



Conserving Water

Solutions for Your Landscape

UF UNIVERSITY of
FLORIDA
IFAS Extension

<http://gardeningsolutions.ifas.ufl.edu/water>

:60 Public Service Announcement

Firewise Landscaping

Wildfire is always a threat in Florida, especially during dry periods.

If you live in a wooded or rural area, firewise landscaping is the best way to reduce your wildfire risk. It'll take a few modifications to your landscape and a little maintenance, but it's worth it.

To help protect your home from fire, create what's called "defensible space" around it.

This means you should separate groups of plants with gravel, pathways, or a well-maintained and healthy lawn. Keep combustible items like wood piles, gas grills, and propane tanks at least thirty feet from your home, and clear away dead leaves and branches. Remove vines from trees, trim lower branches from your tall trees, and keep shrubbery away from pines.

Choosing certain plants can also help reduce your wildfire risk. Plants with thick, succulent leaves, like cacti, tend to take longer to ignite than plants with small, needle-like leaves, like pines. Check with your county Extension office to see if you're in a high-risk area.

This public service announcement is brought to you by Gardening in a Minute. For more information about drought, visit Gardening in a Minute dot com or contact your University of Florida IFAS county Extension office.

The Conserving Water: Solutions for Your Landscape campaign was developed by the Center for Landscape Conservation and Ecology.

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