

VOLCANO CERT

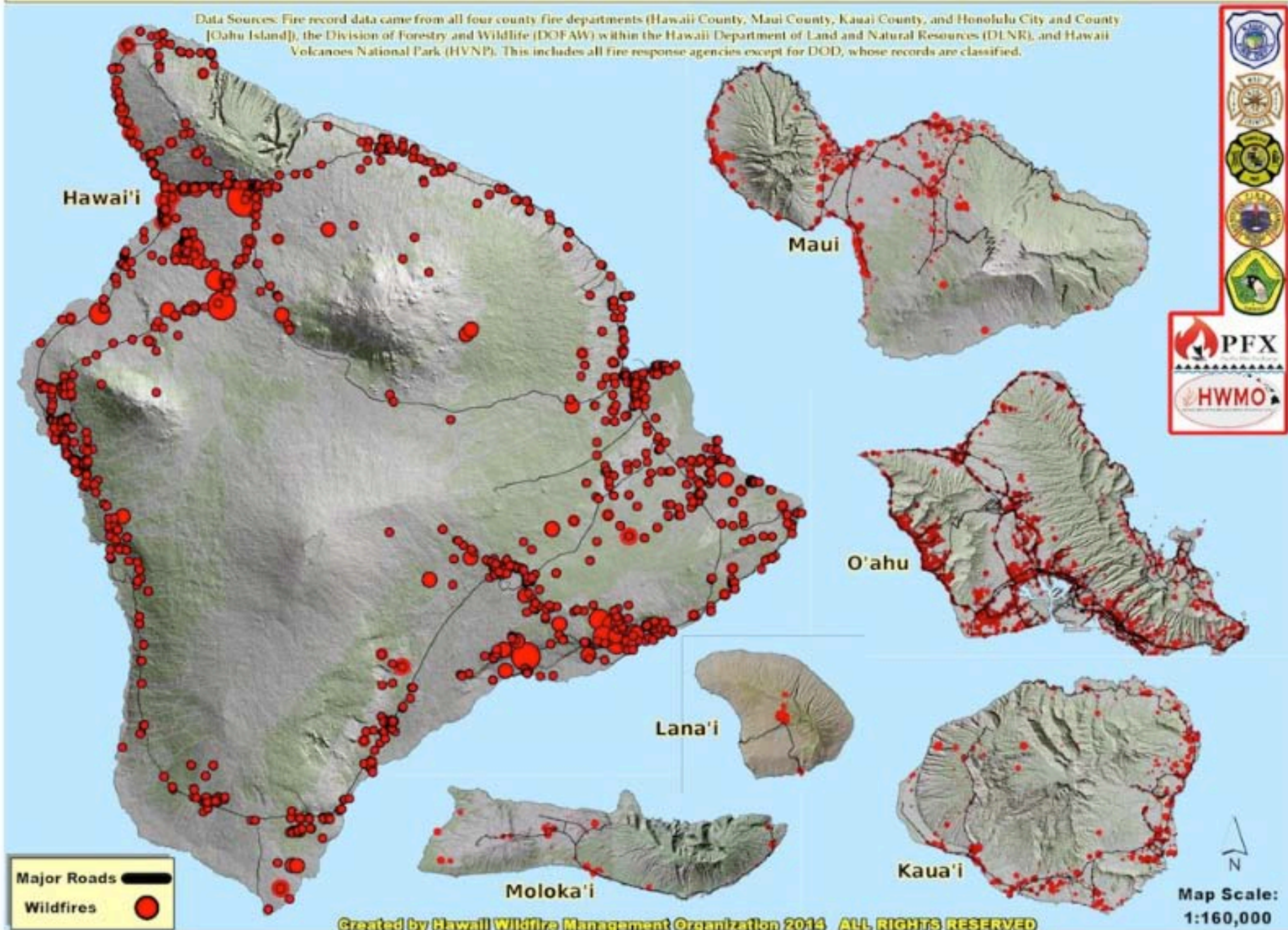
Wildland Fire Refresher

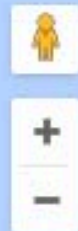
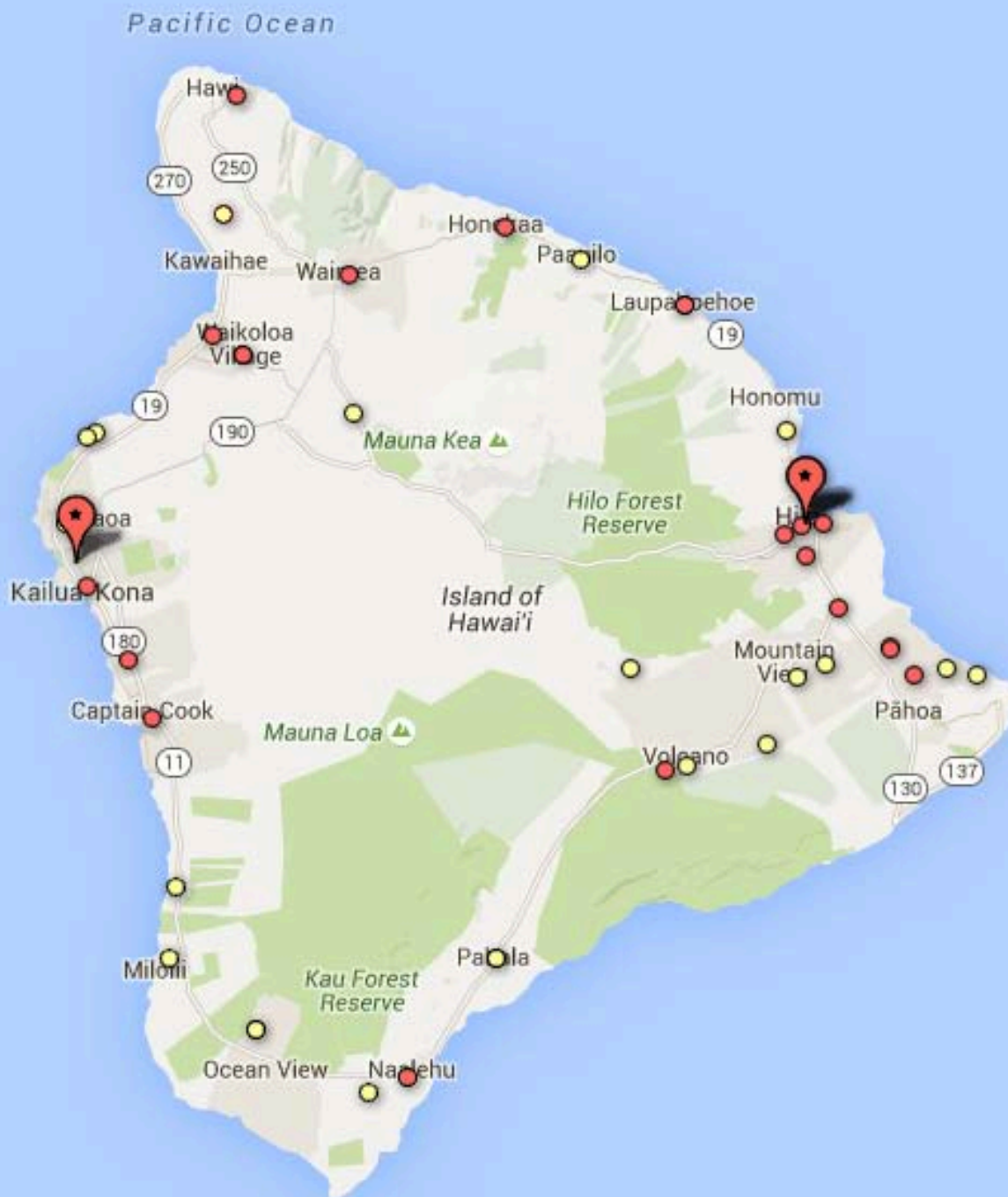
DID YOU KNOW?

- Studies have shown that as many as 80% of homes lost to wildfire could have been saved if their owners had only followed a few simple fire-safe practices
 - Wildland fire related deaths occur when people wait too long to leave their home
 - In a major wildfire event, there will not be enough resources or firefighters to protect every home
 - Traditionally, Hawaiian ecosystems existed with a very limited presence of wildland fire
 - 18% of state land is covered by non-native grassland
 - From 2002-2011, Hawaii experienced 900 wildland fire ignitions per year, 17,000 acres burned per year
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Wildfire Incidents for the 6 Main Hawaiian Islands

Data Sources: Fire record data came from all four county fire departments (Hawaii County, Maui County, Kauai County, and Honolulu City and County [Oahu Island]), the Division of Forestry and Wildlife (DOFAW) within the Hawaii Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR), and Hawaii Volcanoes National Park (HVNPI). This includes all fire response agencies except for DOD, whose records are classified.

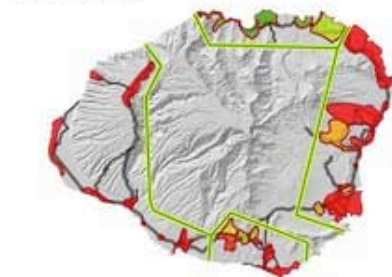




PREVENTING WILDFIRE

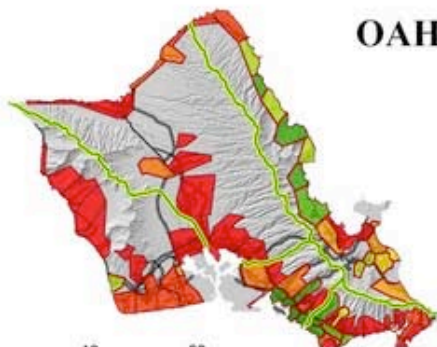
- Clear vegetation 10 feet around campfires and BBQs, keep a shovel and water nearby and put the out COLD before walking away
- Be sure machinery (chainsaws, weed whips) and recreational vehicles have operating spark arrestors and are maintained regularly
- Heat from vehicle exhaust systems can ignite dry grass – park cars on areas that are paved or areas where vegetation is trimmed and cleared
- Cover chimney and stove vent pipes with ¼ inch non-flammable mesh
- Fireworks start fires in grassy areas, attend public fireworks displays
- Be extra vigilant when windy or when in drought

KAUAI



0 10 20
Miles

OAHU



0 10 20
Miles

COMMUNITIES AT RISK FROM WILDFIRES State of Hawaii

— Fire Risk Community Zoning

Community Fire Risk Rating



LOW RISK

HIGH RISK



Map created by M. Warner, 12/17/13, NAD 83 UTM Zone 45N

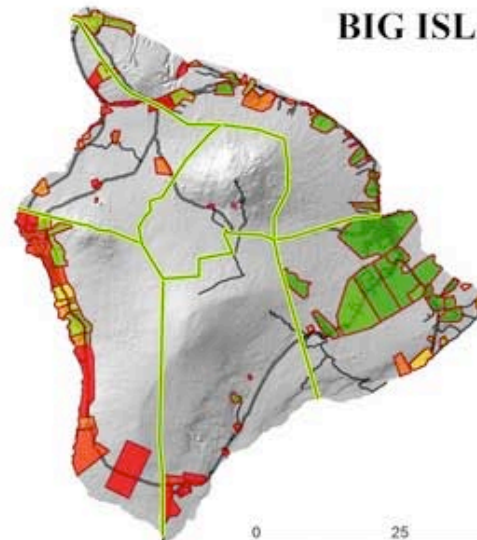
This publication made possible through a grant from the USDA Forest Service.
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MAUI NUI



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BIG ISLAND

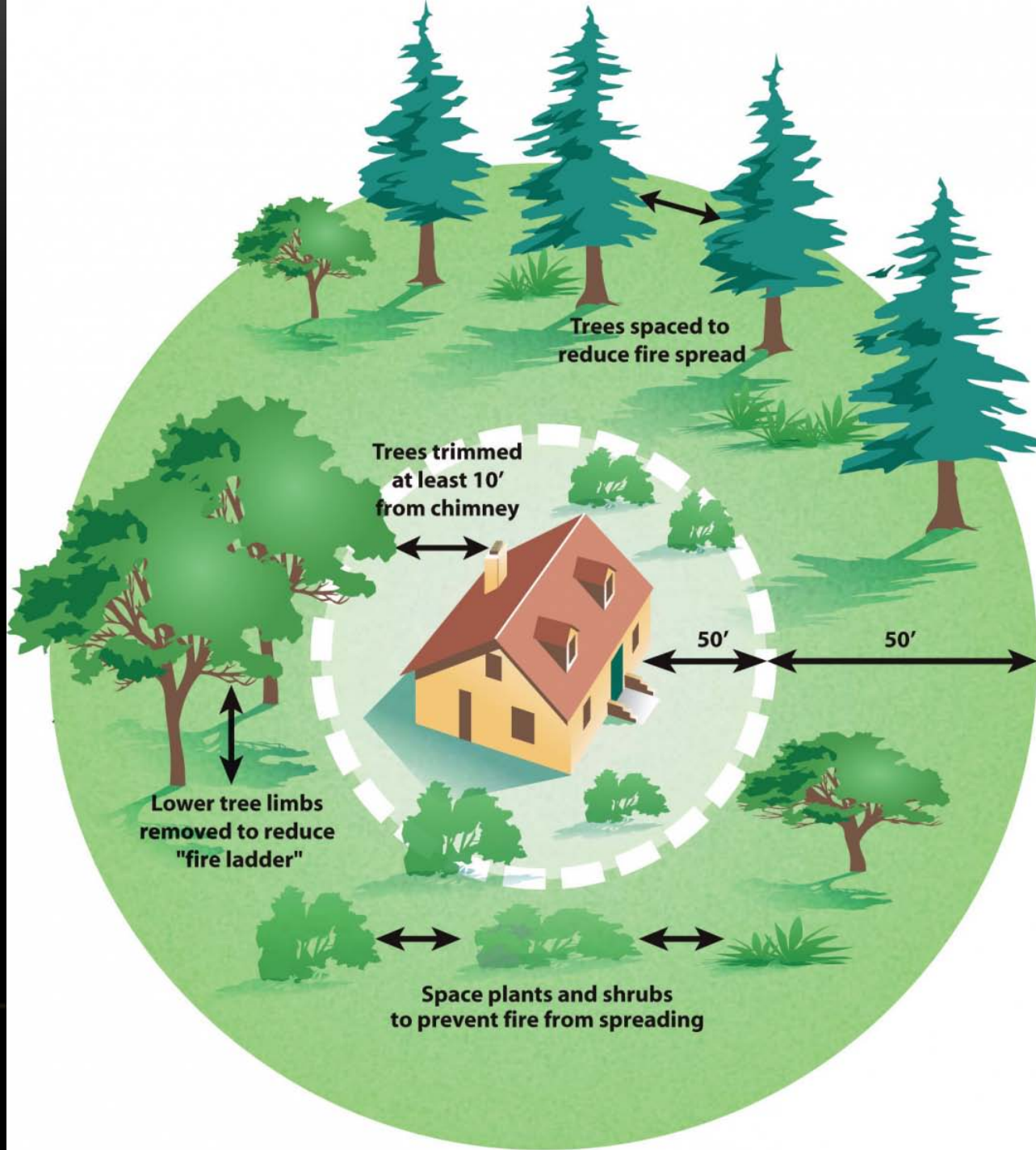


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EL NIÑO CONSIDERATIONS

- Dry conditions significantly affect wildfire conditions in Hawaii
- Wildfires are a frequent, year-round hazard across Hawaii
- Nearly all wildfires are started by people
- Drought during past El Niños has led to some of Hawaii's largest wildfires on both windward and leeward sides.



DEFENSIBLE SPACE – ZONE 1 – 0-30 FT.

- Remove all dead or dying vegetation
- Remove “ladder fuels” (low-level vegetation that allows the fire to spread from the ground to the tree canopy). Create at least 6 feet of separation between low-level vegetation and tree branches. This can be done by reducing the height of low-level vegetation and/or trimming low tree branches
- Maintain 6 inches from siding to ground
- Create “fire-free” area within 5 feet of home, using non-flammable landscaping materials and/or high-moisture content, drought-resistant vegetation
- Trim tree canopies regularly to keep their branches a minimum of 10 feet from structures and other trees

DEFENSIBLE SPACE – ZONE 1 – 0-30 FT. – CONT.

- Remove leaf litter (dry leaves) from yard, roof and rain gutters
- Cover eaves and vents with 1/8 inch mesh
- Relocate woodpiles or other combustible materials into Zone Two
- Remove combustible material and vegetation from around and under decks, lanai, or the entire house if foundation is post-and-pier
- Use non-combustible fencing material
- Remove or prune vegetation near windows

DEFENSIBLE SPACE – ZONE 2 – 30-100 FT.

- Remove “ladder fuels”
- Cut or mow annual grass down to a maximum height of 4 inches
- Trim tree canopies regularly to keep their branches a minimum of 10 feet from other trees/cluster of trees
- * For larger properties, consider areas outside of Zone Two as a third zone to address. Continue reducing ladder fuels, managing fuels, hardening structures, and properly storing combustible materials

IF YOUR HOME IS IN THE FIRE PATH

- Dress appropriately
 - Turn off propane at the tank
 - Coil and charge garden hoses, fill buckets with water
 - Back car into driveway, shut doors and close windows
 - Have a ladder available
 - Seal attic and ground vents if possible
 - Close house doors and windows, leave unlocked
 - Remove flammable curtains and shades
 - Move flammable furniture away from windows and doors
 - Fill bathtub and sinks with water
 - Leave interior and exterior lights on
-

ACTIONS TO TAKE TODAY

- Weed around the property regularly, especially areas that a lawn mower is not appropriate for (tall dry grasses, rocky terrain, etc.)
- Remove leaf litter and other debris that accumulate around the building, under vegetation, and other collection areas.
- Remove leaf litter, straw and other debris from under and around propane tanks to create 10 feet of clearance around it.
- Eliminate ladder fuels by pruning tree branches on trees around the property to within at least 6 feet of the ground, using a bypass lopper (seen above), pruner saw, or long reach/hand pruner.
- Remove flammable materials from underneath the house, decks, porches, and lanai. Common flammables include scrap-wood, firewood, and combustible furniture.
- Mow the lawn regularly to keep grasses shorter than 4 inches tall around the home. Do not mow in the heat of the day or when the wind is blowing. Never mow in dry vegetation.

PLAN AHEAD

- Create and practice a family evacuation plan - include assisting neighbors with special needs in your plan
- Make sure your address is visible and that access roads for fire vehicles allow for clearance, two way traffic and a turn around
- Trim overhead road clearance to a minimum of 13.5 feet
- Ensure gates open inward and are wide enough for fire equipment
- Make sure fire vehicles and personnel can defend you home from all sides
- Make sure hydrants, pools and water tanks are accessible

RESOURCES

- Hawaii Wildfire Management Organization (HWMO) - <http://www.hawaiiwildfire.org>
- Firewise - <http://firewise.org>
- Facebook Firewise - <https://www.facebook.com/firewisecommunitieshawaii>

QUESTIONS OR OTHER COMMENTS?