



Wildfires

Preparedness Empowers You It saves lives, property, and time.

Emergencies happen, often with little or no notice. By taking action beforehand you can be prepared for any emergency.

Be Ready Navy!
I am. Are you?

Wildfires can start unexpectedly and spread quickly. You may not be aware of a wildfire until you are in danger, so it is important to be prepared for a wildfire, especially if you live in a dry, wooded area. Wildfires can be incredibly destructive and dangerous. They pose a threat not only to your home and community, but also to your family if you are not prepared.

How to Prepare

- 1 Be **informed** and be aware of your area's risk for wildfires.
- 2 Make an **evacuation plan** as a family.
- 3 Make an **emergency communication plan** in case family members are separated.
- 4 Practice fire safety by—
 - Installing smoke detectors on every level of your home.
 - Never leaving a fire (including a cigarette) burning unattended.
 - Avoiding open burning.
 - Keeping a ladder that will reach the roof.
- 5 Create a 30–50 foot safety zone around your home by—
 - Clearing the area of all flammable vegetation, including dry leaves and branches.
 - Removing vines from the side of your home.
 - Regularly disposing of trash at approved sites.
 - Storing gasoline and oily rags in proper safety cans.
- 6 Regularly clean roof and gutters of debris.
- 7 Inspect chimneys at least twice a year.
- 8 Build an **emergency kit**.
- 9 Make sure you have a fire extinguisher as well as a hose that can reach all areas of the home.

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What to Do When There Is a Wildfire

- Listen to radio and TV for information and instructions.
- If you spot a wildfire, call 911 immediately. Don't assume that someone has already reported it.
- If directed to evacuate, do so immediately:
 - » Turn on porch lights and all the lights inside to make your home easier to spot in heavy smoke.
 - » Leave doors and windows unlocked for firefighters.
 - » Turn off gas.
 - » Fill any large containers with water, including pools, garbage cans, and tubs.
 - » Close all the doors in your house to prevent a draft.
 - » If time permits, clear the house and the area around it of any flammable items, including firewood and cloth curtains.
 - » Take your emergency kit.
- Wear protective clothing.
- Once you are in a safe place, muster with your command if you are military or civilian personnel or a member of the selective reserves.

What to Do after a Wildfire

- Avoid damaged or fallen power lines, poles, and downed wires.
- Wear leather gloves and heavy soled shoes to protect hands and feet.
- Check the roof and attic for smoldering embers or fires.
- Put out any fires with the water stored in containers.
- Wet debris down to minimize breathing dust particles.
- Do NOT use water that you think may be contaminated.
- Maintain a fire watch for several hours, periodically checking for fires or smoke throughout and around the house.
- After a declared emergency, register your needs with the Navy through the Navy Family Accountability and Assessment System (NFAAS) at <https://navyfamily.navy.mil> or call 1 877-414-5358 or 1-866-297-1971 (TDD).

Where to Find Additional Information

- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)—
www.bt.cdc.gov/firesafety
- Department of Homeland Security (Ready.gov) & FEMA—
www.ready.gov/wildfires