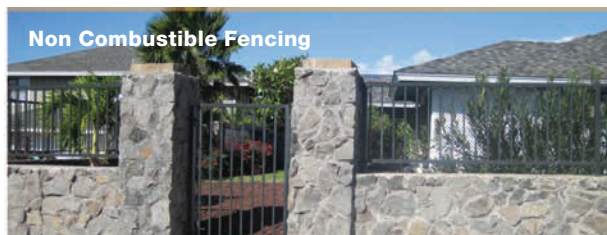
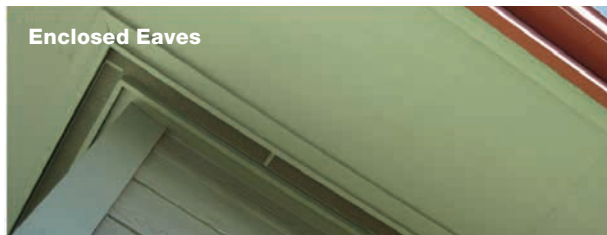


Making Your Home Fire Resistant – Harden Your Home

Construction materials and the quality of the defensible space surrounding the structure are what increases the chance of survival in a wildland fire. Embers from a wildland fire will find the weak link in your home's fire protection scheme and gain the upper hand because of a small, overlooked or seemingly inconsequential factor. Below are some measures you can take to safeguard your home.

Home Improvements



BALCONIES and DECKS

Embers can collect in or on combustible surfaces or the **undersides** of decks and balconies, ignite the material and enter the home through walls or windows.

To harden your home even further, consider protecting your home with a **residential fire sprinkler system**. In addition to extinguishing a fire started by an ember that enters your home, it also **protects you and your family year-round** from any fire that may start in your home.

ROOFS

Roofs are the **most vulnerable surface** where embers land because they can lodge and start a fire. Roof valleys, open ends of barrel tiles and rain gutters are all points of entry.

EAVES

Embers can gather under **open eaves** and ignite combustible material.

VENTS

Embers can enter the **attic** or other concealed spaces and ignite combustible materials. Vents in eaves and cornices are particularly vulnerable, as are any unscreened vents.

WALLS and FENCING

Combustible siding or other combustible or overlapping materials provide surfaces or crevices for embers to nestle and ignite. **Combustible fencing** can become engulfed and if attached to the home's sidings can carry the fire right to the home.

WINDOWS and DOORS

Embers can enter **gaps in doors, including garage doors**. Plants or combustible storage near windows can be ignited from embers and generate heat that can break windows and/or melt combustible frames.