



Shelter in Yard Tips and Tasks: Borders and Hedges



Borders and hedges brighten a patio wall or define a walkway or separate driveways from yards. They are also like a candle wick for wildfire. The collection of dead plant material underneath and inside the shrub becomes tinder that catches fire easily and can quickly spread fire along the length of the hedge right up to your structure.

Dead leaves and branches should be removed from the interior of each plant and all that has fallen underneath. Imagine sparks from a campfire popping out and landing on your border, would it catch fire?

Consider trimming border plants in a bonsai style instead of growing wild or trimmed like a box hedge. This lets you easily get in and around them for maintenance and reduces the overall amount of plant material while still preserving the flowers and greenery look. The key to preventing your shrubs from dying out in the center is to keep the interiors open to sunlight and air circulation.



For more resources, visit our [Shelter in Yard](#) page on the [Santa Clara Council FireSafe Council](#) website.

**SAVE
THE
DATE**



Saturday, May 2, 2020
WILDFIRE
**COMMUNITY
PREPAREDNESS DAY**

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