

Village of Angel Fire

Fire Department

P.O. Box 610

Angel Fire, New Mexico 87710



REVISED FUEL MODIFICATION ORDINANCE (ORD; 9-7-13) FACT SHEET

On May 14, 2019, the Village of Angel Fire Mayor and Council approved the revisions to ordinance 9-7-13, also known as the Fuel Modification Ordinance. The vote was 3-1. These revisions will accomplish three things; the new ordinance is not as cost-prohibitive, it includes vacant lots, and it still accomplishes the goal of defensible space.

Below are the core requirements of the revised ordinance;

ZONE 1, 0-10 feet from any structure;

- Remove all pine needles and flammable ground materials within two feet (2') of the base of the structure during times of high fire danger
- Minimum of 10-12' between stems of trees less <12" DBH.
- Firewood: up to 1 cord may be stacked on your deck for immediate use during the cold weather months; storage of firewood less than 2 cords shall be no closer than 10' from any structure
- Remove all ladder fuels up to 6'
- Prune trees extending over eave of roof or 25%, whichever is less
- Remove branches within 10' of chimney
- Remove all Dead/Down trees/vegetation
- Keep roofs and gutters free of dead leaves and pine needles

ZONE 2, 10-60 feet from any structure;

- Minimum of 10-12' between stems of trees <12" DBH.
- Remove all ladder fuels up to 6'
- Remove all Dead/Down trees/vegetation
- Firewood: storage of firewood greater than 2 cords shall be no closer than 30' to a structure

ZONE 3, 60-100 feet from any structure;

- Remove all standing dead trees/vegetation

ZONE 4, 100+ feet from any structure;

- No more than three snags (greater than 12" DBH and 30' in height per acre beyond the initial 100') for wildlife habitat, and are no closer than 100' to any neighboring structures

Vacant Lot requirements (condensed);

- Vacant Lot: Requirements: vacant lots, a lot without any structure, shall be maintained free of dead vegetation; shrubs beneath trees shall be no greater than three feet (3') in height; ladder fuels shall be removed (up to 6' from ground); and all dead/down trees shall be removed, except lots greater than or equal to one acre are granted an allowance up to 3 snags (greater than 12" DBH and 30' in height per acre) for wildlife habitat.

Please see the Ordinance for other recommendations and the implantation time-frame based upon the amount of property you own or feel free to stop by Fire Station 1 with any questions.

John Murtagh
Chief of Fire/EMS
jmurtagh@angelfirenm.gov

575-377-3347 (Station)
575-377-6098 (Fax)