



DEFENSIBLE SPACE INSPECTOR SPECIALIST

(Non-Safety)

Definition:

Under general supervision, to perform defensible space maintenance-inspections in accordance with Public Resources Code §4291: Maintain a Defensible Space, Title 14 CRR §1299: Fire Hazard Reduction Around Buildings, conduct hazard assessments for at-risk parcels, recommend mitigation strategies, and to perform related work as assigned. The Defensible Space Inspector-Specialist assists homeowners to prioritize required and voluntary wildfire-mitigation efforts and assists neighborhood leaders, Association Boards, and CSA Directors to evaluate the effectiveness of common area wildfire-risk-reduction maintenance agreements. This position includes higher levels of wildfire mitigation required to “develop” missing defensible space and to recommend structural hardening and other factors that will transition our wildland-Urban Interface into a Fire Adapted Community. This is a temporary position, serving under the direction of the Deputy Fire Marshal.

Minimum Requirements:

- Must be at least 18 years of age.
- Provide proof of eligibility to work in the United States.
- Possess and maintain a valid California C Driver’s License.
- Possess a high school diploma, GED equivalency, or high school proficiency certificate.

Desirable Qualifications:

Five (5) years' experience as a qualified Engine Boss, Crew Boss, Task Force Leader, Strike Team Leader, Division Supervisor, or Structure Protection Specialist with deployment including responsibility for structure protection at wildfire incidents; or

Five (5) years' experience with public or private entities performing fire prevention, fire suppression and control, natural resources management, conservation, or a closely related field; in addition to qualification as a professional forester, or certification as a Wildfire Mitigation Specialist, and completion of S-290 Intermediate Wildland Fire Behavior, or equivalent certifications or wildfire structure protection experience.

Typical Duties:

- Defensible Space Inspections, Inspection Documentation, Report Writing, Records Management, and Training.
- Plan, schedule and conduct inspections of private property within the State Responsibility Area to ensure compliance with Public Resources Code §4291, and Title 14 CCR §1299.
- Implement the Defensible Space Inspection and Enforcement Plan while increasing community awareness, knowledge, and actions necessary to protect property and life from wildfire.
- Prioritize defensible space efforts by identifying parcels as a light hazard, ordinary hazard, extra hazard or target hazard.
- Conduct a structure defense size-up and an assessment of nearby Temporary Refuge Areas (TRA) and Safety Zones as defined by the Firescope Guidance – WUI Structure Defense-2013.
- Conduct an all-risk hazard-assessment for extra hazard and target hazard parcels and implements enforcement of the California Fire Safe Standards – Title 14 CCR §1276 (for parcels developed after 1990).
- Identify Hillside Homes as target hazards where steep slopes prevent safe access/egress from lower floors, as defined by the Firescope Guidance – ICS-501 Hillside Structure Fires-2017.
- Work with parcel owners to mitigate and to reduce wildfire hazards, including minimum defensible space requirements and promoting structural hardening in addition to maintaining a 5-foot noncombustible zone, where the structure is ignitable.

- Identify subdivisions with more than 30 residential development where there is only one egress and determines mitigating factors to reduce the extra hazard/target hazard wildfire risks, as defined by Public Resources Code §4290.5.
- Document needed corrections and notify the property owner with a written notice or letter. Schedules a re-inspection to clear violations or initiates enforcement actions, where the wildfire risks were not adequately reduced.
- Maintain orderly records and files, to document the corrective actions.

Ability to:

- Collect, compile and summarize varied information; consider alternatives and reach sound conclusions.
- Explain and apply regulations and procedures in varying situations.
- Review documents for completeness, accuracy, appropriate authorization and compliance with regulations and procedures.
- Prepare clear and accurate reports, correspondence, procedures and other written material.
- Represent the District in meetings with other entities.
- Organize and priorities work and meet critical deadlines.
- Maintain accurate records and files.
- Exercise sound judgement within established policies and procedures.
- Establish and maintain effective working relationships with those contacted in the course of work.

Knowledge of:

- Basic principles of public administration.
- Advanced principles of code enforcement and application of inspection and code enforcement references.
- Research and report preparation principles.
- Office administration practices and procedures, including records management and the operation of standard office equipment.
- Implementation of Microsoft Office 365 applications and cloud-based software.