



MULCH INFORMATION

UC Master Gardeners of Marin County [Applying Mulch](#)

UC Master Gardeners of Sonoma County

Fire Safety and mulch application:

All organic mulches are flammable. So, no organic material mulches should be used in Zone Zero - 0-5 foot zone around any buildings. The following recommendations are for the zones beyond that area.

A UNR/UC mulch flammability study found that composted wood chips and Tahoe chips (a by-product of Lake Tahoe Basin chipping operations consisting of pine needles, wood chips, bark and other plant biomass), demonstrated the least hazardous fire behavior based on the factors measured in this evaluation. There doesn't appear to be consistency in the landscape supply industry on mulch composting standards.

When purchasing mulch, our recommendation is to choose larger chip sizes, and to apply them in your landscape to a maximum depth of 3". Do not use any organic material mulches in the 0-5 foot zone around your buildings.

CalFire firewise landscape [fire safe landscape](#)

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