Create a defensible space around my homesite to meet the County’s Wildfire regulations?

1. **Talk with the Planning & Zoning Division**
   A Defensible Space Permit is required for:
   - A new dwelling.
   - Replacing an existing dwelling.
   - Additions of 400 square feet or more (cumulatively measured).
   Verify the property falls within the boundaries as shown on the Wildfire Hazard Overlay Zone District Map.
   Obtain the Defensible Space Requirements handout and list of County approved qualified Defensible Space Inspectors.

2. **Start a permit with County**
   Contact the County to receive a Defensible Space permit number.

3. **Initial Inspection**
   Contact one of the approved Defensible Space Inspectors from the list provided by Planning & Zoning to obtain a contract for inspections and formal sign-offs.
   Your chosen Defensible Space Inspector will meet with you on the subject property and mark trees. Please have the location of the proposed improvements staked to assist the Inspector.
   Once the trees have been marked and the required removal and thinning explained to you, the Inspector will send a notice to the County stating the initial inspection has been completed. This notice will release the Defensible Space sign-off on the building permit. You have during the construction process to complete the required tree removal and thinning.

4. **Final Inspection**
   Anytime after the foundation is in place, but prior to obtaining the final building sign-off or Certificate of Occupancy (CO), you will need to have the Defensible Space Inspector return to the site to verify all necessary tree removal and thinning has been completed. The Inspector will send a notice to the County stating the final inspection has been completed. This notice will complete the Defensible Space sign-off on the building permit.

5. **Completion**
   If all other building permit requirements have been satisfied, you will now be able to close the building permit and obtain your Certificate of Occupancy (CO), if applicable.