

Personal Insurance

WILDFIRE PRE-EVACUATION PREPARATION STEPS

What to do When a Fire is Near You



When a wildfire has been reported near your home and an evacuation is anticipated, complete this checklist of steps (if time allows) to give your home the best chance of surviving:

1. _____ Gather up flammable items from the exterior of the house and bring them inside: patio furniture, toys, door mats, lawn equipment, planters or trash cans. Or place the items into your pool.
2. _____ Turn off propane tanks.
3. _____ Move propane BBQ appliances away from structure.
4. _____ Connect garden hoses to outside water valves or spigots for use by firefighters.
5. _____ Fill water buckets and place them around the house.
6. _____ Don't leave sprinklers on or water running; they can affect critical water pressure.
7. _____ Leave exterior and interior lights on so your home is visible to firefighters in the smoke or darkness of night.
8. _____ Put your emergency supply kit in your vehicle.
9. _____ Back your car into the driveway, with the vehicle loaded and doors and windows closed. Carry your car keys with you.
10. _____ Have a ladder available and place it at the corner of the house for firefighters to quickly access your roof.
11. _____ Seal attic and ground vents with pre-cut plywood or commercial seals.
12. _____ Monitor your property and the fire situation. Don't wait for an evacuation order, leave when you can.
13. _____ Check on neighbors and make sure they are preparing to leave.
14. _____ Shut all windows and doors, leaving them unlocked.
15. _____ Remove flammable window shades and curtains. Close metal shutters.
16. _____ Move flammable furniture to the center of the room, away from windows and doors.
17. _____ Shut off gas at the meter. Turn off pilot lights.

For information, coverage availability in your state, quotes or policy service, please contact your local independent agent recommending coverage.

18. _____ Shut off the air conditioning.
19. _____ Locate your pets and keep them with you.
20. _____ Prepare farm animals for transport and think about moving them to a safe location early.

Finally, if you haven't done so already, provide your independent agent with an emergency contact phone number and email address. This will allow your agent and Cincinnati to keep you informed and provide support if necessary.

For more information on pre-evacuation and evacuation visit the International Association of Fire Chief's (IAFC) Ready Set Go Program, <http://www.wildlandfirersg.org/>. Copyright 2023 by International Association of Fire Chiefs and/or its suppliers. All rights reserved.



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