Ember Awareness Checklist

1. ***Roofs***
   Replace wood shake and shingle roofs with fire-resistant types such as composition, metal and tile.

2. ***Roof Openings***
   Plug openings in roof coverings, such as the open ends of barrel tiles, with non-combustible materials.

3. ***Roof Debris***
   Remove plant debris, such as pine needles, leaves, branches and bark, from the roof.

4. ***Skylights***
   Replace plastic skylights with types constructed of double-pane glass. One of the panes should be tempered glass. Close skylights if wildfire is threatening.

5. ***Spark Arrester***
   Install an approved spark arrester on chimneys.

This house was ignited by burning embers landing on vulnerable spots. Notice the adjacent forest is not burning.

6. ***Windows***
   Replace single-pane, non-tempered glass windows with multiple-pane, tempered-glass types. Close all windows if wildfire is threatening.

7. ***Vents***
   Cover attic, eave and foundation vents with 1/8-inch wire mesh or install new vent types designed to prevent ember entry. If wildfire is threatening, consider covering vent openings with pre-cut plywood or aluminum foil folded several layers thick and stapled.

8. ***Rain Gutters***
   Keep rain gutters free of plant debris during fire season. Consider using rain gutter covers to reduce maintenance.

9. ***Siding and Trim***
   Fill gaps in siding and trim materials with a good quality caulk and replace building materials in poor condition.

10. ***Woodpiles***
    Move firewood stacks and scrap lumber piles at least 30 feet from the house or other buildings.

11. ***Patio Furniture***
    Place combustible patio furniture, such as lounge chairs, tables and hammocks, inside the house or garage if wildfire is threatening.

12. ***Decks***
    Replace any weathered or decayed materials, as well as deck boards that are less than one inch thick, with thicker boards in good condition. Use metal flashing between the deck and the house. Routinely remove plant debris from the gaps between deck boards, the gap between the deck and the house, and lying on top of the deck. Remove plant debris, woodpiles and other easily ignited materials from under decks. Consider enclosing the open sides of the deck with ignition-resistant siding materials that are properly vented or 1/8-inch wire mesh to reduce maintenance, the amount of windblown debris and deter ember entry. Do not use wooden lattice to enclose decks.

13. ***Porch and Deck Accessories***
    Remove combustible materials from the porch and deck if wildfire is threatening. This includes newspapers, wicker baskets, door mats, pine cones and dried flower arrangements. Move barbecues with small propane tanks into the garage. Place larger tanks that are 5 gallons or more away from the house where they can safely vent.

14. ***Flowerboxes***
    Remove wooden flowerboxes from beneath windows if wildfire is threatening.

15. ***Eaves***
    Cover open eaves with sheathing, such as plywood or fiber-cement board. Use tongue and groove joints or other intricate joint types and do not use butt joints.

16. ***Flowerbeds***
    Replace wood mulches with noncombustible types and remove plant debris, including dried grass and flowers, dead leaves and dead branches from flowerbeds next to the house, other buildings and next to wooden fences. Replace ornamental junipers with low-growing deciduous shrubs or flowers under irrigation.

17. ***Vehicles***
    Close vehicle windows. Back into the garage and close the garage door or park away from the house.

18. ***Garage Door***
    Adjust garage doors to achieve as tight a fit as possible with the door frame. Consider using trim around the garage door opening to reduce the size of the gaps. Close the garage door if wildfire is threatening.

19. ***Garbage Cans and Recycling Bins***
    Use metal garbage cans covered with tight fitting lids near the house or other buildings. Move newspaper recycling bins indoors.

20. ***Fences***
    Maintain wooden fences in good condition and create a noncombustible fence section or gate next to the house for at least five feet.