



KING CONSERVATION DISTRICT

# MANAGING WILDFIRE RISK FOR OUR WESTERN WASHINGTON HOMES



Local Food  
Healthy Forests  
Clean Water  
Better Ground





# **TODAY's OUTLINE**

- King Conservation District
- Western Washington Wildfire Patterns
- Fire behavior
- Defensible Space
- Evacuation Plan

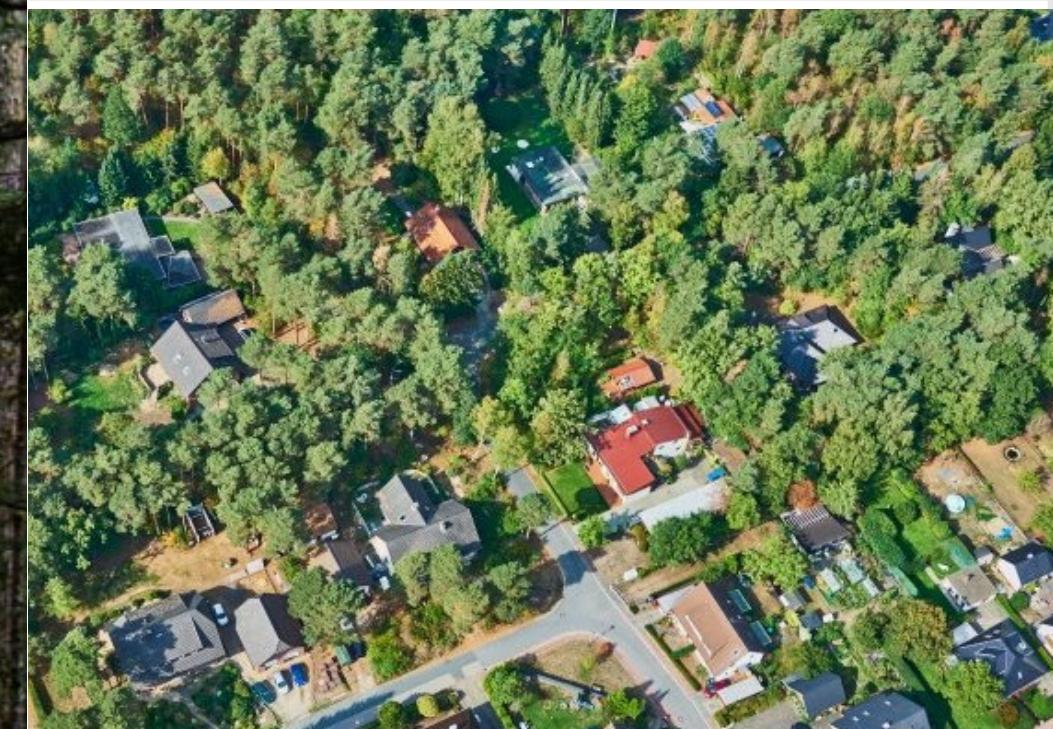
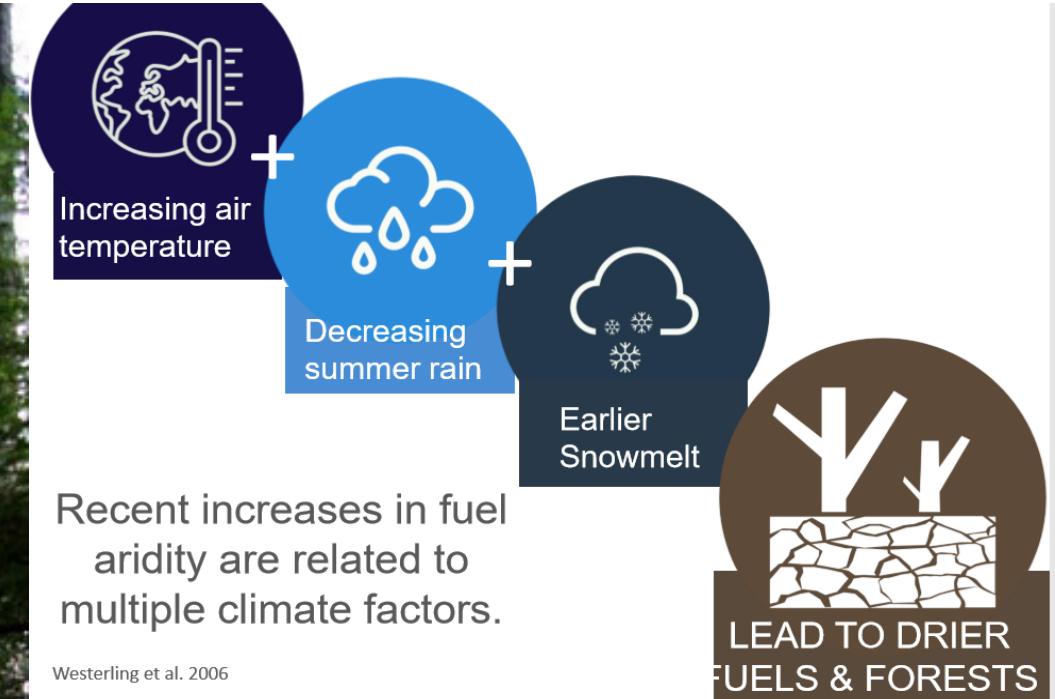


- Since **1949**, KCD has been helping the people of King County manage their natural resources. KCD staff educate landowners, schools, scientists, consultants and agencies in how to recognize problem situations and how to avoid creating them.







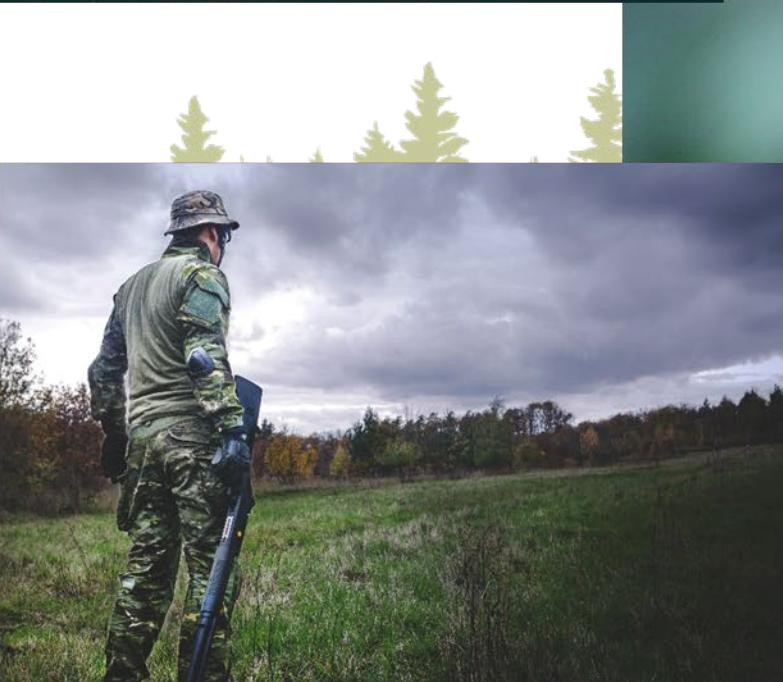


85%



**Wildfires**  
**Human-caused**

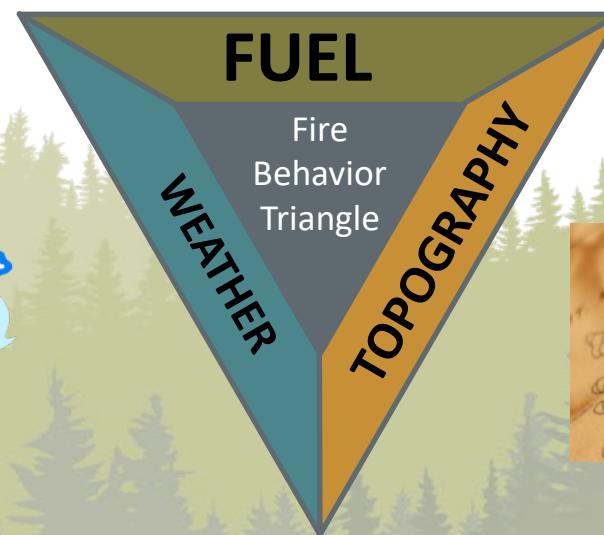
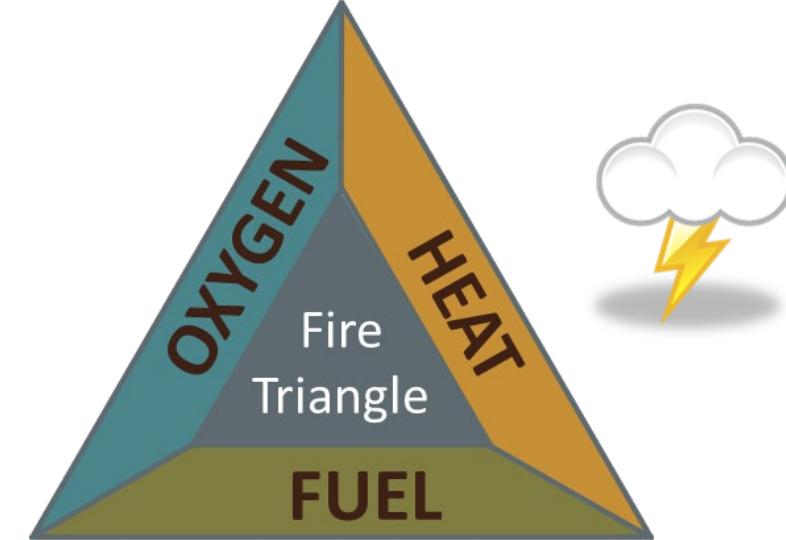








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## BEFORE FUEL REDUCTION

### Forest before fuel reduction

Surface and ladder fuels are present.

Tree Crowns



### Higher intensity fire

Fire spreads from forest surface through ladder fuels to tree crowns.



### Higher severity fire

Fire spreads through tree crowns and forest is more damaged by fire.



## AFTER FUEL REDUCTION

### Forest after fuel reduction

Surface and ladder fuels are reduced.

Tree Crowns



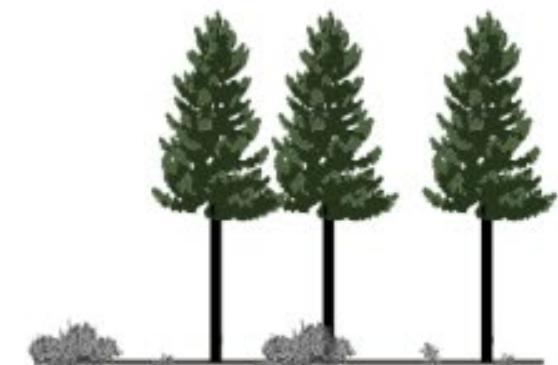
### Lower intensity fire

Fire less likely to rise to tree crowns.



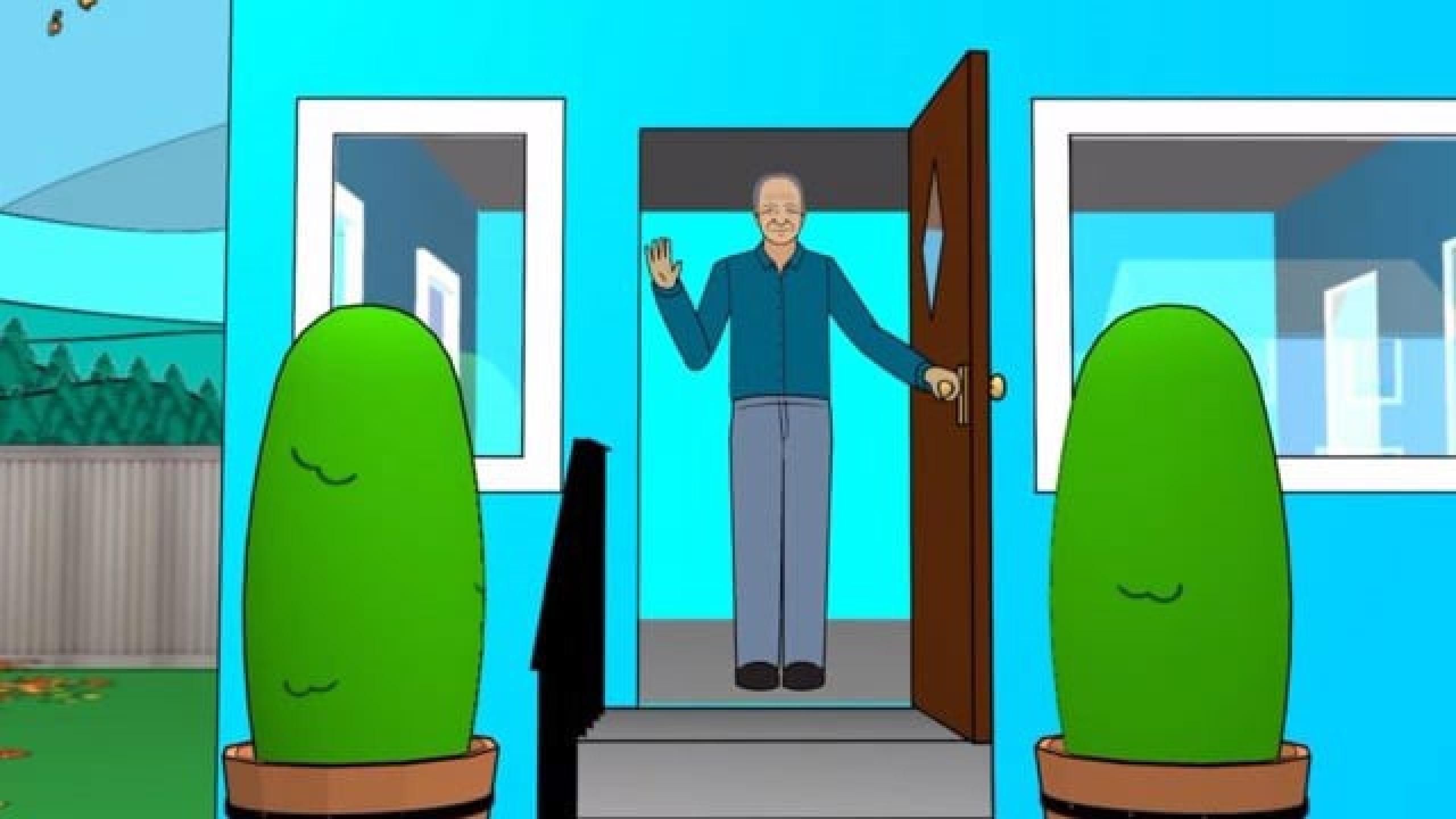
### Lower severity fire

Forest is less damaged by fire.

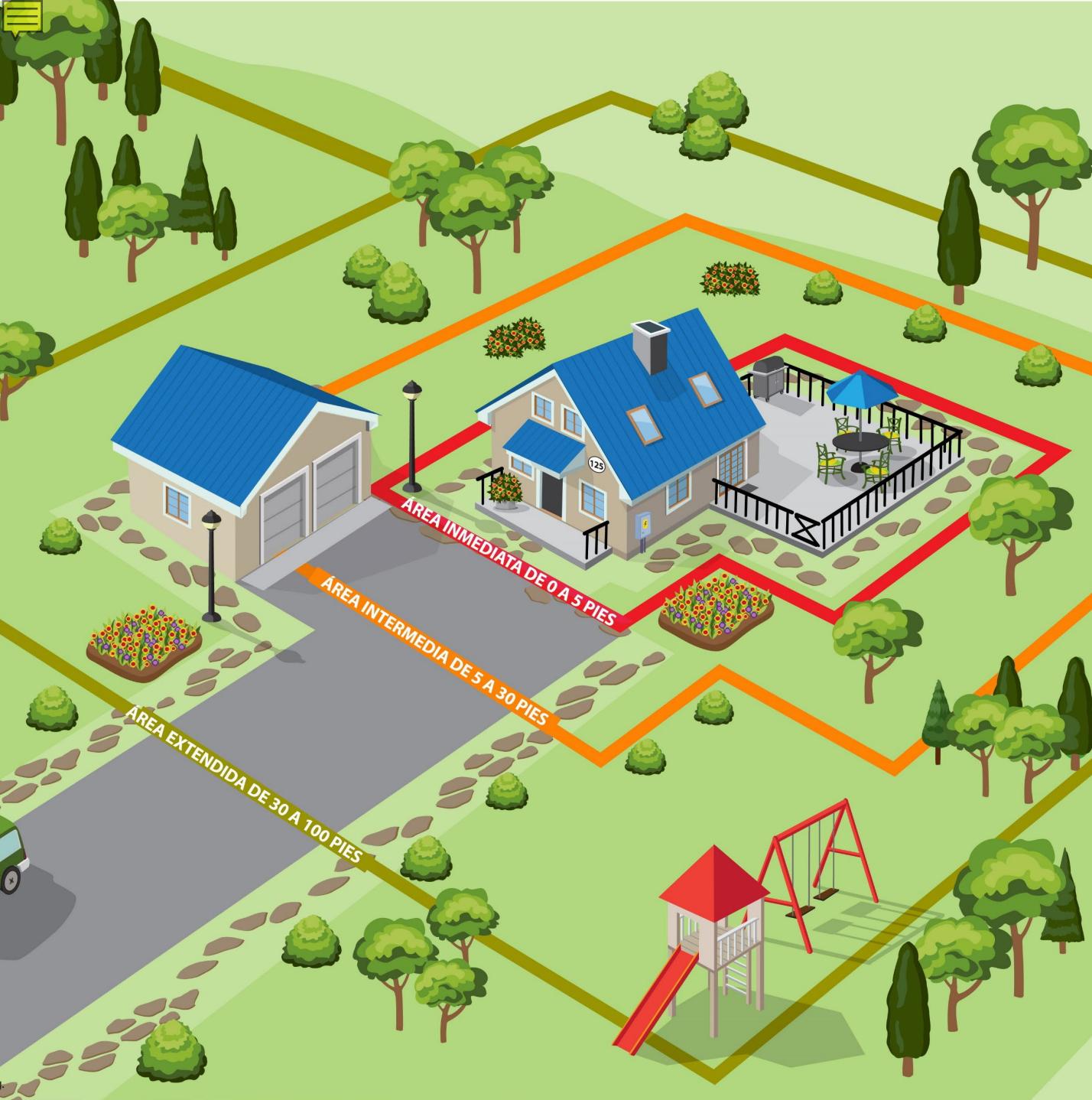




# Home Ignition Sources







# Wildfire Defensible Space

## Home Ignition Zones (HIZ)

- **Zone 1: The Immediate Zone (0-5 feet)**  
High Maintenance – High Impact
- **Zone 2: Intermediate Zone (5-30 feet)**  
High Maintenance – High Impact
- **Zone 3: Extended Zone (30-100 feet)**  
Low Maintenance



*Cut and remove  
branches that  
hang over roof.*

### **Zone 1**

**0' - 5'**

### **Zone 2**

**5' - 30'**

## **Home Protection Zone**

**15'**  
**(or 1/3 tree height)**

### **Zone 3**

**$\geq 30'$**



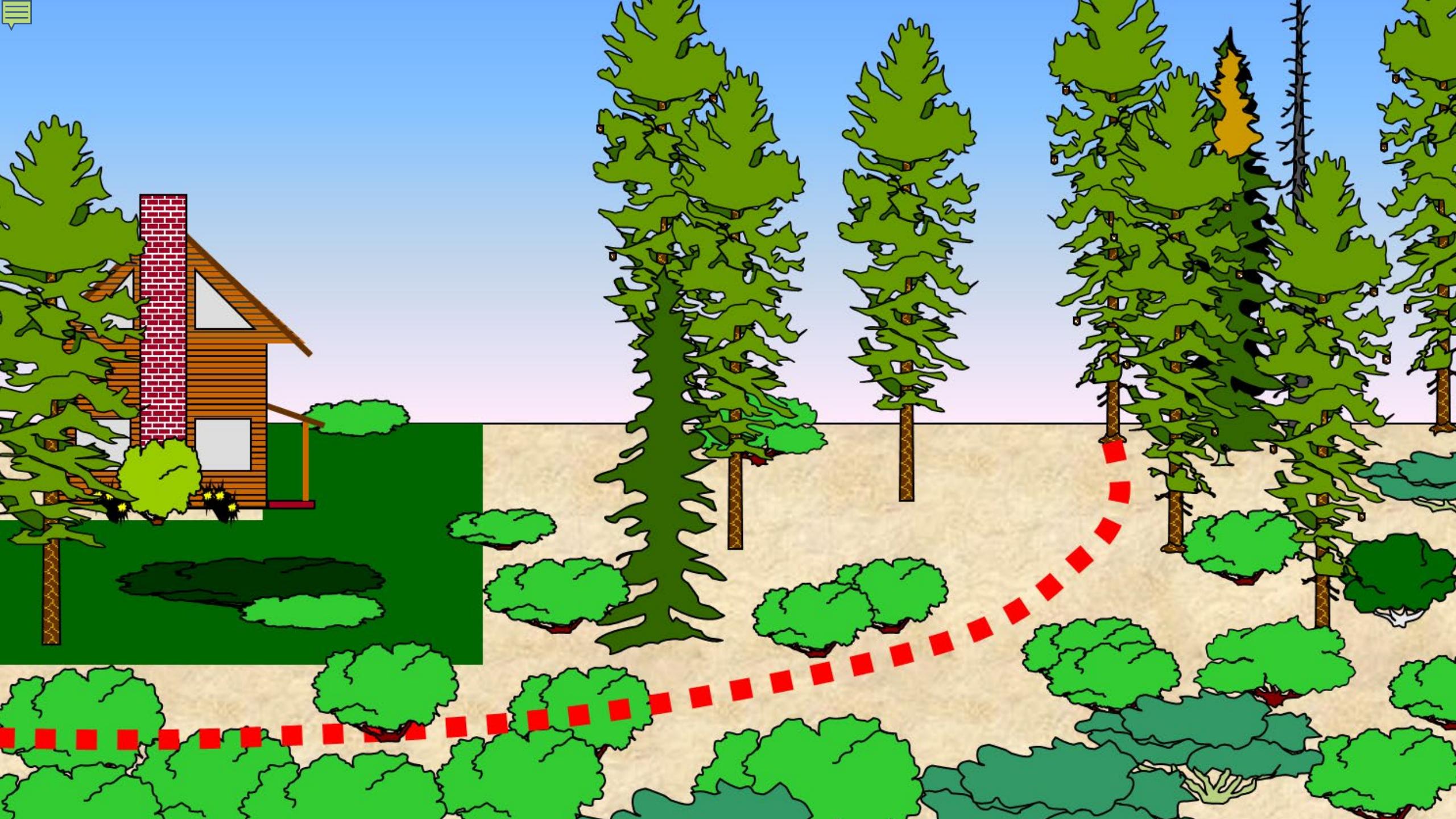






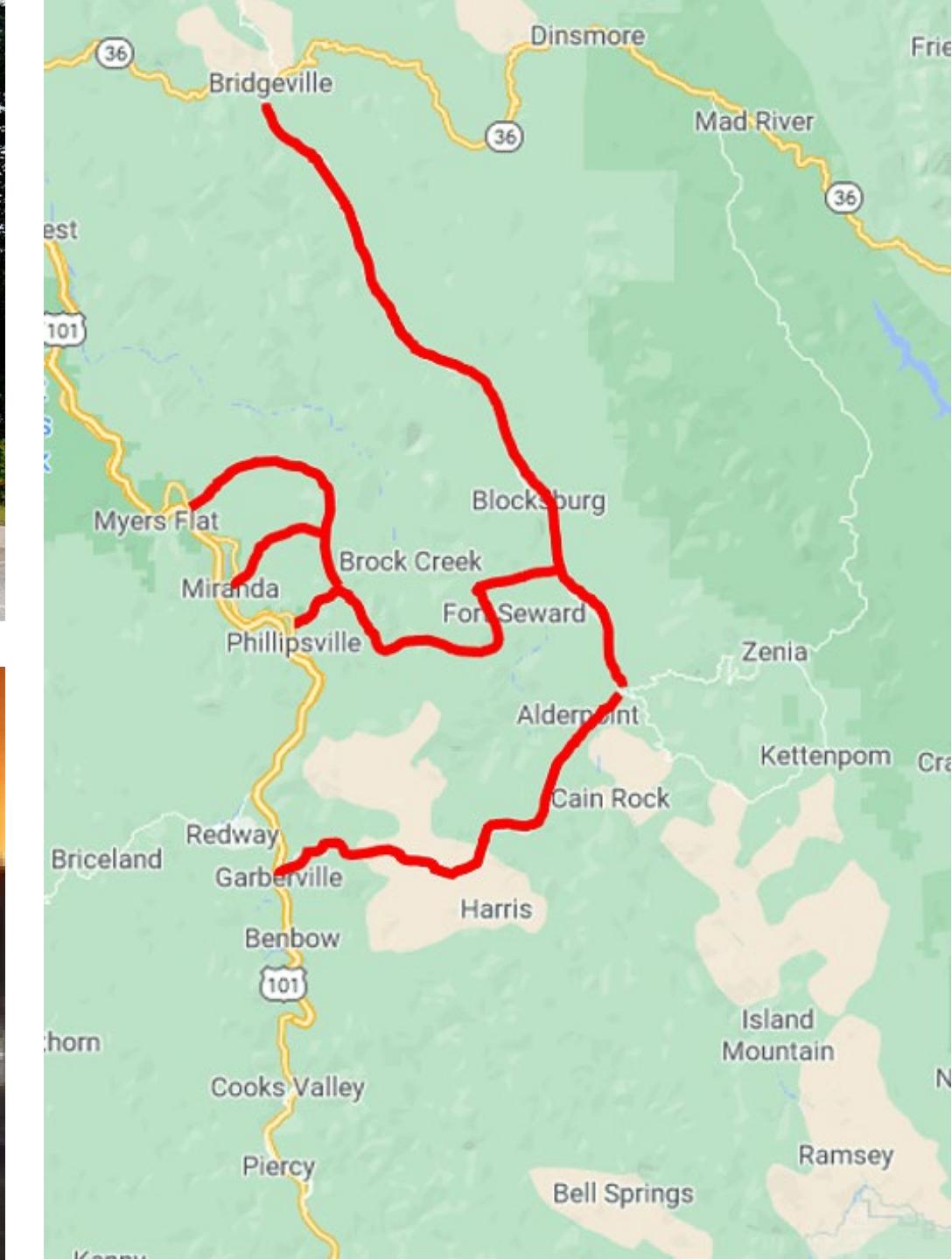








# EMERGENCY EVACUATION PLAN



# **IN SUMMARY**

- King Conservation District
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- Fire behavior
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A vintage bicycle with a green frame and orange tires is leaning against the trunk of a large, textured tree. The bicycle is positioned vertically, with its front wheel on the left and back wheel on the right. The tree trunk is rough and has some horizontal lichen growth. The background is a dense forest with various trees and foliage.

QUESTIONS?

# THANK YOU

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