



Wildfire Prevention Tips

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR HOMES IN WILDFIRE PRONE AREAS

- Embers fly for miles and can ignite a wood shake roof. **Replace wood shake with a Class A fire resistive roof**, such as concrete tile, metal or composition shingle.
- **Seal the open edges of a barrel tile roof** with grout to keep embers from blowing up under the roof.
- **Use ¼" or smaller metal mesh or Brand guard Vents** to cover attic and sub floor vents to prevent embers from entering the home.
- Extreme heat can cause windows to break exposing the interior of the home to blowing embers. **Install dual pane windows** to reduce the risk.
- Exterior walls are susceptible to radiant heat and flames. **Replace exterior siding with fire-resistant material** such as stucco, brick or concrete masonry. Be sure to extend materials from the foundation to the roof.
- When possible, **construct decks & fences from fire-resistive materials**.
- **Existing wood decks & wood siding** treat with fire retardant like FlameStop.
- **Avoid landscaping with bark or wood chip mulch.** Close to the home embers ignite it endangering the home, further from the home; it facilitates the spread of the fire.
- **Maintain at least 100 feet of adequately watered space** on level ground and 200 feet on sloped terrain around your home.
- Keep your **grass short**.
- Consider **removing Italian cypress trees** that are within 6' of your home. They are extremely flammable. Burning embers can easily ignite them and if they are close to the home, the fire quickly spreads up the tree onto the eaves and roof line.

- **Keep gutters clean of debris.** Even if a home is built with fire-resistive materials and has adequate defensible space, flying embers can ignite the gutter debris and carry to the home.

- **Trim overhanging trees** away from any structure. In addition to will reduce preventing fire from spreading to your home, it debris accumulation on your roof that can ignite.

- **Enclose areas under raised decks with fire resistive materials** to prevent embers from blowing underneath.

- **Routinely check** to ensure that there are no combustible items, such as patio cushions, propane tanks or wood scraps, **stored under your deck**.

- If you have **wood piles** on your property, position them at least 30 feet from any structure and cover with a heavy canvas tarp.

- **Clear a 10-foot area around propane** tanks or around your BBQ area.

WHAT TO DO DURING A WILDFIRE

- **Heed evacuation warnings.** It may seem like you have time, but conditions can change in an instant making evacuation more difficult. In addition, leaving when ordered clears the roads so firefighters can get necessary equipment in place to fight the fire.

- **If you have time, remove flammable materials**, such as portable propane tanks, outdoor furniture and vehicles from around your home.

- **Close all windows and doors** to prevent embers from entering the home.

- **Post a sign for firefighters** with your name and contact numbers. Include when evacuated, if there are animals on the property and where to turn on fire suppression systems or hydrant locations, etc.

- **When evacuating, prepare yourself** for exposure to heat and embers. Wear 100% cotton long pants, a long-sleeve shirt, heavy boots or shoes, a dry bandanna for face cover and goggles or glasses to protect your eyes.

- Locate your **pets** and take them with you as well as a supply of extra food and water.

- **Shut off the gas** to the home to prevent an ignition source.

- **Turn on a light** in each room to increase the visibility of your home in heavy smoke

