



Shelter in Yard Tips and Tasks:

Prepping for Chipping



Once you've taken the necessary steps to protect your property from hazardous brush, you are often left with large piles of dry vegetation, which can themselves become a fire hazard. The SCCFSC offers a [Chipping Program](#) designed to assist residents and communities in their efforts to create and maintain adequate and safe defensible space by processing or disposing vegetative material such as brush and tree branches.



Once all your bushes and trees are cut back and thinned out, it's time to prep them to be chipped. To make our Chipping Program successful, we ask that you help with the prep work to make the process as seamless as possible. Below are some helpful tips for our Chipping Program.



- Piles must be hand stacked
- Piles must be less than 4 feet in height.
- Limbs must be under 8 inches thick.
- Cut ends must face the same direction and point out towards chipper.
- Piles must be located on the uphill side of the road or driveway.



- No timber harvest debris, vineyard or orchard waste.
- No poison oak, ivy, or blackberry vines.
- No broom or acacia with seed pods, or other invasive plant materials.
- No piles of leaves, pine needles or yard clippings. Only woody brush/branches.
- No painted, preserved, or finished lumber, trash.
- No metal, wire, rebar, etc.
- No palm fronds, roots, stumps, rocks or mud.



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