I. DEFENSIBLE SPACE INSPECTIONS

A defensible space inspection is required for all projects requiring a Washoe County Building Permit. The following text must be included on the cover sheet, site plan, or defensible space plan:

Establish and maintain defensible space surrounding structures in accordance with the 2018 International Wildland Urban Interface Code (IWUIC) with amendments in NLTFPD Resolutions 18-1 and 18-2. A defensible space inspection is required to provide for safe separation between structures and wildland vegetation. All items noted during the inspection must be corrected prior to permit closeout. Contact an NLTFPD Inspector at (775) 833-8107 to schedule an appointment.

II. DEFENSIBLE SPACE PLANS

A defensible space plan is required for all projects requiring a Tahoe Regional Planning Agency (TRPA) permit. “Qualified Exempt” projects do not require a defensible space plan. Plans must be submitted to NLTFPD for pre-approval prior to submitting to TRPA and Washoe County. Refer to the NLTFPD Construction and Development Guide, along with other useful information to achieve compliance with defensible space, on the NLTFPD website under Fuels Management.

Defensible space plan specifications:
- Minimum 18” x 24” sheet size
- No greater than 2’ contour interval lines
- Indicate all current and proposed structures on the property
- Show all property boundaries
- Indicate scale
- North arrow required
- Show all trees and vegetation taller than 3 feet in height regardless of diameter
- Show all individual plant or brush fields 20 square feet or larger in area
- Show all tree drip lines
- Show all roads (public or private) and driveways in and abutting the property

Provide a scope of work letter and contact name and phone number. Complex projects or those requiring a site visit may require additional time for review. Reviews of projects with snow covered property may not be possible until later in the season.