



# Rancho District Santa Fe Fire Protection District

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## New Landscape Plan Requirements 2024

### “ZONE ZERO = ZERO COMBUSTIBLES”

In 2024, the Rancho Santa Fe Fire Protection District (RSFFPD) will begin implementing Assembly Bill 3074, a newly enacted California state law requiring the removal of all flammable materials from within five feet of any structure, space designated as “Zone 0.”

**All Landscape Plans submitted for New Structures and Additions/Remodels of Existing Homes after January 1, 2024 shall adhere to the following new requirements regarding foundation-planting materials within the first 5 feet of structures:**

County of San Diego 2023 Consolidated Fire Code Sec. 4907.9.1 Zone 0 “Immediate Zone” 0-5’ Meaning from exterior wall surface or patio, deck or attachment to building or structure extending 5 feet on a horizontal plane. This zone shall be constructed of continuous hardscape or non-combustible materials. Removal of combustible materials surrounding the exterior wall area and maintaining area free and clear of combustible materials. The use of mulch and other combustible materials shall be prohibited.

Adherence to Zone 0 requirements greatly reduces the likelihood of structure ignition by reducing the potential for direct flame contact to a structure, ignition from embers that accumulate at the base of a wall, and from the ignition of other combustible materials located close to the structure that may contribute to catastrophic fire loss.

### Zone 0 Quick Guide: What is Allowed within 5 feet?

Allowed	Prohibited
Rocks, pavers, concrete, sand, pea gravel, dirt	Wood Mulch, Chips, Bark, Pine Straw, or other Combustible Ground Covers
Non-combustible or Ignition-Resistant Fencing, Decking, Trellises, or Decorative structures	Firewood, Decorative Logs, Wooden Planter Boxes and Railroad ties
Pottery, Water Features, Statues	Rubber Mulch or Synthetic Turf
Ceramic, Metal or Cement pots with Small Succulents	Combustible Sheds, Fencing, Decking, Decorative Structures, and Shade Sails
	Vines, Ivy, and Hedges
	Ornamental plantings and grasses (potted or otherwise)
	Trash cans or enclosures, Fire Features, and Propane

**\*\*This list is intended for guidance and suggestion and is not comprehensive. If you have any questions, please contact the RSFFPD\*\***



Zone 0 Example: Decorative Rocks and Stone Steppers



Ignition of Mulch from Flying Embers



Zone 0 Rendering courtesy of IBHS