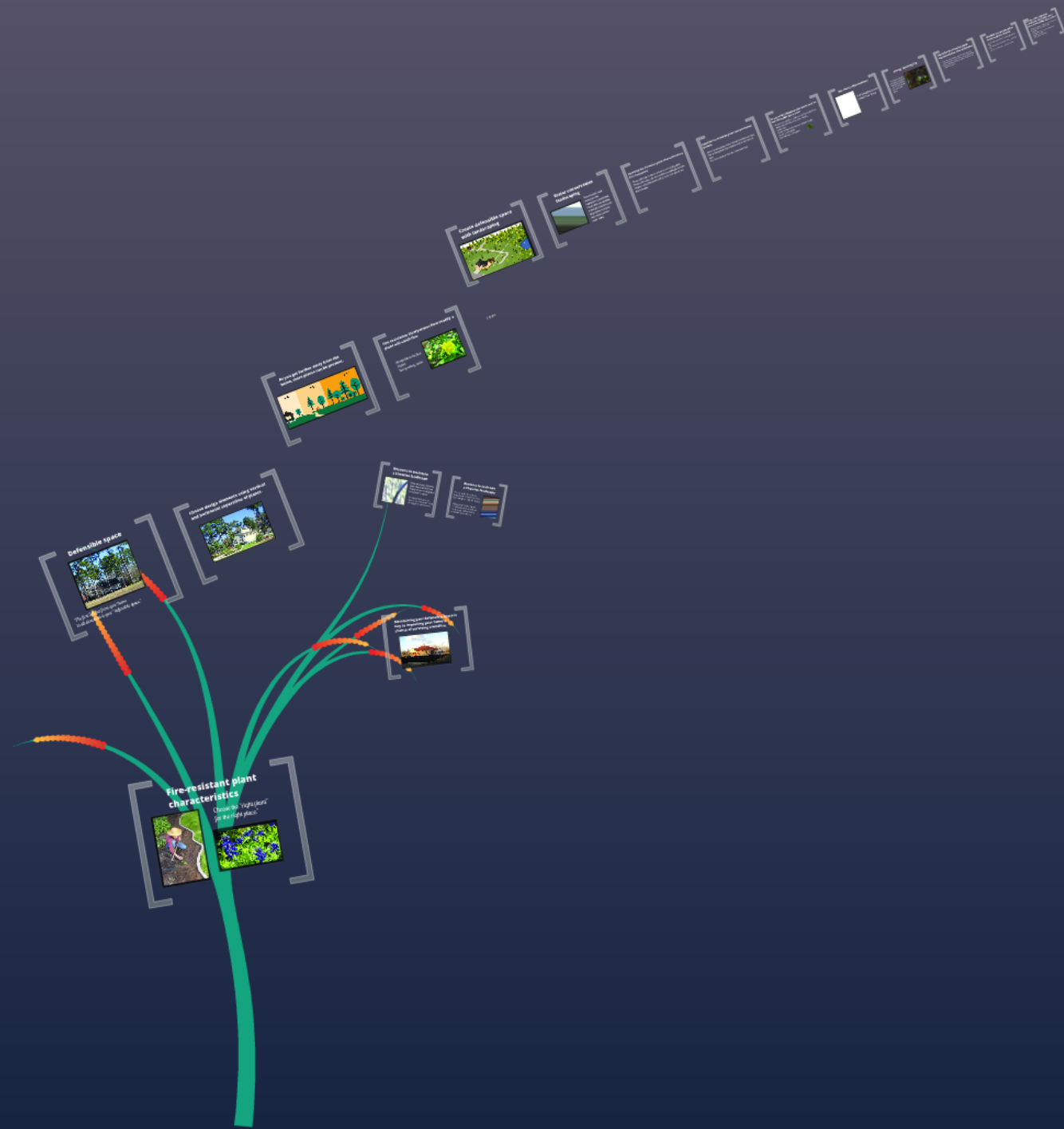
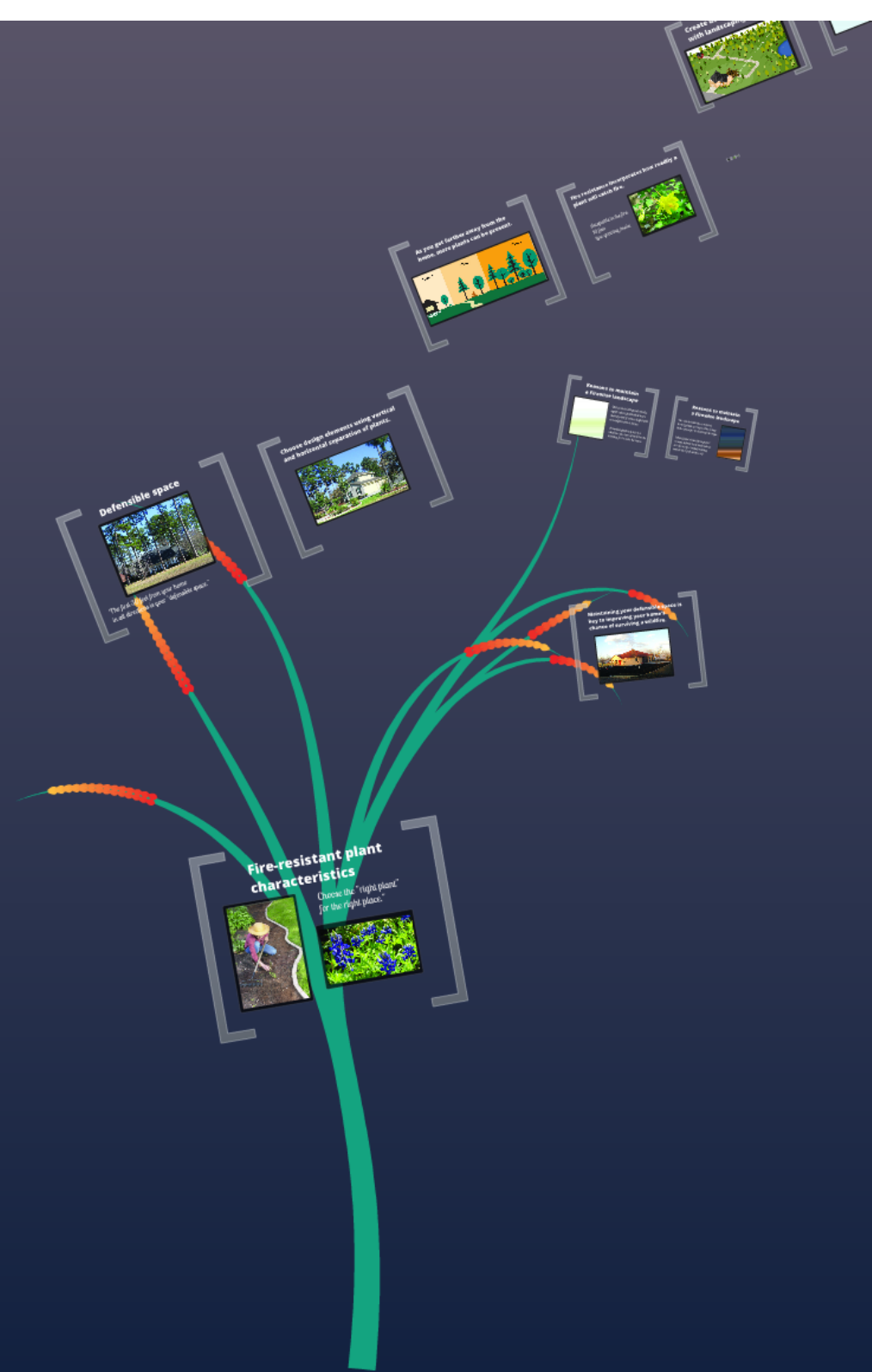


Firewise landscaping



Firewise landscaping



TEXAS
FOREST SERVICE
The Texas A&M University System

Fire-resistant plant characteristics

Choose the "right plant" for the right place."



Defensible space



The first 30 feet from your home in all directions is your "defensible space."

Maintaining your defensible space is key to improving your home's chance of surviving a wildfire.



Reasons to maintain a Firewise landscape



Decks and siding can easily ignite when plants that burn quickly and produce high heat are adjacent to a home.

A burning plant in front of a window can cause glass to break, allowing fire to enter the home.

Reasons to maintain a Firewise landscape

Fire can get into the crowns of trees if plants are layered in a way that causes fire to climb into treetops.

When flames burn through tree crowns, intense heat and embers are given off, causing burning materials to fall on the roof.



Choose design elements using vertical and horizontal separation of plants.



As you get farther away from the home, more plants can be present.



Fire resistance incorporates how readily a plant will catch fire.

*Acceptable in the first
10 feet:
Low growing/moist*



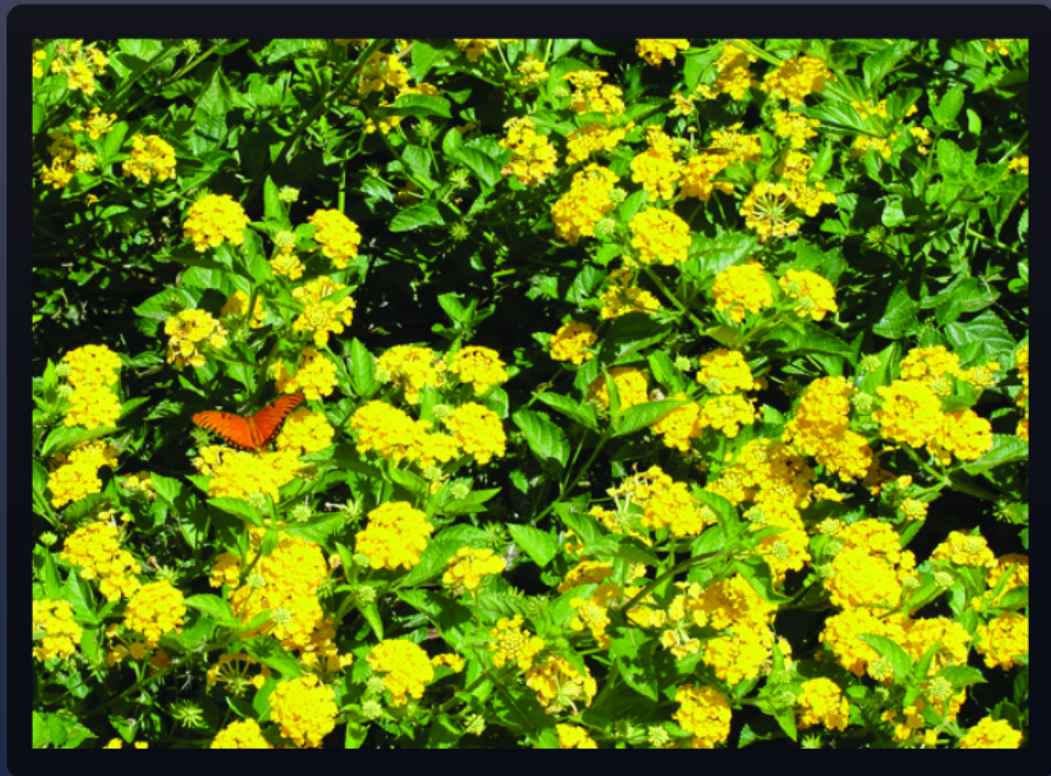
Plants that do not readily ignite and can withstand high temperatures are best.



*Acceptable within
10 to 30 feet:
Taller plants*

A dense, compacted plant contains more fuel than light-structured and open branch species.

*Acceptable 30 feet
and beyond:
Shrubs*



Create defensible space with landscaping

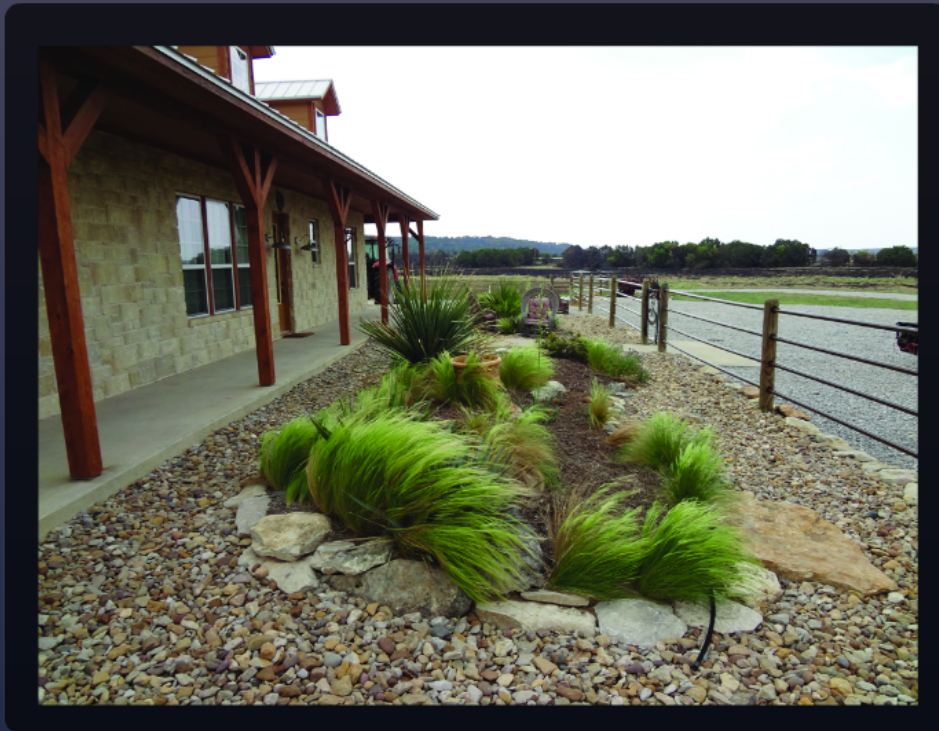


Wildlife landscaping

By limiting the amount of open space (lawn) and using native plants, natural habitats are encouraged, requiring less maintenance.



Water conservation landscaping



Uses minimal water resources once vegetation is established. Plants that are adapted to specific conditions can be grouped in islands that require similar water needs.

Energy landscaping

Place trees and shrubs strategically around the home to reduce energy use. Trees and shrubs are used as wind breaks.



Checklist for Firewise plant characteristics: Fire resistance

- *Plants with high moisture content do not readily ignite.*
- *Plants with resins, oils and volatiles are highly flammable.*
- *Highly combustible plants will produce a lot of heat and longer flame lengths.*

Checklist for Firewise plant characteristics: Growth

- Slower growing plants reduce the amount of maintenance time.
- Low-growing plants help maintain vertical separation of fuels.
- Less dense plants produce less material to burn.

Do any of the following conditions exist inside your 30-foot defensible space zone?

- Overgrown vegetation - continuous and close to the house
- Plants adjacent to deck, porch or siding
- Ladder fuels
- Dead vegetation such as leaves and pine needles
- Large trees and plants
- Dry, tall grass or dry plants

For more information:

The screenshot displays the Texas Firewise website interface. At the top, there is a navigation menu with links for HOME, ABOUT TFS, NEWSROOM, EMPLOYMENT, CONTACT US, LANDOWNERS, and SEARCH. Below this is a header for 'FOREST RESOURCE PROTECTION' and a sub-header for 'MITIGATION'. The main content area is titled 'Wildfire Preparedness' and includes a large image of a house with smoke rising from the yard. Below the image is a caption: 'The Wildland Urban Interface and Fire Prevention Program supports and empowers the citizens of Texas in their efforts to protect lives, homes, communities and related natural resources from wildfire.' To the left of the main content is a sidebar menu with categories like 'PREDICTIVE SERVICES', 'DIVISIONS', and 'TOOLS'. Below the main content, there are four smaller images with titles: 'Prevent Wildfires', 'Protect your community', 'Protect your home', and 'Protect your wildlands'. At the bottom of the page, there is a paragraph: 'With more Texans now living in the Wildland Urban Interface, we want to ensure residents have the best products at their fingertips to prepare for the threat of wildfire.'

Visit texasfirewise.com
Protect Your Home