



Before, During & After a Wildfire

What to do **BEFORE** a wildland fire:

Create a DEFENSIBLE SPACE landscape

A **Defensible Space** of 100 feet around your home is required by law (PRC 4291)

- In the **first 30 feet** immediately surrounding your home, the “**Lean, Clean, Green Zone**”, remove all flammable vegetation.
- In the **remaining 70 feet**, create a “**Reduced Fuel Zone**” by either,
 - a. creating horizontal and vertical spacing between plants.
 - b. eliminating vegetation below trees.
- Remove all dead or dying branches.
- Keep all trees and shrubs trimmed away from electrical lines.
(Do not trim around live power lines, call a professional)



Maintain a clean roof

- Install a fire resistant roof and use fire resistant materials when building, renovating or retrofitting structures.
- Remove dead leaves and debris from roof and gutters.
- Cover chimney with a non-flammable screen of ½ inch or smaller mesh.

Make your home fire safe inside

- Make an evacuation plan with your family. Include several options with an outside meeting place. Practice regularly.
- Store all important papers in a fireproof container or keep copies at another location.
- Keep battery operated radios and flashlights with additional fresh batteries on hand.

Keep a clean yard

- Keep all woodpiles and propane tanks at least 30 feet from all structures and remove vegetation within 10 feet.
- Store combustible or flammable materials in approved containers.
- Make sure all equipment has installed spark arresters.
- Be sure your address numbers show clearly from the street, both day and night.

What to do **DURING** a wildland fire:

Prepare to possibly evacuate

- Turn on a radio to get latest emergency information.
- Disconnect electrical garage doors. Back in your car and leave the keys in the ignition.
- Make arrangements for your pets.
- Be ready to evacuate all family members and pets when requested to do so.

Take steps to prepare your home inside

- Close all doors and windows, but do not lock them.
- Open or take down flammable drape and curtains.
- Close all Venetian blinds and non-flammable window coverings.
- Move upholstered furniture away from windows and sliding glass doors.
- Turn a light on in each room for visibility in case of smoke.
- Turn off air conditioning/air circulation systems.



Take steps to prepare your home outside

- If hoses and adequate water are available set them up.
- Remove combustible materials surrounding your house. (Lawn chairs, tables, etc.)

What to do **AFTER** a wildland fire:

- Check with law enforcement officials before attempting to return to your home.
- Use caution when re-entering a burned area.
- Check grounds for “hot spots” – smoldering stumps and vegetation.
- Check the roof and exterior areas for sparks and embers.
- Check the attic and throughout the house for hidden burning sparks and embers.
- Continue to check for problem areas for several days.
- Contact 9-1-1 if any danger is perceived.
- If burning outside your home was extensive watch for soil erosion.



Consult local experts on the best way to restore and re-plant your land with fire safe landscaping.

