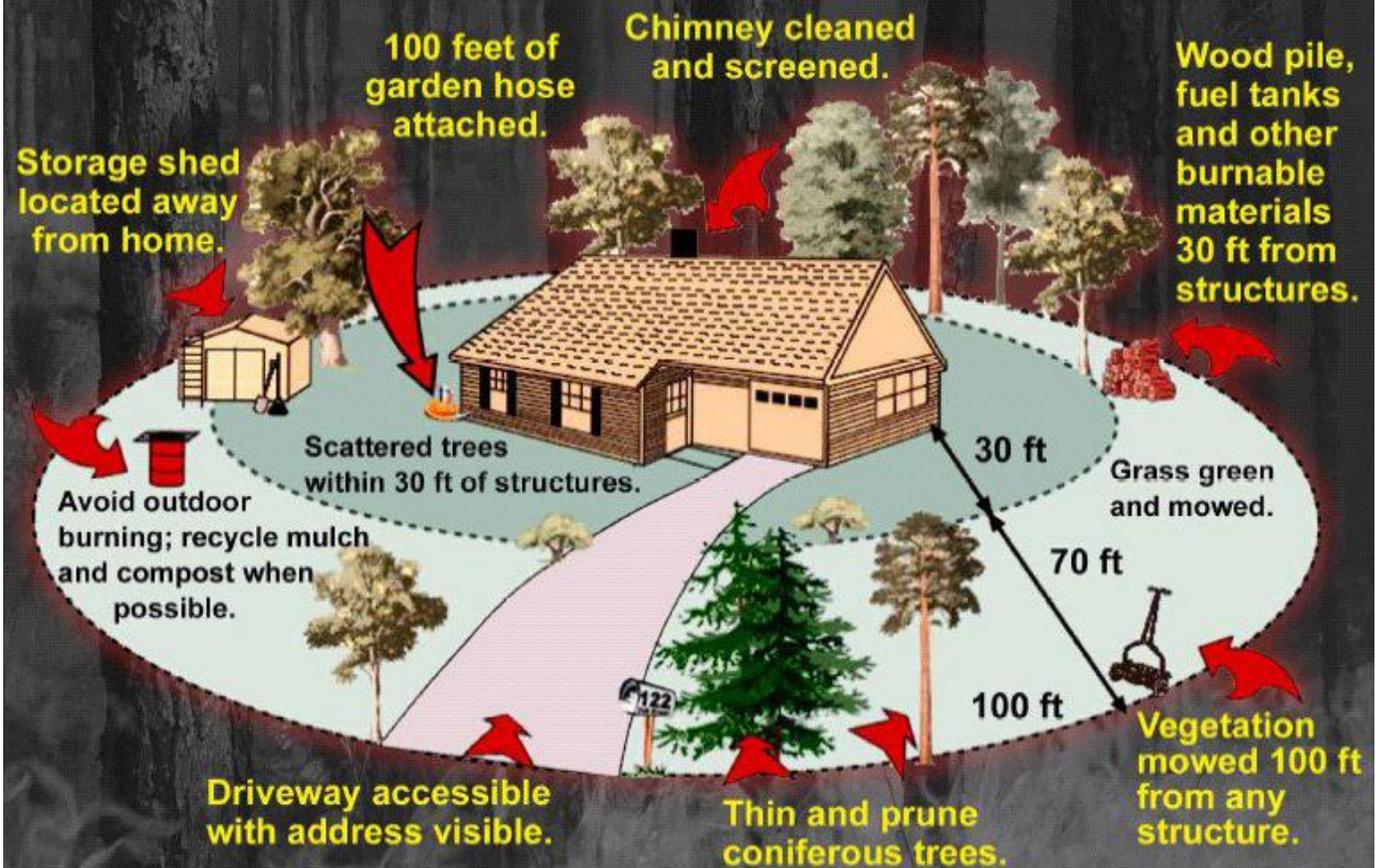


FIRE SAFETY TIPS FROM THE VILLAGE OF CORRALES

Are you Firewise?



Wildfire season is here. It will probably be with us for some time. Our **Fire Chief, Anthony Martinez** and **Code Enforcement officer, Sherrie Rice**, are on the lookout for areas that have **fire hazards** with the potential for causing damage to homes and are need mitigation efforts to help prevent wildfires. Things to remember to **reduce the risk to your home** or vehicles is to prepare before a fire occurs:

- Create a 10-foot noncombustible buffer around your home and any deck areas.
- Check and maintain your roof and gutters.
- Install ember-resistant vents.
- Ensure that you have at least a 6-inch vertical clearance on exterior walls. More would be better. Provide clearance of structures of at least 5 feet.

Some people think they **don't need to worry** about cleaning up their property because they have **natural vegetation**. However, **sagebrush** is fuel to a fire, and a little ground maintenance can go a long way in saving your home. Removing dead portions of sagebrush, cleaning underneath bushes, and thinning them out helps protect your property and others. **Best practices** for protecting your home can be found at <https://www.corrales-nm.org/media/18941>. Insurance companies are starting to set **guidelines for fire protection** and have already stopped insuring some areas in California from weather-related disasters, including fires.

Jim Fahey

Mayor of Corrales