Coast Live Oak (Quercus agrifolia)
Toyon (Heteromeles arbutifolia)
California Hawthorn (Crateagus insularis)

Large amounts of debris:
- Leaves that decompose easily and won’t produce
- Choose deciduous trees and vegetation with small
- The understory is the key element. Prune
- Be sure the branches do not overlap one another
- Material
- Keep the ground free of dry wood debris and dead

Zone 3 (100+ from a building)

Common Buckwheat (Eriogonum fasciculatum)
Mountain Mahogany (Cercocarpus betuloides)
Salvia sonomensis (Creeping sage)

Plant Suggestions:
- Plant vegetation that will be high in moisture, low in
- Ponderosa pine (P. ponderosa)
- Select plants under two feet (2') tall and grasses
- Substitute expensive ornamental grasses
- Incorporate the braze grass such as fescue, dill
- Incorporate other non-flammable materials

Zone 2 (within 30' -100' of a building)

Lupine (Lupinus albifrons v. californicus)
CA Wild Rose (Rosa californica)
Mass Verbena (Verbena canadensis)

Plant Suggestions:
- Need shrubs
- Planting near shrubs and to a minimum, especially
- Wood debris
- Wood shrubs
- Vegetation below wood shrubs: little in quantity, and
- Eliminate all combustible materials such as dried
- Place x evergreens
- Place x evergreens

Zone 1 (within 30' of a building)

Creating defensible space around your home

The Safe Zone

Plants provide some fire resistance but are not fireproof. They can help slow the spread of fire and form a barrier and reduce the amount of fuel available for the fire to spread.
How to design YOUR landscape with living fire in mind.

Fire in California is a natural process that plays a vital role even though it can be harmful and destructive. Here are some tips and guidelines on how to design your landscape to make it resilient against fire:

1. Hand-scaping with rocks and pathways allow for safe gaps.
2. Efficiently, regularly, and deeply watering your garden is key to ensuring plants don't dry out and become fuel.
3. When choosing plantings, make sure to consider fire-resistant, high moisture, low resin species. 
4. Group plantings and allow for space in between.
5. Drop fire indicators by ensuring trees are trimmed at least 10 feet from grade and have no under-storey of increased debris loads.
6. Intersperse high density trees and shrubs to thin the fire's path.
7. Here's how to do it when it comes to reduce the threat. Learn more occurrence, together we can.

This QR code with your smartphone (be sure your smart assistant is enabled) and instantly links to more ideas, plant lists, videos, and words of advice.

Ventura County
Resource Conservation District