

Creating a Wildfire Action Plan

Creating a Wildfire Action Plan is essential to being prepared, and all members of your household should be familiar with it well in advance of a wildfire. Each family's plan will be different, depending on their unique needs and situation. Here are some things to consider including in your action plan:

- A designated emergency meeting location outside the fire or hazard area. This is critical to determine who has safely evacuated from the affected area.
- Several different escape routes from your home and community. Practice these often so everyone in your family is familiar in case of emergency.
- An evacuation plan for pets and large animals such as horses and other livestock.
- A Family Communication Plan that designates an out-of-area friend or relative as a point of contact to serve as a single source of communication in case family members get separated. It is much easier to call or message one person and let them contact others than to try and call everyone when telecommunication systems may already be overloaded or limited during a disaster.

For more helpful information and evacuation tips, please visit https://www.readyforwildfire.org/.







Inside the house:

- Have your Emergency Supply Kit/Evacuation Bag ready to go
- Ensure a Wildfire Action Plan is prepared ahead of time (View the "Creating a Wildfire Action Plan" section in this brochure).
- Make sure you know your community's emergency response plan and have a plan on where to go when it is time to evacuate, and best routes for leaving your location.
- Shut all windows and doors, leaving them unlocked.
- Remove flammable window shades, curtains and close metal shutters. Remove lightweight curtains.
- Move flammable furniture to the center of the room, away from windows and doors.
- Shut off gas at the meter; turn off pilot lights.
- Leave your lights on so firefighters can see your house under smoky conditions.
- Shut off the air conditioning.

Top 10 States at High to Extreme Wildfire Risk, 2019*

Rank	State	Estimated number of properties at risk
1	California	2,019,800
2	Texas	717,800
3	Colorado	371,100
4	Arizona	237,900
5	Idaho	175,000
6	Washington	160,500
7	Oklahoma	153,400
8	Oregon	151,400
9	Montana	137,800
10	Utah	136,000

^{*} As of September 2019.

Source: Verisk Wildfire Risk Analytics used data from FireLine®, Verisk's wildfire risk management tool.

Outside the house:

- Gather up flammable items from the exterior of the house and bring them inside (patio furniture, children's toys, door mats, trash cans, etc.) or place them in your pool.
- Turn off propane tanks.
- Move propane BBQ appliances away from structures.
- Connect garden hoses to outside water valves or spigots for use by firefighters. Fill water buckets and place them around the house.
- Don't leave sprinklers on or water running, as they can affect critical water pressure.
- Leave exterior lights on so your home is visible to firefighters in the smoke or darkness of night.
- Place your Emergency Supply Kit in your vehicle.
- Back your car into the driveway with vehicle loaded and all doors and windows closed. Carry your car keys with you.
- Have a ladder available and place it at the corner of the house for firefighters to quickly access your roof.
- Seal attic and ground vents with pre-cut plywood or commercial seals.
- Patrol your property and monitor the fire situation.
 Don't wait for an evacuation order if you feel threatened.
- Check on neighbors and make sure they are preparing to leave.

Animals:

- Locate your pets and keep them nearby.
- Prepare farm animals for transport and think about moving them to a safe location early.

Wildfire emergency kit:

- Bandana, N95 respirator, goggles, leather gloves
- Water bottles and food
- Map marked with two evacuation routes
- Prescription medications
- Change of clothing
- Blankets and pillows
- Extra eyeglasses or contact lenses
- Extra set of car keys, credit cards or cash
- First aid kit
- Flashlight and headlamp with spare batteries
- Battery-powered radio and extra batteries
- Sanitation supplies
- Copies of important documents
- Pet food and water, leashes, pet supplies and medications
- Spare chargers for cell phones, lap tops, etc.

If time allows:

- Easily carried valuables
- Family photos and other irreplaceable items
- Personal data and digital information backups on hard drives

