Angwin FireWise Landscaping

Information to help Angwin residents reduce fire risk outside their home.

General FireWise Landscaping Tips

Landscape with fire-proofing in mind for at least the first 30 feet out from a structure. Maintain horizontal and vertical gaps between plants—this will make it less likely that a flame can move laterally from plant to plant and/or from the understory to the canopy.

Healthy plants tend to be more fire-resistant.

Use Fire-Safe Plants

California native and drought-resistant plant species are often less flammable than other invasive or ornamental species. Fire-safe plants tend to store water in their vegetation and produce very little litter and/or volatile substances. In addition, these species are able to recover faster after a fire occurs.

Fire-safe does not mean fireproof! Even fire-resistant plants will burn if not well maintained. Be sure to keep all of your landscape plants healthy, with appropriate watering, proper pruning, etc.

Landscaping with Fire-Safe Plants

- Penstemon
- Lupine
- California lilac
- Yarrow
- California buckeye
- Pacific madrone
Problems with Invasive Species

Invasive plants have weedy characteristics which make them more flammable than many native species.

Invasive plants can grow abundantly in open and/or disturbed spaces which increases the amount of vegetation that can burn.

These plant species also tend to grow quickly and produce vegetation that will dry out, die, and fall to the ground where it will accumulate.

Invasive broom species burn readily and carry fire to the tree canopy layer. Juniper are among the most flammable plants used in landscaping.

AVOID Flammable Plants

Angwin is embedded in habitat that already supports native and invasive vegetation that is highly flammable. In addition to the flammable characteristics of invasive vegetation, certain native and invasive species also have high amounts of volatile substances (oils, resins, wax, or pitch). Avoid using these plants for landscaping and reduce the abundance of those already growing near your home.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

- http://www.napafirewise.org/
- http://www.cnps.org/cnps/conservation/pdf/fire/frem38.2_38.3_drill.pdf
- https://www.napavalleycnps.org/

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