



What does the law require?

Building owners must comply with a series of prevention and preparedness measures:

- Create a fire-protection border around buildings, at least 25 meters wide, by pruning and clearing trees and removing any brush.
- Keep any interior land plots and green spaces in the same condition as the protective border zone.
- Avoid having flammable objects in the garden. For this reason, we should:
 - Avoid the accumulation of plant debris, wood and other flammable materials around the exterior of the house.
 - Replace any flammable plant hedges with non-flammable ones.
 - Learn about tree and shrub species that can prevent fire from spreading.



Prevention and self-protection measures of forest fires near populated areas

Protect yourself It's your responsibility

If you live in a rural area, suburban area or town near a forested area, carefully read this pamphlet.

Forest fires are a natural disruption in the Mediterranean ecosystems. In our counties, they no longer occur just during dry periods but rather, due to climate change, can happen any time of the year.

What factors increase the risk of forest fires?

- Rural abandonment and lack of forest and field management.
- Winds, such as the northerly Tramontana wind.
- Rise in temperatures and periods of drought caused by climate change.

All of these factors pose a higher risk of causing forest fires which can be very difficult to control and can cause devastation.

What is the danger for the counties in Girona?

The population is multiplied by ten during the summer, coinciding with the dry season, which causes:

- An increase in ignition risk.
- Difficulties in emergency management.

What can we do?

If we live in a rural area, suburban area or town close to a forested area, we need to know the risk of forest fires around us and be prepared to:

- Protect our life and our belongings.
- Act safely in the event of a fire.
- Make it easier for emergency teams to do their work.



Who has to do it?

The owners association of each housing development has to install the protective border.

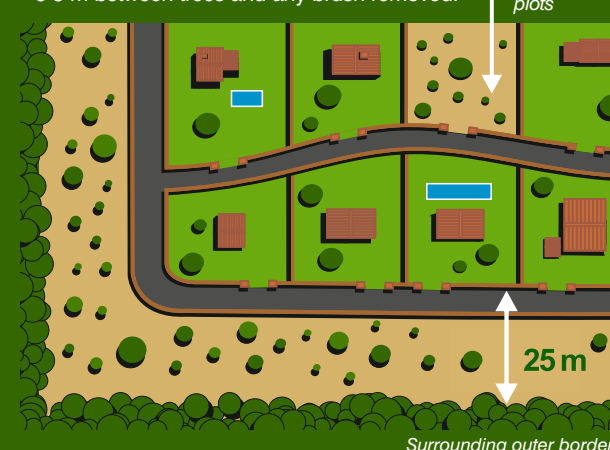
- If the **association** does not complete the work, **the city council** will have it done. A fee may be established to provide this service.
- In the case of **owners of single buildings or structures**, it is their responsibility to complete this work.
- The **owners of adjacent land** affected by this protective border must allow for it to be installed.
- The **owners of interior land plots** within towns and suburban areas are responsible for keeping them in the same condition as the outer protective border.

How is it done?

- By avoiding horizontal and vertical continuity of any fuel sources.
- By keeping space between trees (6-8 meters).
- By keeping trees pruned to up to 1/3 of their height.
- By keeping the understory free from any brush.
- By planting species that are less prone to fire.

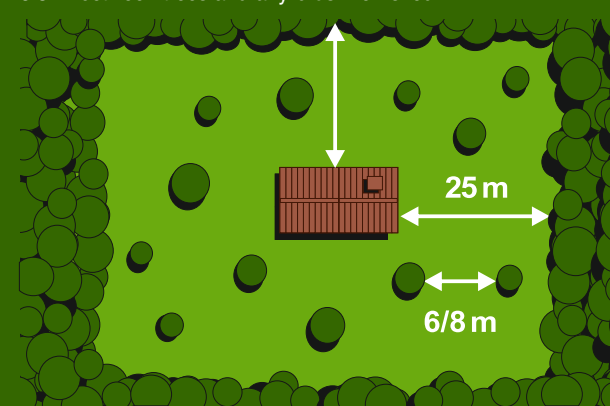
Towns and Suburban Areas:

6-8 m between trees and any brush removed.



Single buildings:

6-8 m between trees and any brush removed.



Install the application My112

Install the free application for smartphones **My112** and you will be able to automatically send the location coordinates for reporting an emergency.



In case of emergency:

- **Call 112.** Follow the instructions given by authorities.
- Stay informed of the evolution of the fire from official news outlets.
- If you have questions, ask your local council, rural agents, firefighters or the Girona, Provincial Council.
- For more information, watch the videos found by scanning this QR code.



Did you know that...

We can also help prevent forest fires by using local products that come from the rural economy?

Using biomass and charcoal, consuming wine and oil, or products that come from animals that graze in our forests helps to ensure efficient forestry management, and helps prepare it to withstand fires.