



HIZ (Home Ignition Zone) Assessment Program

~ Pilot ~

Overview for County Fire, CALFIRE



HIZ = Home Ignition Zone

Goal: FSCSCC (with RCD) offers a pilot program to provide HIZ Assessments to Santa Cruz county Firewise community residents

Training for our volunteer HIZ Assessors was provided by the NFPA in Aug 2021, to assess home hardening and defensible space for individual residents

Santa Clara County FSC and South Skyline FSC have similar programs

HOME IGNITION ZONE CHECKLIST

SIMPLE STEPS FROM ROOF TO FOUNDATION TO MAKE A HOME SAFER FROM EMBERS AND RADIANT HEAT

- Clean roofs and gutters of dead leaves, debris and pine needles that could catch embers
- Replace or repair any loose or missing shingles or roof tiles to prevent ember penetration
- Reduce embers that could pass through vents in the eaves by installing 1/8 inch metal mesh screening
- Clean debris from exterior attic vents and install 1/8 inch metal mesh screening to reduce embers
- Repair or replace damaged or loose window screens and any broken windows
- Screen or box-in areas below patios and decks with wire mesh to prevent debris and combustible materials from accumulating
- Move any flammable material away from wall exteriors - mulch, flammable plants, leaves and needles, firewood piles - anything that can burn
- Remove anything stored underneath decks or porches

VISIT [FIREWISE.ORG](https://www.firewise.org) FOR MORE DETAILS

Image by NFPA, with funding from USDA Forest Service



BIG PICTURE

- FSCSCC and RCD offer a pilot HIZ (Home Ignition Zone) Assessment program
- Free to Santa Cruz County Firewise community residents
- Not offered for Real Estate sales use case (legal reasons)
- Assessments are performed by trained volunteers
- A short written summary may be emailed to the resident after the Assessment, otherwise feedback is all verbal. Session is typically 1 hour.
- Residents request Assessments through FSCSCC Webpage (via a new webpage and Form)
- Goal: start offering this service in March 2022



RELATIONSHIP TO
CALFIRE AND
COUNTY FIRE
SERVICES

This free educational service is not meant to compete with, or overlap services offered by local Fire Chiefs or CALFIRE.

This is NOT intended to replace CALFIRE LEI00 Inspections

Concerns or questions?