APPENDIX B

HIGHLY FLAMMABLE PLANTS and FIRE-RESISTANT PLANTS

This list is intended to provide examples of highly flammable and fire-resistant plants. It is not all-inclusive. Particular care must be exercised in the planting or retention of highly flammable plants in landscaping on the Ridge at Eagle Crest.

HIGHLY FLAMMABLE PLANTS

Highly flammable plants pose a particular hazard to your home in a wildfire. In general, they must not be planted and should not be retained within 15 ft of your home, decks, and enclosures as well as within 10 ft of the side property line. Highly flammable shrubs should never be planted or retained within the drip line of a highly flammable tree. Highly flammable plants generally have the following characteristics:

- Sap that is gummy, resinous, and has a strong odor
- Contains fine dry or dead material within the plant
- Leaves, needles, twigs, and stems that contain volatile waxes or oils
- Leaves that are aromatic or emit a strong odor when crushed
- Have loose or papery bark

This list is intended to provide examples of highly flammable plants. It is not all-inclusive.

Trees:

Acacia	(Acacia sp.)
Arborvitae	(Thuja sp.)
Cedar	(Cedrus sp.)
Cedar/Cypress	(Chamaecyparis sp.)
Cypress	(Cupressus sp.)
Douglas fir	(Pseudotsuga menziesi)
Fir	(Abies sp.)
Dwarf Alpine Fir	(Abies lasiocarpa “compacta”)
Hemlock	(Tsuga sp.)
Juniper	(Juniperus sp.)
Western Juniper	(Juniperus occidentalis)
Pine	(Pinus sp.)
Austrian Pine	(Pinus nigra)
Bosnian	(Pinus heldreichii)
Bristlecone	(Pinus aristate)
Limber	(Pinus flexilis ‘Vanderwolf’)
Mhugo pine	(Pinus mhugo mugus)
Murryanna Pine	(Pinus contorta murryanna)
Lodgepole Pine	(Pinus Contorta)
Ponderosa Pine	(Pinus ponderosa)
White Pine, Eastern	(Pinus strobus)
White Pine, Japanese	(Pinus parviflora)
White Pine, Western	(Pinus monticola)
Sequoia	(Sequoia sp.)
Spruce	(Picea sp.) Spruce varieties
Western Larch	(Larix occidentalis)
Yew	(Taxus sp.)

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Shrubs:

Antelope Bitterbrush	(Purshia tridentate)
Big Sagebrush	(Artemesia tridentate)
Blackberry	(Rubus armeniacus)
Broom, Scotch and Lydia	(Cytisus scoparius) and (*Genista lydia*)
Gray/Green Rabbitbrush	(Chrysothamnus nauseosus/viscidiflorus)
Juniper	(Juniperus sp.)
Juniper shrubs	(Juniperus sp.) Juniper species
Laurel sumac	(Malosma laurina)
Manzanita	(Arctostaphylos sp.)
Mhugo pine	(Pinus mhugo mugus)
Prairie Sage	(Artemesia ludoviciana)
Rosemary *	(Rosmarinus sp.) *except for 'Prostratus'
Sagebrush	(Artemisia sp.)
Scotch broom	(Cytisus scoparius)
Scrub oak	(Quercus sp.)
Spruce varieties	(Picea sp.) Spruce varieties
Wild Lilac	(Ceanothus sp.)

Grasses: Any grasses that become dry or withered should be removed from beneath highly flammable trees or shrubs or trimmed to a height less than four inches.

Grasses and Ground Cover

- Dry annual grasses
- Large bark mulch
- Pampas grass (Cortaderia selloana)

FIRE-RESISTANT PLANTS

This list is NOT all-inclusive as other plants with similar characteristic, such as: low moisture, dry limbs and needles and abundant oils are potentially hazardous. Plant smart and use fire-resistant vegetation to create defensible space around all structures.

Fire-resistant plants are those that do not readily ignite from a flame or other ignition source. These plants can be damaged or even killed by fire; however, their foliage and stems do not significantly contribute to the fire's fuel and, therefore, a fire's intensity. There are several other significant factors that influence the fire characteristics of plants, including plant moisture content, age, total volume, dead material, and chemical content. Plants that especially are fire-resistant, when placed appropriately, may even serve to shield your home from the radiant heat of an approaching fire. Most deciduous trees and shrubs are fire-resistant.

Note: Fire-resistance of perennials and grasses depends on watering and seasonal factors. If grasses or perennials become dry, trim back if under or adjacent to highly flammable trees, shrubs or structures.

Remember, there are NO fire-proof plants, but some are more fire-resistant that others. Fire-resistant plants have the following characteristics:

- Are less flammable and likely to ignite in a wildfire,
- Have high moisture content, succulent plants,
- Leaves are moist and supple,
- Are low growing or a small species,
- Have stems or leaves that are not resinous, oily or waxy. Low in sap or resin materials,
- Sap that is water-like and does not have a strong odor,
- Easy to maintain and prune,
- Have less accumulated debris and fewer dead branches. Dry, dead material does not tend to accumulate within the plant,
- Have an open, loose branching pattern,
- Are drought resistant, requiring less irrigation,
- Burn less intensely when ignited and spread the fire slower.

For photographs and additional information on fire-resistant plants see **"Fire-Resistant Plants for Home Landscapes: Selecting plants that may reduce your risk from wildfire"**, 2006, Oregon State University Extension Service. A link to this publication can be found on the Ridge Owners website at www.ridgeowners.org. After signing onto the website as an Owner, go to Association Info, then Committees and finally Ridge Community Wildfire Protection. See Wildfire Protection Resource Information and look in the list for this publication.
The online guide is also available at; https://extension.oregonstate.edu/catalog/pub/pnw-590-fire-resistant-plants-home-landscapes

Another OSU publication, **EM 9136, "Water-wise Gardening in Central Oregon"** does provide photographs and additional information on fire-resistant plants. https://catalog.extension.oregonstate.edu/em9136