

THE FIVE-STEP DEFENSIBLE SPACE REBATE PROCESS

Available to California and Nevada Residents in the Lake Tahoe Basin



The Nevada Fire Safe Council (NVFSC) will provide financial assistance to Lake Tahoe Basin homeowners who comply with defensible space recommendations related to vegetation management. Eligible participants can receive rebate of 50% for vegetation management costs up to \$1000. This program is available to homeowners within the Tahoe Basin. This program is not available for commercial property. Funds are limited. Terms and conditions apply. Eligible residents can receive their rebate by following the five-step process below.

STEP ONE: Get an Inspection. Contact your local fire protection district or department to schedule a defensible space inspection. Fire protection professionals will perform an inspection with the homeowner or homeowner's representative to educate them on the steps necessary to comply with defensible space recommendations. The homeowner will be given one copy of the inspection form with written recommendations.

STEP TWO: Get a voucher. Contact the Tahoe Basin Region of the Nevada Fire Safe Council at (530) 543-3473 to receive a voucher ID number that places you on the rebate list or go to our website www.nvfsc.org to fill out the voucher request form. Voucher IDs expire 60 days from issuance. Homeowners who are not a member of the Nevada Fire Safe Council will be required to join at the nominal fee of \$20. Only NVFSC members are eligible for the rebate. Join online at www.nvfsc.org.

STEP THREE: Get fire safe. Hire a contractor to complete the tree and brush removal recommended in Step 1. The homeowner is responsible for insuring that the contractor completes ALL of the vegetation and hazardous debris removal outlined in the initial inspection. The homeowner is responsible for paying the contractor directly. Any work done in addition to vegetation removal recommended in the initial the inspection form is the sole financial responsibility of the property owner. A list of available contractors will be provided as a courtesy online at www.nvfsc.org.

STEP FOUR: Get a rebate evaluation. Once the work is complete, contact the Tahoe Basin Region of the Nevada Fire Safe Council at (530) 543-3473 to schedule a rebate evaluation. NVFSC staff will insure that the work is completed in accordance with the initial inspection. At this time, the property owner must provide NVFSC staff with the following: (1) Voucher ID number (2) A copy of the inspection form from Step 1, (3) A copy of the contractor's invoice (4) Proof of payment to contractor (eg. Bank statement, cancelled check or credit card receipt).

STEP FIVE: Get a rebate. If the property owner has taken the necessary vegetation management steps, NVFSC staff will submit the inspection form, contractor invoice, and voucher ID for the rebate. Rebate checks will be mailed to homeowners within 6-8 weeks of the completed and approved evaluation.

Take the first step to making your home fire safe today.

Call your local fire protection district or fire department at the number below to schedule a Defensible Space Inspection.



Fallen Leaf Fire Department
(530) 542-1343



North Tahoe Fire Protection District
(530) 546-2212



North Lake Tahoe Fire Protection District
(775) 831-0351 x 8118



Tahoe Douglas Fire Protection District
(775) 588-3591 x 227



Lake Valley Fire Protection District
(530) 577-2447



Meeks Bay Fire Protection District
(530) 525- 7558



City of South Lake Tahoe Fire Department
(530) 542-6180



Tahoe Basin Regional Office
589 Tahoe Keys Blvd. Ste. # E8
South Lake Tahoe, CA 96158
PH: (530) 543-3473
FAX: (530) 543-3472

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

- ▶ Rebates are available on a "first come, first serve" basis. Funding is limited. Rebates will not be issued without first receiving voucher ID # from NVFSC. Each property is only eligible for one rebate.
- ▶ Vouchers expire within 60 days of issuance. Expired vouchers will be renumbered and reissued if still available. Extensions will be granted on a case-by-case basis for incomplete work. Defensible space inspections must be performed within 12 months of Voucher ID issuance.
- ▶ Rebates will be given for work performed according to vegetation management as specified in the defensible space inspection. Work performed outside the scope of the defensible space inspection is not eligible for the rebate and is the sole financial responsibility of the property owner.
- ▶ Work that is part of the inspection but is not related to vegetation management is the sole financial responsibility of the property owner and is not eligible for the rebate. (eg. Enclosing decks, screening attic vents, installing rock, purchase of landscape supplies, etc.)
- ▶ A list of contractors who have attended a defensible space training workshop will be available to homeowners online at www.nvfsc.org as a courtesy. Property owners who do their own work are not eligible for a rebate of any kind.
- ▶ The rebate evaluation will determine the rebate amount, if any, that a homeowner is eligible to receive. The rebate is limited to 50% of the actual cost of defensible space vegetation management up to \$1000. For example, a homeowner paying \$600 for vegetation removal is eligible for a \$300 rebate.