

# **READY, SET, PREVENT**

## **YOUR PERSONAL SUN CITY FIRE PREVENTION GUIDE**



**Georgetown Fire Department**





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**T**he Fire season never takes a break and the Georgetown Fire Department needs your help preventing fires that can devastate a community. Successfully preventing fires is a community effort and we request that you take personal accountability to aid us in the ongoing fire fight.

The question is not **WHEN** the next fire will be but **WHERE** the fire will be.

photography by k. west



### INSIDE

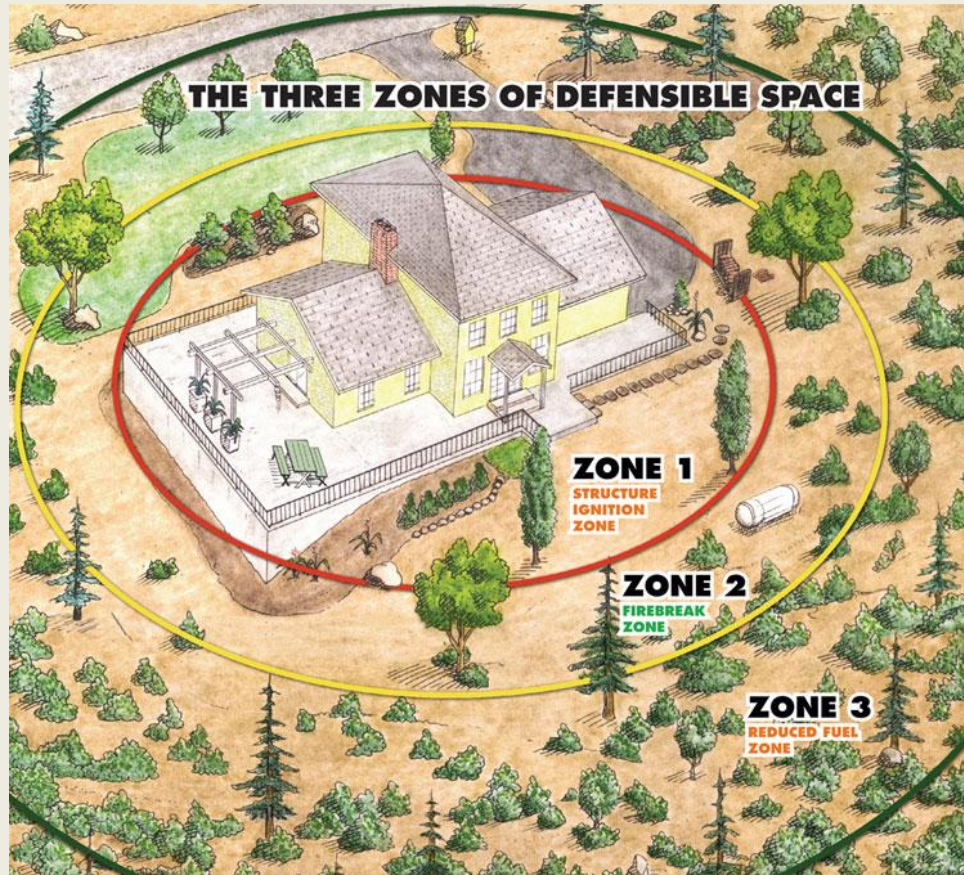
- What is Defensible Space
- Making your home safe
- Smoke Detectors
- Carbon Monoxide Detectors
- Fire Extinguishers
- Emergency Evacuation
- Accountability Checklist

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### **ZONE 1 (extends 10 feet from house)**

- Tree Canopies trimmed at least 4-6 feet from roof
- Remove dead vegetation and leaves from around decks and gutters
- Relocate combustibles and wood piles to Zone 2
- Remove or prune vegetation from windows
- Remove “ladder fuels” (This is low level dry vegetation that allows fire to spread vertical into the tree canopy.)

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### **ZONE 2 (Extends 10 to 30 feet from the house)**

- Remove ladder fuels
- Grass should be a maximum of 4 inches in height
- Trim tree canopies
- Remove debris and trash
- Keep ground watered and maintained

### **ZONE 3 (Extends 30 to 100 feet)**

- May not be applicable in a suburban neighborhood
- First line of defense so keep maintained and clean of dead vegetation



(Picture of dry leaves in Zone 1)

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### Smoke Detectors

The most important and cheapest form of insurance a homeowner can buy is a smoke detector. Smoke detectors should be in each bedroom, hallway and in the common areas of a home. Important information about smoke detectors includes:

- ✓ Change the Batteries on an annual basis.
- ✓ Do Not use discount store batteries, use a reputable brand from the same lot
- ✓ Dust, blow, or vacuum the detector when the batteries are replaced
- ✓ Change smoke detectors every 7-10 years or as recommended by the manufacturer
- ✓ If the detectors are hard wired and networked, please contact a local handyman for assistance.
- ✓ The Georgetown Fire Department staff cannot repair or install detectors



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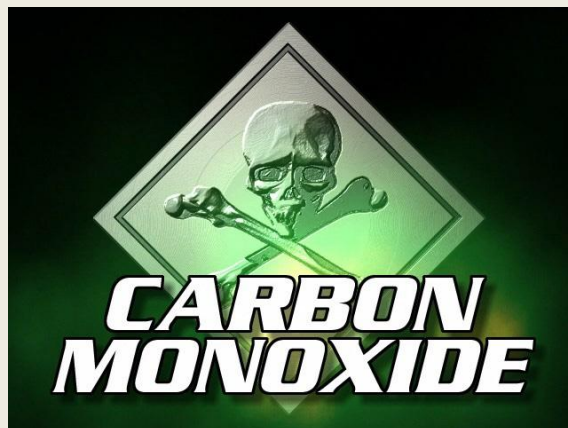
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### Carbon Monoxide Alarms

Every house that uses natural or propane gas should have Carbon Monoxide Alarms. Carbon Monoxide is an odorless, colorless, and tasteless LETHAL gas that is a by-product of heating around ovens, stoves, heaters, and cars. At least 15,000 people are a victim of Carbon Monoxide poisoning each year and 5,000 of those exposures were fatal throughout the United States. Important tips to prevent Carbon Monoxide poisoning include:

- ✓ Do NOT leave a car running in a garage
- ✓ All gas appliances should be serviced on an annual basis
- ✓ Never self install a gas appliance
- ✓ Install Carbon monoxide alarms as recommended by the manufacturer
- ✓ Have the Chimney cleaned as needed
- ✓ Do not use generators or other gasoline powered equipment indoors



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Fire Extinguishers  
should be located in the  
following rooms

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- Kitchen
  - Garage
  - Work Shops
- 

Choose a Multi-Purpose  
extinguisher that can  
extinguish all types of  
household fires.

**A-B-C**

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- *P*-Point
- *A*-Aim
- *S*-Squeeze
- *S*-Sweep

### Fire Extinguishers



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### Emergency Evacuation

Disasters can happen anywhere at any time. In April of 2011, a large fuel tanker carrying gasoline overturned in Sun City and we evacuated hundreds of citizens from their homes. The main exit from Sun City was blocked by the fuel spill and many citizens were caught off guard and did not realize there were two exits out of Sun City. Be prepared to evacuate or shelter in your home depending upon guidance from emergency officials.

- ✓ Have an Evacuation Checklist prepared (in this document)
- ✓ Listen to emergency officials and monitor the media
- ✓ Evacuation could be to a local meeting place OR leave Sun City entirely
- ✓ Two Exits out of Sun City include
  - South Exit at Del Webb and Williams
  - North Exit at Sun City Blvd and Hwy 195



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### READY

#### Check List

- Know Evacuation Routes
- Assemble medications
- Gather cell phone and chargers
- Have 3 day supply of food, blankets, clothing and water

### SET

#### Check List

- Monitor Media
- Alert Family
- Assure pets are safe
- If evacuated, turn off all power devices

### PREVENT

#### Check List

- Defensible Space
- Smoke Detectors
- Carbon Monoxide Detectors
- Fire Extinguishers





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