



ACCESS



Driveway Clearance: Long driveways should be at least 12 feet wide, with a grade of less than 12 percent. Remove ladder fuels and reduce vegetation extending at least 10 feet from both sides of the driveway. Removed or raise overhead obstructions to provide 15-foot vertical clearance. Today's Type 1 Fire Engines are 10' wide from mirror to mirror and require a minimum of 12' wide clearance.

Address: Home address made of reflective, non-combustible material, with at least 4-inch numbers on both sides, posted onto metal. To be visible from an Engine cab, seen at night or through smoke. In addition, it provides an identifying landmark after a neighborhood has been through a wildfire event. Mail boxes on wood posts burn down. Dark address numbers nailed to trees or light colors on homes do not stand out.

8208

Secondary Roads: Know your escape routes and drive them at least twice in the dark. Evacuation of residents while emergency crews are arriving can result in traffic congestion and dangerous driving conditions. Furthermore, when communities only have one way in and one way out a second access road, even a dirt trail only used during a wildfire, may provide an alternate escape route.

Turnouts: Homes located at the end of long, narrow streets and dead ends can deter Fire Engines and/or complicate evacuation. If possible, create clear areas for turnouts in the driveway and access roads that will allow two-way traffic.

Road Width & Grade: Roads should be at least 20 feet wide, but most are not. Vegetation management provides safe evacuation routes. Do not allow an accumulation of vegetation along roadsides. Space vegetation both horizontally and vertically 15' wide & tall. Spacing trees and brush along roadsides restricts wildfire spread & intensity.

Turnarounds: Homes located at the end of roads should have turnarounds areas suitable for large fire equipment. Remove trees to allow wide vehicles to back up and turn around.

Gated Driveways: Electronically operated driveway gates require key access for local fire departments and districts. During an evacuation, consider keeping the gate open in case of a power failure.

Mutual Aid Response; expect other city and county fire engines to respond for structure protection.