

Community Planning Tool for Wildfires

In the Neighborhood

- Develop a neighborhood emergency plan that includes a notification and alert system, a carpool plan, and the identification of neighbors with special needs.
- Practice at least two escape routes from your home/neighborhood by car and by foot (remember that evacuation by foot can be extremely hazardous).
- Identify zones in your neighborhood, such as schoolyards, which are safe from wildfire. These open areas can serve as a default evacuation center if roads are blocked and escape from the neighborhood is not possible.
- Prune street trees to allow passage of emergency vehicles.

In Your Home

- Develop a family evacuation plan.
- Prepare a small “grab and go” kit of essentials that you may need, such as cash, personal items, and medicines—plus items you may need for the care and transportation of pets.
- Use non-combustible siding and roofing materials.
- Enclose eaves with non-combustible materials.
- Do not place attic vents under the eaves or overhangs.
- Wrap decks with non-combustible siding.
- Screen foundation vents and locate them as close to grade as practical.
- Keep gutters & roof free of leaves, fir needles, or debris (firebrands can travel on air currents for up to a half-mile).
- Store firewood, picnic tables, recreational vehicles, and other burnable items away from buildings.
- Be mindful when cooking outdoors.
- Avoid using fireworks near vegetated areas. Do not purchase or use illegal fireworks!

After a Fire Starts

- Implement your family evacuation plan.
- Implement your neighborhood emergency plan.
- Keep roads clear for emergency vehicle access.
- If you are positive you have enough time:
 - Close all windows and doors.
 - Remove lightweight curtains and drapes from your windows; they may catch fire from the radiant heat of an approaching wildfire.
 - Shut off natural gas at the home meter.

Notes: