

# WILDFIRE RESILIENCY (WUI) CODE UPDATE

## EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2026

New standards for a safer community, more resilient buildings, and smarter landscapes.



**APPLIES TO:**  
New Development  
Redevelopment  
Applicable Building Permits



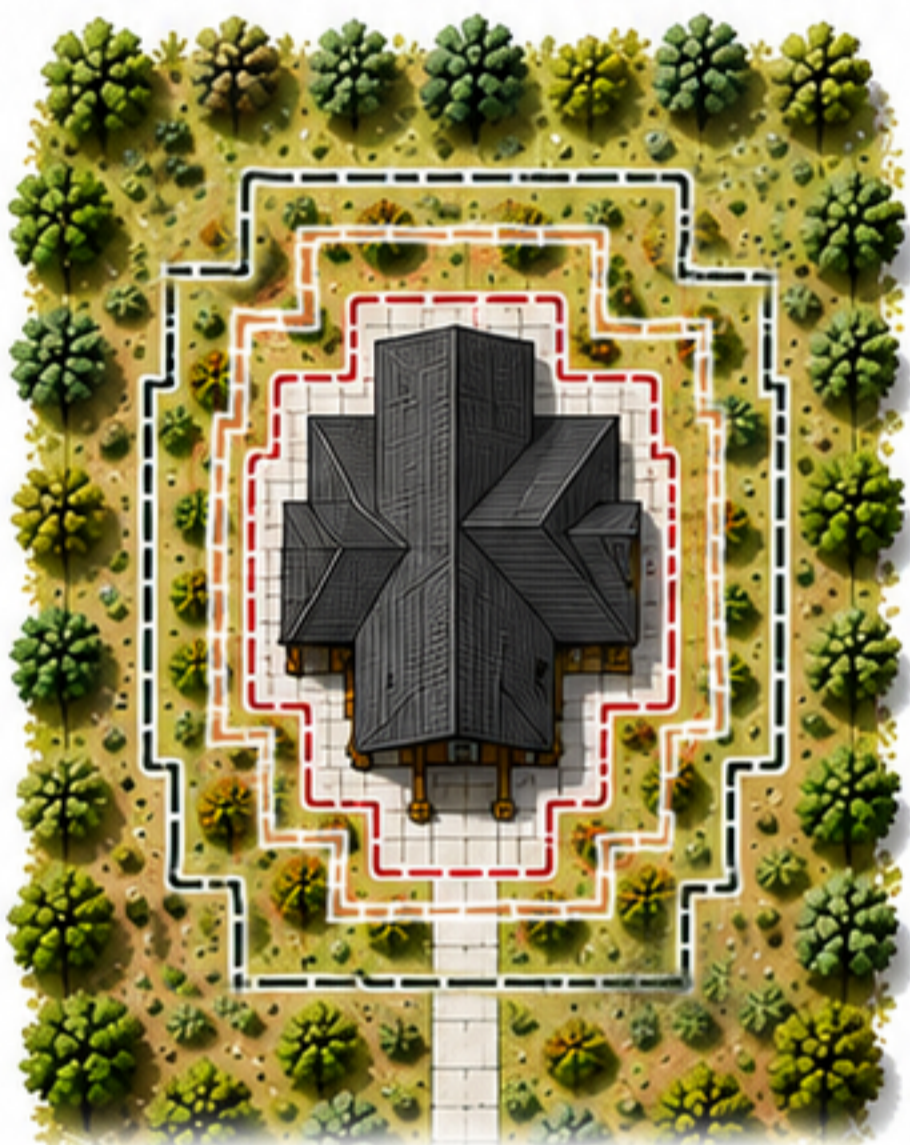
**INCLUDES:**  
Wildfire Resiliency Code (WRC)  
Updated Landscaping Standards  
(UDC Section 3-1)



**GOAL:**  
Reduce wildfire risk,  
protect property,  
and conserve resources.

### DEFENSIBLE SPACE (REQUIRED)

Design your site with three defensible space zones.



**ZONE 1**  
0-5 FT

Noncombustible materials only. Limited ignition-resistant planting.



**ZONE 2**  
5-30 FT

Reduce fuels. Space plants and trees. Keep low flammables separated.



**ZONE 3**  
30-100 FT

Improve natural vegetation. Thin and space trees.

### BUILDING REQUIREMENTS (WRC)

Reviewed at Building Permit



Ignition-resistant materials



Ember-resistant vents & openings



Class A roofing



Deck & attachment standards



Reduce ignition potential at structure edges

Class A Roofing  
Noncombustible Siding & Materials



Ember-Resistant Vents

Protect Decks & Attachments

### LANDSCAPING (SIMPLIFIED APPROACH)



**NEW:**  
Landscape Unit System

1 unit per 100 sq ft of disturbed area



Minimum **20%** landscape units in front yard



Native and low-water plantings



Ignition-resistant plants in Zone 1

### EXAMPLE PLANTING CONCEPT



#### ZONE 1 (0-5 FT)

Rock mulch or hardscape. Small, ignition-resistant plants only.

#### ZONE 2 (5-30 FT)

Mix of shrubs, perennials, and groundcovers. Space plants and prune trees.

#### ZONE 3 (30-100 FT)

Trees are thinned and spaced. Maintain natural plant communities.

### SITE PLAN CHECKLIST

- Defensible space zones (1-3) clearly shown
- Landscape unit calculations
- Plant schedule (type + size)
- Zone 1 compliant plantings
- Snow storage locations
- All site improvements (LOD, utilities, access, etc.)



### TIMING



**BEFORE**  
JULY 1, 2026

Current regulations apply.



**ON/AFTER**  
JULY 1, 2026

New WUI + Landscaping standards required.



### QUICK FAQ



**Can I keep existing trees?**  
Yes, if they meet spacing, health, and zone requirements.



**Are bufferyards still required?**  
No, bufferyards are replaced by the Landscape Unit System.



**Who reviews what?**  
Planning Department reviews landscape and site design. Building Department reviews construction and materials.



### QUESTIONS?

We encourage early coordination to ensure a smooth review.



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