Healthy Lawns Defend Homes
Well-maintained, healthy lawns help prevent the spread of fire and can be used in creating a defensible space around homes.¹

Remove Invasive Plants
If you have non-native, invasive plants on your property, take steps to remove them. These plants can impact native ecosystems increasing fire intensity or frequency.²

Right Plant, Proper Care
Proper plant selection can help reduce wildfire risk around homes and other structures. Even more important than plant selection, proper plant care and maintenance (pruning and watering) can help reduce wildfire risk around homes and other structures.³,⁴

Landscape Design Reduces Vulnerability
Fire-wise landscape design and proper placement and maintenance of plants immediately surrounding a home (home ignition zone), can help reduce your home’s vulnerability to wildfire.⁵

Moisture-Rich Leaves Resist Fires
All plants are capable of burning under the right circumstances, but plants that are more fire-resistant tend to have a high level of moisture content in their leaves.⁶

Choose Fire Wise Trees
In addition to higher moisture content in their leaves, fire-wise trees and shrubs generally have: an open and loose branching pattern, tend not to accumulate a lot of dead branches and leaves in the canopy, broad and thick leaves, and low resins and oil content.⁷

This infographic was produced by the NICH Environmental Committee: Amy Jo Detweiler, Carl Evensen, Allison Gault, Sarada Krishnan, Lauren Garcia Chance, Gail Langellotto, Julie Weisenhorn, Sabrena Schweyer. Design provided by the Horticultural Research Institute.


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