**Zone Zero (0-5 feet) Ember Resistant Zone**

**Draft Purpose** *(still needing committee editing):*

* Zone Zero reduces the likelihood of structure ignition by reducing the potential for direct ignition of the structure from flame contact, by embers that accumulate at the base of a wall, and/or indirect ignitions when embers ignite vegetation, vegetative debris or other combustible materials located close to the structure that result in either a radiant heat and/or a direct flame contact exposure to the structure.
* Zone Zero is the horizontal area within the first five feet around the structure and any outbuildings and attached decks, and stairs. The zone also includes the area under attached decks and stair landings. To be most effective, must incorporate a 6-inch vertical area between the ground and the start of the building’s exterior siding. The Office of the State Fire Marshal is the regulatory authority for this vertical zone since this zone would be part of the built environment. (*Note: the appropriate vertical height would be dependent on whether combustibles are retained in Zone 0 and coupled with Chapter 7A requirements. The workgroup would like to talk about this more.*)
* This Zone is the highest priority zone for structure defense.

| **Proposed Action** | **Allowable Item in Zone Zero** |
| --- | --- |
| No combustibles (vegetation, mulch, wooden structures) and no trees (define tree dbh).  Includes stored wood. | * Rock or other noncombustible mulch product (i.e., gravel, lava, decomposed granite) * Statuary, fountain * Attached decks and stairs * Pavers |

| **Items the workgroup will analyze and provide guidance** | **Notes** |
| --- | --- |
| Mature tree (need to define, 10 inches dbh?) |  |
| Irrigated and mowed lawn |  |
| Synthetic lawn |  |
| Irrigated non-woody, herbaceous plantings, with separation between groupings. |  |
| Combustible decorative structures (trellis, pergola, shade covering, planters, etc.) |  |
| Combustible gate that attaches a fence to the building within Zone Zero. |  |
| Combustible fence running parallel to the building within Zone Zero. |  |
| Garbage, recycling, compost receptacles |  |
| Vehicles |  |
| Storage facilities (sheds, firewood, tools, pump house, etc.) |  |