

Living with Fire Study Guide with Answers

1. The number of homes located in the wildland urban interface are increasing OR decreasing.
(Circle the right answer.) **Increasing**
2. T or F Most homes and neighborhoods are prepared to survive a wildfire. **FALSE**
3. List factors that increase the chances of a home surviving a wildland fire.
 - a. **Home construction**
 - b. **Adjacent vegetation and fuels**
 - c. **Routine maintenance**
4. Who has the most impact on preventing a home from being destroyed from wildfire?
Homeowner
5. Wildfire will threaten your home in three ways. **Direct flame contact, Radiant heat, Flying Embers**
6. Most house burn due to _____. **Flying embers**
7. There are four zones where a homeowner can reduce the wildfire threat.
 - a. **Access zone**
 - b. **Interior zone**
 - c. **Defensible space zone**
 - d. **Built zone**
8. Road widths should be at least _____ feet wide and less than _____ in grade. **12, 12%**
9. Home and street address should be _____ and in characters at least _____.
reflective 4 inches high.
10. Driveways should be cleared of flammable vegetation at least _____ feet on both sides and have a vertical clearance of _____ feet. **10 15**
11. Homes on long narrow streets and dead ends discourage evacuation. _____ should be created to allow two-way traffic. **Turnouts**
12. Long driveways or dead-end roads should have turnaround areas of at least _____ feet. **45**
13. A noncombustible area at the base of the house should be at least _____ feet. **3**
14. The non-combustible area around a house should include:
 - a. **Irrigated herbaceous plants (lawn, ground covers, flowers)**
 - b. **Rock mulches**
 - c. **Hard surfaces (concrete, brick, or pavers)**
15. The lean, clean and green area should be at least _____ feet. **30**
16. The lean, clean and green should:
 - a. **Be irrigated**
 - b. **Include live healthy green plants**
 - c. **Be maintained regularly.**
17. In the wildland fuels reduction area is: **beyond the residential landscape area and may overlap into your neighbors property**
18. In the wildland fuel reduction area you should:
 - a. **remove dead vegetation**
 - b. **create separation between trees and shrubs**

- c. **remove ladder fuels by pruning and trimming**
 - d.
19. Rain gutters trap flying embers. Check and clean them _____ during a season. **Several times or frequently.**
 20. Vents on homes should be covered with 1/8 inch or smaller screen with _____. **wire mesh**
 21. When it comes to fire, windows are one of the _____ parts of the house . **Stronger or weaker . circle the right answer**
 22. In high fire hazard areas, windows should be: **double –glazed or tempered glass**
 23. The following are all examples of non-combustible siding material:
 - a. **Stucco**
 - b. **Brick**
 - c. **Cement board**
 24. The eaves of the home act as a heat trap and increase the chance of home ignition, so they should be _____. **Boxed in or covered**
 25. Chimneys and stovepipes should be topped with a _____. **spark arrestor cap**
 26. Fire resistant roofing material include:
 - a. **Composition**
 - b. **Metal**
 - c. **tile**
 27. Firewood should be stacked at least _____ feet from the house so that it won't _____. **30 roll down hill and ignite the home**
 28. Deck should be free of combustible material and the underside covered with _____ to prevent embers from accumulating. **1/8 inch wire mesh**
 29. _____ and _____ build up in a chimney after long use and lead to possible chimney fires. **Soot and creosote**
 30. List two ways to reduce creosote buildup in a chimney. **Use dry wood, burn hot fire 10-15 minutes, have chimney cleaned annually**
 31. Smoke detectors should be checked at least _____ a year. **Once**
 32. Portable fire extinguisher are used properly when you follow the P-A-S-S.
 - a. **Pull safety pin**
 - b. **Aim the extinguisher**
 - c. **Squeeze the trigger**
 - d. **Sweep at based of the fire**
 33. Some homes use other heating systems, like kerosene. What are some safety precautions:
 - a. **Use only approved fuels**
 - b. **Refuel heaters outdoors**
 - c. **Keep children away from heater**
 - d. **Never burn charcoal indoors**
 34. Defensible space is the area between a house and an oncoming wildfire where vegetation has been managed: **to reduce the threat of loosing the home; to allow fire fighters to safely defend the house; improves the likelihood of a home surviving without assistance**

35. The recommended distance for defensible space _____ the same for every home. **Is or is not.**
36. Defensible space varies based on: **type vegetation around home, amount of vegetation around a home, steepness of slope around the home.**
37. Know the recommended Defensible space distances listed on p. 12. **Grass 30, 100, 100; shrubs 100, 200, 200; trees 100, 100, 200 feet of spacing from flat to moderate, to very steep slopes**
38. In step two of creating defensible space the primary goal is to remove what type of vegetation.
Dead
39. Step three of creating defensible space talks about creating what type of separation between shrubs and trees. **Horizontal**
40. In creating separation between shrubs what is general rule of thumb: **shrubs should be at least 2 times (twice the height of the average shrub).**
41. When removing trees for removal what trees should be selected: **unhealthy, damaged, or weak trees.**
42. Step four in creating defensible space talks about creating what type of separation between trees and shrubs? **Vertical**
43. Vegetation that can carry fire from lower plants and shrubs to taller plants or trees is called _____. **Ladder fuels**
44. The recommended distance of separation for ladder fuels is _____ times the height of the lower vegetation. **Three**
45. Methods to remove ladder fuel include: **prune lower tree branches, prune shrubs, or remove plants from under trees.**
46. What is the area around a home that includes the residential landscape that is irrigated, maintained with ornamental plants. **Lean, clean and green area**
47. Creating a defensible space is: **an ongoing activity**
48. What are referred to as little green gas cans by firefighters? **Ornamental junipers**
49. What are the benefits of maintaining properly maintained vegetation? **Wildfire can be slowed, flame lengths can be shortened, amount of heat can be reduced, homes are safer to wildfires**
50. Who is the most important person in protecting a home from wildfire? **The homeowner**
51. Does defensible space have to be bare ground in a home's landscape to be defensible space?
No
52. Does creating a defensible space require any special skills? **No**
53. List several excuses people use when they do not create defensible space; **I don't have time or money. It is wrong to cut trees. It doesn't look good. It is not my responsibility. I don't have an easy way to dispose of the cut material. Fire won't happen to me. I have insurance, I will rebuild. I don't know what to do.**
54. Having and maintaining defensible space _____ the chances of my home surviving a wildfire. **Significantly improves**
55. When a wildfire approaches, what should I wear and have with me? **Cotton or wool clothes, long pants and shirt, boots/close-toed shoes, gloves, handkerchief, water, flashlight, radio**
56. When a wildfire approaches, what do I do about my family and animals? **Evacuate all family members, designate a safe meeting place, evacuate pets/animals, have a contact person**

57. When a wildfire is approaching, how do I prepare my car? **Put vehicle in garage with keys in ignition, roll up windows, close garage door, disconnect garage door opener**
58. When a wildfire approaches, what should I take? **Important documents (bank, IRS, insurance, birth certificates, medical records) credit cards, medications, prescription medicine, passport, computer files, address book, cell phone and charger, photo albums, family heirlooms should be in the car and ready to leave**
59. When a wildfire approaches, how should I do to the inside of my house? **Close all interior doors, leave lights on in each room, remove light-weight, non-fire-resistant curtains from around windows, close shutters and blinds, turn off pilot lights, move furniture to middle of room**
60. When a wildfire approaches, what should I do to the outside of my house? **Put patio furniture in garage, close or cover exterior vents and windows, close all exterior doors and windows, leave outside lights on, fill trash or other large containers with water, leave exterior doors unlocked, connect garden hose to faucet and attach nozzles, prop a ladder against the house to gain access to your roof**