

Guide to Creating Wildfire Home Ignition Zone Survivable Space in Dammeron Valley UT



Prepared by: **Dammeron Valley Fire & Rescue**



RESPECT | LEADERSHIP
HONOR | COMMUNITY
COMMITMENT | EMPOWERMENT

Disclosure: Due to its direct applicability to Dammeron Valley homes, portions of this paper is taken from information in Utah Department of Natural Resources/Forestry Fire State Lands, NFPA FireWise®, and IAFC Ready Set Go! Program and has been tailored in places for Dammeron Valley's unique topography, aspect, weather, fuel load and characteristics, and overall state of health of the community. It also contains information from Colorado State Forest Service, Colorado State University Fact Sheet 6.302 authored by F.C Dennis. See the DVFR for additional information and pamphlets.

Table of Contents

Table of Contents	2
PURPOSE	3
SURVIVABLE SPACE	4
Fuels Management Zones	5
Detailed Zone Prescriptions	6
Zone 1	6
Zone 2	8
Zone 3	10
MAINTAINING YOUR CLEARED SPACE	11
FIREWISE® Annual Checklist	11
EVACUATION PREPAREDNESS	12
KEY CONTACT	13
APPENDIX A	14
House Bill (HB 0048) Highlights	14
Property Insurers	15
APPENDIX B	16
2006 Wildland Urban Interface Code	16
WUI Code Highlights	16

Disclosure: Due to its direct applicability to Dammeron Valley homes, portions of this paper is taken from information in Utah Department of Natural Resources/Forestry Fire State Lands, NFPA FireWise®, and IAFC Ready Set Go! Program and has been tailored in places for Dammeron Valley's unique topography, aspect, weather, fuel load and characteristics, and overall state of health of the community. It also contains information from Colorado State Forest Service, Colorado State University Fact Sheet 6.302 authored by F.C Dennis. See the DVFR for additional information and pamphlets.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this guide is to provide the residents of Dammeron Valley information supporting the creation of reduced fuel space around their homes, referred to as the Home Ignition Zone (HIZ), thus increasing the likelihood that their homes are defensible and even survivable in the event of a wildfire. The information included in this paper represents industry standards from around the nation including State Foresters and the National Fire Protection Agency, and have been adjusted for the unique terrain, topography, fuel, and forest characteristics in Dammeron Valley. In addition, it provides information that allows for compliant properties with Utah's new law, House Bill 0048-*Wildland Urban Interface Modification*, and Utah's 2006 *Wildland Urban Interface Code*.

Residents should realize that Dammeron Valley is surrounded by State and Federal lands which further increases risk. Therefore, the more a resident can do to make their home fire adaptive, the greater the chance that the structure will survive a wildfire. Each resident is reliant on their neighbors to mitigate the overall fuel load in Dammeron Valley.

One of the greatest risks to Dammeron Valley is the high risk of wildfire which is based on several factors. First, DV is a rural community in the Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) of the Dixie National Forest. Surrounding communities of Diamond Valley, Veyo, Gunlock, and Brookside also are in the WUI creating tangential risk to DV should wildfire occur in these communities. Second, DV Landowners Association (DVLA) has restrictive covenants restricting fuels removal management and fire protection projects as part of overall risk mitigation around homes in DV that are part of the Association. In 2021, the DFVR adopted mitigation assessment processes based on resident requests for an assessment. And began working with the DVLA directly. Third, the Pinion Hills development currently does not have "safe zones" for fire apparatus and thus creates high risk to fire crews. What this means is that there is no defensible space that can be "defended" by a fire engine and firefighters in this area of DV as it exists today. This alone drives the need to make each structure "survivable" and stand-alone as much as possible.

In 2025, The Utah Legislature adopted and signed into law House Bill 0048, *Wildland Urban Interface Modifications*, whereby the State will oversee wildfire risks associated with wildland urban interface properties (Appendix A). HB 0048 requires Counties to take certain actions related to wildland urban interface property, including assessing a fee; directing the fee to be retained by the County and deposited into the State's Wildland-Urban Interface Prevention, Preparedness, and Mitigation Fund; addresses insuring wildland urban interface property; imposes notice requirements related to insuring wildland urban interface property; requires Counties and Municipalities to adopt the wildland urban interface building code standards; and permits the Division of Forestry, Fire, and State Lands to choose not to cover costs of local governments under certain circumstances. Per the Bill language, "beginning January 1, 2026, a county officer shall annually assess a fee against the property owner of high-risk wildland urban interface property within the incorporated and unincorporated portions of the county." Furthermore, Washington County has adopted the 2006-Wildland Urban Interface Code (Appendix B) which provides minimum regulations designed to reduce the risk to lives

Disclosure: Due to its direct applicability to Dammeron Valley homes, portions of this paper is taken from information in Utah Department of Natural Resources/Forestry Fire State Lands, NFPA FireWise®, and IAFC Ready Set Go! Program and has been tailored in places for Dammeron Valley's unique topography, aspect, weather, fuel load and characteristics, and overall state of health of the community. It also contains information from Colorado State Forest Service, Colorado State University Fact Sheet 6.302 authored by F.C Dennis. See the DVFR for additional information and pamphlets.

and property due to wildland fires. What have been “recommendations” today regarding fuel removal, is now understood to be “requirements” with the implementation of HB 0048 and the application of 2006 WUI Code.

Residents in Dammeron Valley are strongly encouraged to request an assessment of their Home Ignition Zone (HIZ) by the DFVR to get ahead of the wildland urban interface risks.

SURVIVABLE SPACE

Two factors have emerged as the primary determinants of a home’s ability to survive wildfire. These are the home’s roofing and construction material, and the quality of the cleared zones surrounding it. Use fire-resistive materials (Class A), not wood or shake shingles, to roof homes in or near forests and grasslands. When your roof needs significant repairs or replacement, do so with a fire-resistant roofing material per the 2006 WUI Code. Check the Washington County construction guidelines.

Area around a structure where fuels and vegetation are treated, cleared or reduced slows the spread of wildfire towards the structure. This area and the home itself is referred to as the Home Ignition Zone (HIZ). It also reduces the chance of a structure fire moving from the building to the surrounding forest. If fire crews decide that the home can be defended, the defensible space provides *room for firefighters to do their jobs*. Your home is more likely to withstand a wildfire if grasses, brush, trees and other common forest fuels are managed to reduce a fire’s intensity.



The measure of fuel hazard refers to its continuity, both horizontal (across the ground) and vertical (from the ground up into the vegetation crown). Fuels with a high degree of both vertical and horizontal continuity are the most hazardous, particularly when they occur on slopes. Heavier fuels (brush and trees) are more hazardous (i.e., produce a more intense and longer lasting fire) than light fuels such as grass.

Mitigation of wildfire hazards focuses on breaking up the continuity of horizontal and vertical fuels. Additional distance between fuels is required on slopes. Radiant heat from fuel burning, direct flame contact and fire embers all contribute to the risk to your home from a fire.

Creating an effective survivable home involves developing a series of management zones in which different treatment techniques are used. See Figure 1 for a general view of the relationships among these management zones. For new homes being constructed in DV, once the home’s footprint is defined, a HIZ assessment should be requested. Keep in mind that for new homes, it is easier to remove the fuels before the home is constructed.

Disclosure: Due to its direct applicability to Dammeron Valley homes, portions of this paper is taken from information in Utah Department of Natural Resources/Forestry Fire State Lands, NFPA FireWise®, and IAFC Ready Set Go! Program and has been tailored in places for Dammeron Valley’s unique topography, aspect, weather, fuel load and characteristics, and overall state of health of the community. It also contains information from Colorado State Forest Service, Colorado State University Fact Sheet 6.302 authored by F.C Dennis. See the DVFR for additional information and pamphlets.

The actual design and development of your home's defense depends on several factors: size and shape of buildings, materials used in their construction, the slope of the ground on which the structures are built, surrounding topography, and size and type of vegetation on your property, to name a few. These factors all affect the fuels management assessment in your HIZ. You may want to request additional guidance from the local Fire Warden, the DNR FFSL, or the DVFR.

Fuels Management Zones

The HIZ is defined by three specific zones around your home, or any detached structure on your property. Zone 1 in the Immediate Area, Zone 2 is the Intermediate Area, and Zone 3 is the Extended Area. It is these three zones that the HIZ assessment will focus.

- ❖ **Zone 1** is the area of maximum modification and treatment. It consists of the structure itself and an area of 5-feet around the structure in which all flammable vegetation is removed. This 5-foot area is measured from the outside edge of the home's eaves and any attached structures, such as decks. In this area the focus is also on hardening the structure from fire and fire embers, in addition to what ignitable materials are within the 5-foot area.
- ❖ **Zone 2** is an area of fuel reduction and is a transitional area between Zones 1 and 3. The size of Zone 2 depends on the slope of the ground where the structure is built. Typically, the defensible space should extend *at least* 30 feet from the structure. See Figure 2 for the appropriate distance for your home's Zone 2. Within this zone, the continuity and arrangement of vegetation is aggressively

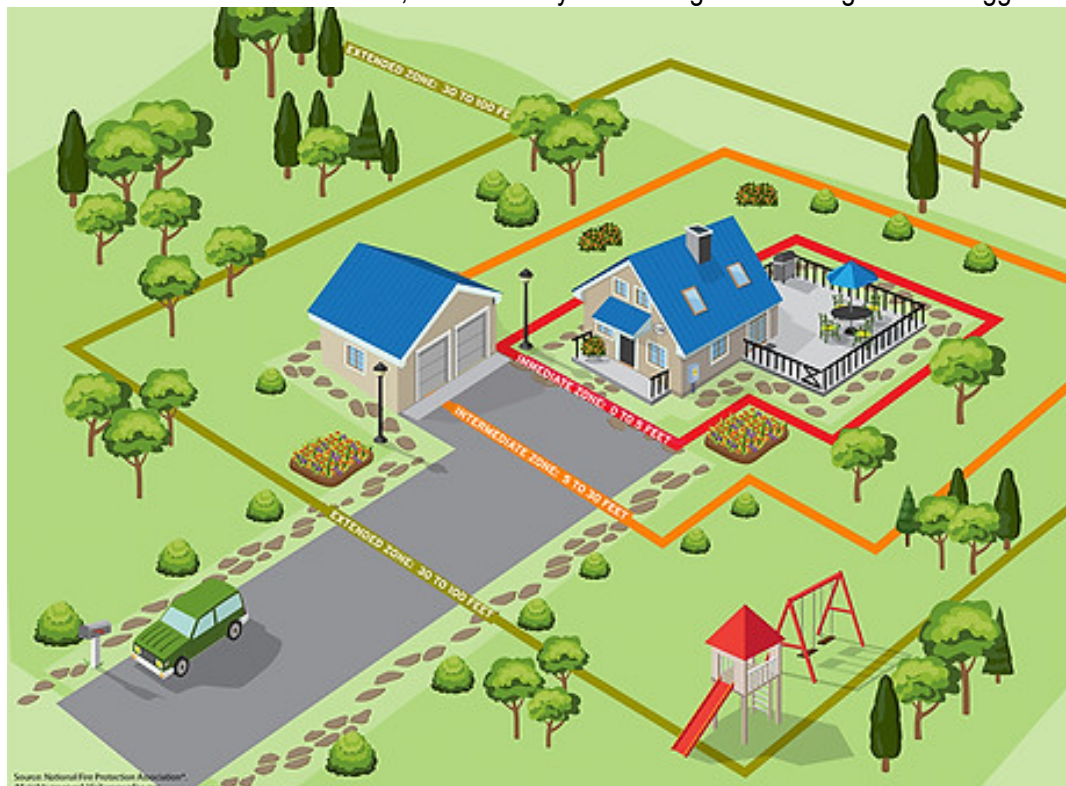


Figure 1 Forested property showing the three fire-defensible zones around a home or other structure.

Disclosure: Due to its direct applicability to Dammeron Valley homes, portions of this paper is taken from information in Utah Department of Natural Resources/Forestry Fire State Lands, NFPA FireWise®, and IAFC Ready Set Go! Program and has been tailored in places for Dammeron Valley's unique topography, aspect, weather, fuel load and characteristics, and overall state of health of the community. It also contains information from Colorado State Forest Service, Colorado State University Fact Sheet 6.302 authored by F.C Dennis. See the DVFR for additional information and pamphlets.

modified. Remove all stressed, diseased, dead, or dying trees and shrubs. Thin and prune the remaining larger trees and shrubs. Be sure to extend thinning along either side of your driveway all the way to your main access road. These actions help eliminate the continuous fuel surrounding a structure while enhancing homesite safety and the aesthetics of the property. Zone 2 can also extend into Dammeron Valley community property, government property, or a neighbor's property. Collaborate with your neighbors or appropriate agency to remove recommended trees.

- ❖ **Zone 3** is an area of traditional fuel management beyond the 30-foot Zone 2 and is of no particular size depending on fuel characteristics and topography. It extends from the edge of your defined Zone 2 to your property boundaries or community property. As with Zone 2, work with the DVFR for a Home Ignition Zone fuels assessment regarding recommended trees and shrubs for removal.

Detailed Zone Prescriptions

Zone 1

- ❖ The size of Zone 1 is 5 feet, measured from the edges of the structure or any attached portion of the structure such as a deck. Within this zone, several specific treatments are recommended.
- ❖ Assess your home for any area where gaps exist that fire embers can get into the home. Eliminate these gaps.
- ❖ Look soffits and vents should have non-combustible screens to prevent embers from entering the structure.
- ❖ Plant nothing that will burn within 5 feet of the structure, particularly if the building is sided with wood, logs, or other flammable materials. Decorative rock, for example, creates an attractive, easily maintained, nonflammable ground cover.
- ❖ If the house has noncombustible siding, widely spaced foundation plantings of low growing shrubs or other "fire wise" plants are acceptable. Do not plant directly beneath windows or next to foundation vents. Be sure there are no areas of continuous grass adjacent to plantings in this area.
- ❖ Frequently prune and maintain plants in this zone to ensure reduced growth and a low growth habit. Remove dead branches, stems, and leaves.
- ❖ Do not store firewood or other combustible materials in this area. Enclose or screen in decks with metal screening. Extend the gravel coverage under the decks. Do not use areas under decks for storage. In Dammeron Valley, many residents store firewood under a deck or close to the home which should be avoided as a minimum during the wildfire season.
- ❖ Ideally, remove all trees from Zone 1 to reduce fire hazards. If you do keep a tree, consider it part of the structure and extend the distance of the entire defensible space accordingly. Isolate the tree from



Disclosure: Due to its direct applicability to Dammeron Valley homes, portions of this paper is taken from information in Utah Department of Natural Resources/Forestry Fire State Lands, NFPA FireWise®, and IAFC Ready Set Go! Program and has been tailored in places for Dammeron Valley's unique topography, aspect, weather, fuel load and characteristics, and overall state of health of the community. It also contains information from Colorado State Forest Service, Colorado State University Fact Sheet 6.302 authored by F.C Dennis. See the DVFR for additional information and pamphlets.

any other surrounding trees or ladder fuels. Prune it to at least 8-10 feet above the ground or no more than one-third of the height of the tree. Remove any branches that interfere with the roof or are within 10 feet of the chimney. Remove all “ladder fuels” from beneath the tree. Ladder fuels are vegetation with vertical continuity that allows fire to burn from ground level up into the branches and crowns of trees. Ladder fuels are potentially very hazardous but are easy to mitigate. In Dammeron Valley, ladder fuel can be small trees and junipers. No ladder fuels can be allowed under tree canopies.

- ❖ In all other areas, prune all branches of shrubs or trees up to a height of 10 feet above ground (or 1/3 the height, whichever is the least).
- ❖ Move all RVs and vehicles away from the home or other structures; store spare fuel tanks and containers in appropriate storage cabinets; do not plant fuel around above ground propane tanks and if fuel does exist, remove it.

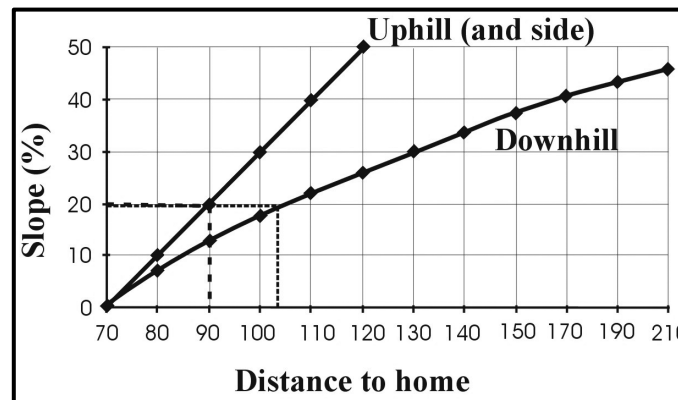


Figure 2 This chart indicates the minimum recommended dimensions for defensible space from the home to the outer edge of Zone 2. For example, if your home is situated on a 20 percent slope, the minimum defensible space dimensions would be 90 feet uphill.

Zone 2

- ❖ Zone 2 is an area of fuel reduction designed to reduce the intensity of any fire approaching your home. Follow these recommended management steps.
- ❖ Thin trees and large shrubs so there is at least 12-18 feet between crowns. Crown separation is measured from the furthest branch of one tree to the nearest branch on the next tree (Figure 3). On steep slopes, allow more space between tree crowns. (See Table 1 for *minimum recommended* spacing for trees on steep slopes.) Remove all ladder fuels from under these remaining trees. Carefully prune trees to a height of at least 10 feet or a 1/3 of the tree from the ground.
- ❖ Remove any tree that is diseased, have dead tops or have insect kill.
- ❖ Small clumps of 2 to 3 trees may be occasionally left in Zone 2. Leave more space between the crowns of these clumps and surrounding trees.
- ❖ Home in Pinion Hills may have sloped topography extending the distance in Zone 2 beyond 30 feet create a Zone 2 ellipse. Crown spacing may be more than the prescribed 12-18 feet in Pinion Hills.
- ❖ Because Zone 2 forms an aesthetic buffer and provides a transition between zones, it is necessary to blend the requirements for Zones 1 and 3. Thin the portions of Zone 3 adjacent to Zone 2 more heavily than the outer portions.
- ❖ Isolated shrubs may remain, provided they are not under tree crowns. Prune and maintain these plants periodically to maintain vigorous growth. Remove dead stems from trees and shrubs annually.

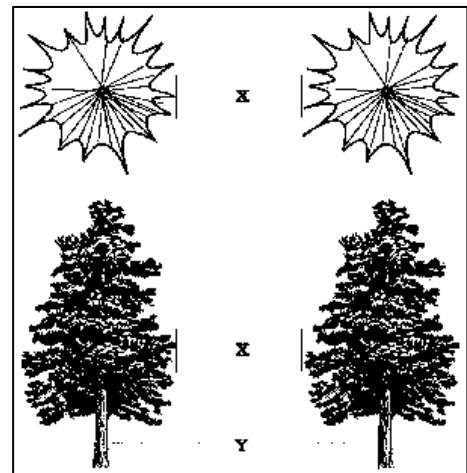


Figure 3: X = crown spacing; Y = stem spacing. Do not measure between stems for crown -- measure between the edges of tree crowns.

% slope	Tree Crown Spacing	Brush and Shrub Clump Spacing
0 -10 %	10'	2 1/2 x shrub height
11 - 20%	15'	3 x shrub height
21 - 40%	20'	4 x shrub height
> 40%	30'	6 x shrub height

Table 1: Minimum tree crown and shrub clump spacing.

- ❖ Limit the number of dead trees (snags) retained in this area. Wildlife needs only one or two snags per acre. Be sure any snags left for wildlife cannot fall onto the house or block access roads or driveways.

Disclosure: Due to its direct applicability to Dammeron Valley homes, portions of this paper is taken from information in Utah Department of Natural Resources/Forestry Fire State Lands, NFPA FireWise®, and IAFC Ready Set Go! Program and has been tailored in places for Dammeron Valley's unique topography, aspect, weather, fuel load and characteristics, and overall state of health of the community. It also contains information from Colorado State Forest Service, Colorado State University Fact Sheet 6.302 authored by F.C Dennis. See the DVFR for additional information and pamphlets.

- ❖ Mow grasses (or remove them with a weed trimmer) as needed through the growing season to keep them low, a maximum of 6 to 8 inches. This is extremely critical in the fall when grasses dry out and cure or in the spring after the snow is gone but before the plants green up.
- ❖ Stack firewood and woodpiles uphill or on the same elevation as the structure but at least 50 feet away. Clear and keep away flammable vegetation within 10 feet of these woodpiles. Do not stack wood against your house or on or under your deck, even in winter. Many homes burned from a wood pile that ignited as the fire passed. Wildfires can burn at almost any time in Southwest Utah.
- ❖ Locate propane tanks at least 30 feet from any structure, preferably on the same elevation as the house. You don't want the LP container below your house – if it ignites, the fire will tend to burn uphill. On the other hand, if the tank is above your house and it develops a leak, LP gas may flow downhill toward your home. Clear and keep away flammable vegetation within 10 feet of these tanks. Do not screen propane tanks with shrubs or vegetation. For new construction, Dammeron Valley requires all propane tanks to be buried.
- ❖ Dispose of slash (limbs, branches, and other woody debris) from your trees and shrubs through chipping. Burning slash piles is allowed in Dammeron Valley with an approved burn permit from the Fire Warden. If desired, no more than two or three small, widely spaced brush piles may be left for wildlife purposes. Locate these towards the outer portions of your cleared space.

Zone 3

- ❖ This zone is of no specified size but on flat ground is an area from 30 to 100+ feet. It extends to the edge of your property lines, possibly beyond. The goal here is not to eliminate fire but to interrupt fire's path and keep flames smaller and on the ground.
- ❖ Typical management objectives for areas surrounding homesites or subdivisions provide optimum recreational opportunities; enhance aesthetics; maintain tree health and vigor; provide barriers for wind, noise, dust, and visual intrusions; or support limited production of firewood, if used.
- ❖ Specific requirements will be dictated by your objectives for your land and the kinds of trees present. Fuels management in Zone 3 is an opportunity for you to increase the health and growth rate of the forest in this zone. Keep in mind that root competition for available moisture limits tree growth and ultimately the health of the forest. Work with the DVFR as needed.
- ❖ A high canopy forest reduces the chance of a surface fire climbing into the tops of the trees and might be a priority for you if this zone slopes steeply. The healthiest forest is one that has multiple ages, sizes, and species of trees where adequate growing room is maintained over time. Remember to consider the hazards of ladder fuel. Multiple sizes and ages of trees might increase the fire hazard from Zone 3 into Zone 2, particularly on steep slopes and areas of heavily loaded juniper and scrub oak.
- ❖ A greater number of wildlife trees can remain in Zone 3. Make sure that dead trees aren't removed, especially if they pose no threat. Wildlife will appreciate it.
- ❖ While heavy pruning generally is not necessary in Zone 3, it may be an innovative idea from the standpoint of personal safety to prune trees along trails and fire access roads. Or, if you prefer the aesthetics of a well-manicured forest, you might prune the entire area. In any case, pruning helps reduce ladder fuels within the tree stand, thus enhancing wildfire safety.
- ❖ Mowing is not necessary in Zone 3, but removal of dense sage may be required.
- ❖ Any approved method of slash treatment is acceptable for this zone, including piling, chipping, or lop-and-scatter. The preferred approach is fuel removed for chipping.

Tree Diameter (in inches)	Average Stem Spacing Between Trees (in feet)
3	10
4	11
5	12
6	13
7	14
8	15
9	16
10	17
11	19
12	21
13	23
14	24
15	26
16	28
17	29
18	31
19	33
20	35
21	36
22	38
23	40
24	42

Table 2: Minimum tree spacing for Zone 3.

MAINTAINING YOUR CLEARED SPACE

Your home in Dammeron Valley is located in a heavily forested area of mostly juniper trees with pinion, scrub oak, sage, and cheat grass, and is thus dynamic, always changing but heavily overgrown in some areas. Trees, shrubs, and grasses continue to grow, plants die or are damaged, new plants begin to grow, and plants drop their leaves and needles. Like other parts of your home, it will require annual maintenance. Use the following checklist each year to determine if additional work or maintenance is necessary.

In addition, all residents of DV are encouraged to attend a DVFR *Ready Set Go!* presentation. The Ready, Set, Go! (RSG) Program is an International Association of Fire Chiefs (IAFC) fire-adapted initiative that supports developing and improving dialogue between the fire service and the residents they serve. The program helps fire departments provide residents who live in high-risk wildland fire areas and the Wildland Urban Interface information regarding how to best prepare themselves, their families, and their properties against outdoor wildfire fire threats. Go to the DVFR website for more information at www.dvfirerescue.org.



- ❖ **Ready – Be ready, be Firewise.** Take personal responsibility and prepare long before the threat of a wildland fire so your home is ready in case of a fire. Create defensible space by clearing brush away from your home. Use fire-resistant landscaping, use pre-emergent products to reduce growth of light flashy fuels, have available fire gel products to use on the most vulnerable areas of the home, and consider hardening your home with fire-safe construction measures. Assemble emergency supplies and belongings in a safe place. Plan escape routes and make sure all those residing within the home know the plan of action.
- ❖ **Set – Situational awareness.** Pack your emergency items. Stay aware of the latest news and information on the fire from local media, your local fire department and public safety.
- ❖ **Go – Act early!** Follow your personal wildland fire action plan. Doing so will not only support your safety but will allow firefighters to best maneuver resources to combat the fire.

FIREWISE® Annual Checklist

- ☐ Trees and shrubs are properly thinned and pruned within your established survivable space. Slash from new thinning is disposed of.
- ☐ Keep wild grasses from growing by trimming or eliminating. When they cure in the heart of the fire season, they are extremely ignitable. Grass and weeds are mowed to a very low height.
- ☐ Roof and gutters maintained clear of debris.
- ☐ Branches overhanging the roof and chimney are removed.
- ☐ Chimney is in place with a spark arrestor and in good condition.
- ☐ An outdoor water supply is available, complete with a hose and nozzle that can reach all parts of the house.
- ☐ Fire extinguishers are checked and in working condition.

Disclosure: Due to its direct applicability to Dammeron Valley homes, portions of this paper is taken from information in Utah Department of Natural Resources/Forestry Fire State Lands, NFPA FireWise®, and IAFC Ready Set Go! Program and has been tailored in places for Dammeron Valley's unique topography, aspect, weather, fuel load and characteristics, and overall state of health of the community. It also contains information from Colorado State Forest Service, Colorado State University Fact Sheet 6.302 authored by F.C Dennis. See the DVFR for additional information and pamphlets.

- ☐ The driveway is wide enough. The clearance of trees and branches is adequate for fire and emergency equipment. (Check with the DVFR)
- ☐ Road signs and your name and house number are posted and easily visible.
- ☐ You have practiced family fire drills and your fire evacuation plan. (Attend a DVFR Ready Set Go! presentation for more information)
- ☐ Your escape routes, meeting points and other details are known and understood by all family members.
- ☐ Attic, roof, eaves, and foundation vents are screened and in good condition. Stilt foundations and decks are enclosed, screened or walled up.
- ☐ Trash and debris accumulations are removed from the defensible space. All firewood from the winter is moved away from the structure and all other material is removed from around the structure.
- ☐ A checklist for fire safety needs inside the home has also been completed.
- ☐ Vehicles are parked always facing out to support rapid evacuation, if required.
- ☐ Inventory is updated annually of all items in each structure. Video and pictures are the best way to document the inventory.

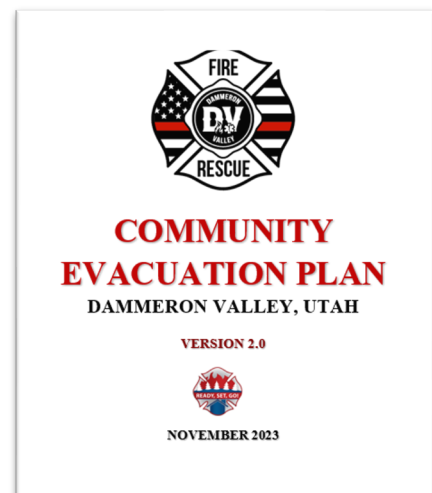
EVACUATION PREPAREDNESS

The purpose of the Dammeron Valley Community Evacuation Plan (CEP) is to ensure that, in the event of an emergency within Dammeron Valley requiring an evacuation order by the DVFR or Washington County Sheriff's Office (WCSO), all residents will evacuate and be accounted for at established checkpoints.

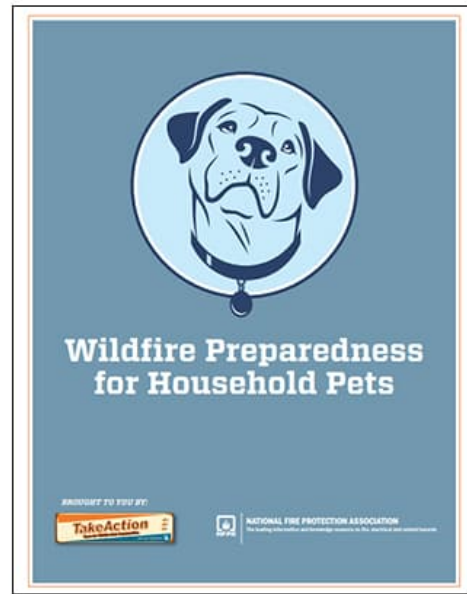
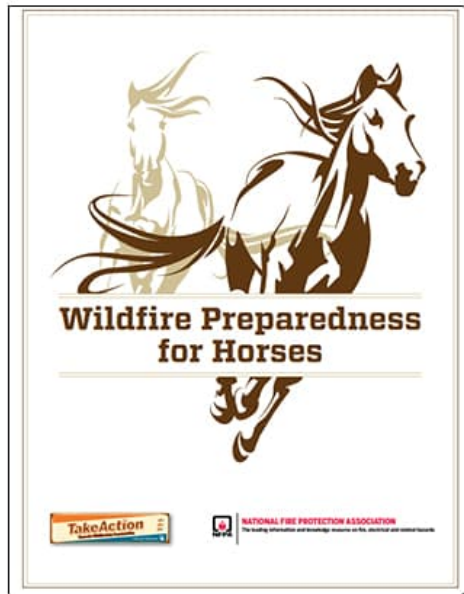
The CEP is developed, maintained, and managed by the DVFR, as part of its duties as a recognized emergency response agency within Washington County, Utah and in accordance with the *"Dammeron Valley Community Wildfire Protection Plan"* and the *"Community Wildfire Protection Plan for Unincorporated Washington County."* This plan is available through the DVFR. In the event an evacuation order is determined as being necessary by the Fire Chief or Incident Command, that request will be made to the Washington County Office of Emergency Management (OEM) and initiated by the WCSO and Saint George Dispatch Center. Enforcement of the evacuation shall be the responsibility of the WCSO until terminated. DV residents must be prepared to evacuate, and included in the evacuation will be the need to evacuate pets and livestock. Residents are encouraged to maintain a personalized evacuation plan.

For residents with livestock, it is critical that you have a well thought out strategy to evacuate your livestock

Disclosure: Due to its direct applicability to Dammeron Valley homes, portions of this paper is taken from information in Utah Department of Natural Resources/Forestry Fire State Lands, NFPA FireWise®, and IAFC Ready Set Go! Program and has been tailored in places for Dammeron Valley's unique topography, aspect, weather, fuel load and characteristics, and overall state of health of the community. It also contains information from Colorado State Forest Service, Colorado State University Fact Sheet 6.302 authored by F.C Dennis. See the DVFR for additional information and pamphlets.



during an evacuation order. It should be stressed that if you are not home and an evacuation order is given, you may not be able to get home to care for your animals. Therefore, include in your plan alternative means to have your animals moved to safety. The DV Community Fire Council has information related to how to build your personalized checklist to evacuate and care for your livestock. The National Fire Protection Agency has prepared a useful document that will help you with your pets and livestock planning process. This document can be found at [Evacuation for Household Pets and Horses](#).



KEY CONTACT

Contact the Dammeron Valley Fire & Rescue Department if you have any questions.

Dammeron Valley Fire & Rescue

1261 Dammeron Valley Drive, East

Dammeron Valley, UTAH 84783

1-435-599-2946



Disclosure: Due to its direct applicability to Dammeron Valley homes, portions of this paper is taken from information in Utah Department of Natural Resources/Forestry Fire State Lands, NFPA FireWise®, and IAFC Ready Set Go! Program and has been tailored in places for Dammeron Valley's unique topography, aspect, weather, fuel load and characteristics, and overall state of health of the community. It also contains information from Colorado State Forest Service, Colorado State University Fact Sheet 6.302 authored by F.C Dennis. See the DVFR for additional information and pamphlets.

APPENDIX A

House Bill (HB 0048) Highlights

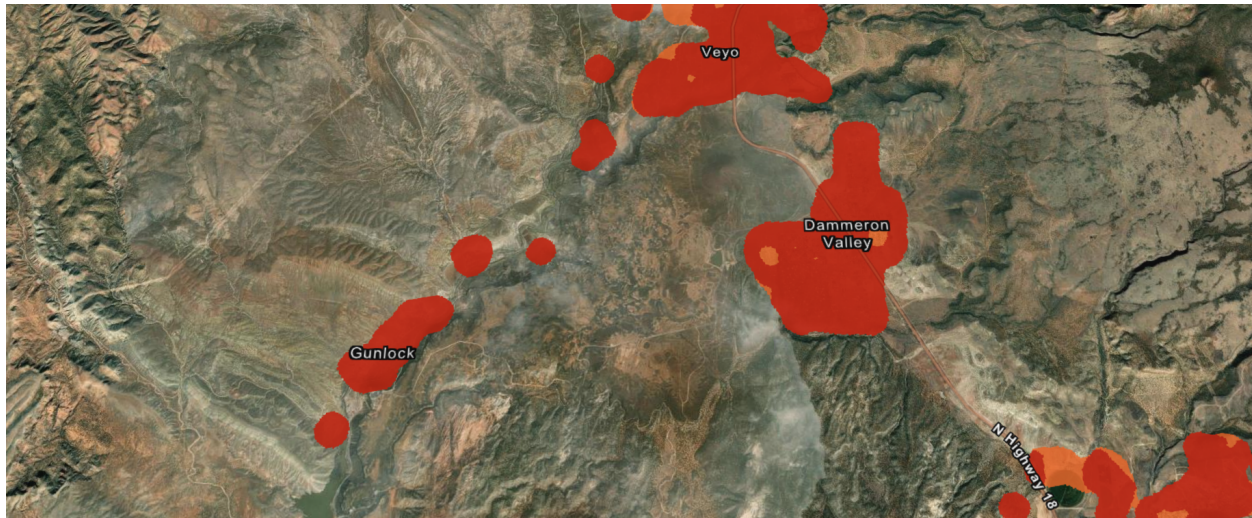
As stated, HB 0048 is a new statute that goes into effect 1 January 2025. Key highlights of what this new law will do are as follows:

- ❖ This legislation is intended to increase awareness, increase mitigation projects that enhance property safety to reduce wildfire risks and costs, as well as potentially lower insurance costs and increase insurance retainability.
- ❖ Homeowners in designated High-Risk WUI areas, such as Dammeron Valley, will be subject to property assessments and fees.
- ❖ The Bill directs the Department of Natural Resources (DNR), Division of Forestry Fire and State Lands (FFSL), to establish a wildland urban interface process of assessing a fee for properties that are in a designated High Risk wildland urban interface zone.
- ❖ The individual lot assessed fee will be in one of three triage classifications from a Firewise assessment of each designated property conducted by the County or designated/trained assessment professional.
- ❖ The fee will be based on homeowner's compliance with the required fuel removal represented by the information contained in this document. Fees will be rated as High-High (the highest fee), High-Moderate, and High Low (the lowest fee). ***But a fee will be assessed for everyone in the High-Risk WUI community!***
- ❖ For new construction, 2006 WUI Code-Utah will be enforced, and it is possible that a Certificate of Occupancy may be withheld by the County Code Official until all identified HIZ fuel has been removed, trimmed, or thinned.
- ❖ For existing homes with remodels that exceed a specified value, the County Code Official may not sign off on the final project until all identified HIZ fuel has been removed, trimmed, or thinned and Class A building materials are verified as installed.
- ❖ A Firewise HIZ assessment will be required to determine which of the three triage ratings a resident's home falls into. Every lot, including lots that have no construction, will be assessed and assigned a triage classification.
- ❖ There will be a cost to the residents for the HIZ assessment to be conducted.
- ❖ The DNR/FFSL, County, or Local Fire Department may conduct the Firewise HIZ assessment. Each assessor will be certified by the DNR to ensure consistency in how the assessments are conducted.
- ❖ Individual lot assessments may result in lower fees if the owner has implemented measures to reduce the wildfire risk.
- ❖ The Counties collect the fees, keep a portion to cover administrative costs, and pass the remainder on to FFSL.

Disclosure: Due to its direct applicability to Dammeron Valley homes, portions of this paper is taken from information in Utah Department of Natural Resources/Forestry Fire State Lands, NFPA FireWise®, and IAFC Ready Set Go! Program and has been tailored in places for Dammeron Valley's unique topography, aspect, weather, fuel load and characteristics, and overall state of health of the community. It also contains information from Colorado State Forest Service, Colorado State University Fact Sheet 6.302 authored by F.C Dennis. See the DVFR for additional information and pamphlets.

Property Insurers

- ❖ HB0048 requires insurers to use the UWRAP High Risk WUI boundary map. They can use other data but must use the same High Risk WUI boundary. The High Risk WUI boundary will be established by the County.
- ❖ Triage classification from individual lot assessments will be shared with property insurers as well as scores and details with homeowners.
- ❖ Property insurers must provide transparency when raising rates or dropping coverage.
- ❖ FFSL will maintain a database accessible to the property owners and casualty insurers with classification and evaluation information from the Firewise HIZ assessment.
- ❖ The County will adopt and enforce the 2006 Utah WUI Code by *January 1, 2026*



House Bill 0048 High Risk Defined Communities

Disclosure: Due to its direct applicability to Dammeron Valley homes, portions of this paper is taken from information in Utah Department of Natural Resources/Forestry Fire State Lands, NFPA FireWise®, and IAFC Ready Set Go! Program and has been tailored in places for Dammeron Valley's unique topography, aspect, weather, fuel load and characteristics, and overall state of health of the community. It also contains information from Colorado State Forest Service, Colorado State University Fact Sheet 6.302 authored by F.C Dennis. See the DVFR for additional information and pamphlets.

APPENDIX B

2006 Wildland Urban Interface Code

The Fire Hazard Severity Form from the 2006 WUI Code provides a metric for the wildfire hazard risk of a structure based on construction materials, ingress/egress, topography, fuel present, and fuel mitigation. The higher the rating the higher the risk. The form also provides a means to prioritize focused areas to reduce survivability risk. Each homeowner can complete this form on their own and/or in conjunction with the Firewise HIZ assessment conducted by the DVFR, County or FFSL.

WUI Code Highlights

- ❖ Utah's WUI Code was last updated in 2006, under Utah State Construction Code 15A-2-103 recognized by the Utah Building Code commission (UBCC).
- ❖ The code assigns enforcement to a "local code official," not a state official.
- ❖ Fire officials usually review the WUI Code, and local building officials/planning & zoning assure new construction is compliant with WUI Code. The portions of the code that are fire and fuel related will fall to the local fire department for assessment.

FIRE HAZARD SEVERITY FORM			
This appendix is to be used to determine the fire hazard severity.			
A. Subdivision Design		Points	
1. Ingress/Egress			
Two or more primary roads	1		
One road	10		
One-lane road in, one-lane road out	15		
2. Width of Primary Road			
20 feet or more	1		
Less than 20 feet	5		
3. Accessibility			
Road grade 5% or less	1		
Road grade 5-10%	5		
Road grade greater than 10%	10		
4. Secondary Road Terminus			
Loop roads, cul-de-sacs with an outside turning radius of 45 feet or greater	1		
Cul-de-sac turnaround	5		
Dead-end roads 200 feet or less in length	8		
Dead-end roads greater than 200 feet in length	10		
5. Street Signs			
Present but unapproved	3		
Not present	5		
B. Vegetation (IUWIC Definitions)			
1. Fuel Types			
Surface			
Lawn/noncombustible	1		
Grass/short brush	5		
Scattered dead/down woody material	10		
Abundant dead/down woody material	15		
Overstory			
Deciduous trees (except tall brush)	3		
Mixed deciduous trees and tall brush	10		
Clumped/scattered conifers and/or tall brush	15		
Contiguous conifer and/or tall brush	20		
2. Defensible Space			
70% or more of lots completed	1		
30% to 70% of lots completed	10		
Less than 30% of lots completed	20		
C. Topography			
Located on flat, base of hill, or setback at crest of hill	1		
On slope with 0-20% grade	5		
On slope with 21-30% grade	10		
On slope with 31% grade or greater	15		
At crest of hill with unmitigated vegetation below	20		
D. Roofing Material			
Class A Fire Rated	1		
Class B Fire Rated	5		
Class C Fire Rated	10		
Nonrated	20		
E. Fire Protection—Water Source			
500 GPM hydrant within 1,000 feet	1		
Hydrant farther than 1,000 feet or draft site	5		
Water source 20 min. or less, round trip	10		
Water source farther than 20 min., and 45 min. or less, round trip	15		
Water source farther than 45 min., round trip	20		
F. Siding and Decking			
Noncombustible siding/deck	1		
Combustible siding/no deck	5		
Noncombustible siding/combustible deck	10		
Combustible siding and deck	15		
G. Utilities (gas and/or electric)			
All underground utilities	1		
One underground, one aboveground	3		
All aboveground	5		
Total for Subdivision			
Moderate Hazard		50-75	
High Hazard		76-100	
Extreme Hazard		101+	

Disclosure: Due to its direct applicability to Dammeron Valley homes, portions of this paper is taken from information in Utah Department of Natural Resources/Forestry Fire State Lands, NFPA FireWise®, and IAFC Ready Set Go! Program and has been tailored in places for Dammeron Valley's unique topography, aspect, weather, fuel load and characteristics, and overall state of health of the community. It also contains information from Colorado State Forest Service, Colorado State University Fact Sheet 6.302 authored by F.C Dennis. See the DVFR for additional information and pamphlets.

- ❖ Washington County has already adopted the 2006 Utah WUI Code
- ❖ Chapter 3 in the Utah WUI Code requires the local legislative body to declare the Wildland Urban Interface areas in their jurisdiction.
- ❖ Local County code officials shall create official WUI boundary mapping collaboratively with FFSL and make it viewable by the public.
- ❖ This WUI boundary map is where the WUI Code is applicable and enforceable.

Disclosure: Due to its direct applicability to Dammeron Valley homes, portions of this paper is taken from information in Utah Department of Natural Resources/Forestry Fire State Lands, NFPA FireWise®, and IAFC Ready Set Go! Program and has been tailored in places for Dammeron Valley's unique topography, aspect, weather, fuel load and characteristics, and overall state of health of the community. It also contains information from Colorado State Forest Service, Colorado State University Fact Sheet 6.302 authored by F.C Dennis. See the DVFR for additional information and pamphlets.