PRE-EVACUATION

When an evacuation is anticipated, follow this checklist if time allows. It will calm your mind and improve your home’s chance to survive a wildfire:

OUTSIDE

1. Put your pre-prepared emergency Go Bag, Legal Documents in a locked container, Pets with supplies and Emergency kit in your vehicle.

2. Back your car into the driveway with vehicle loaded, all doors and windows closed. Carry keys with you.

3. Gather up flammable items from the exterior of the house and bring them inside, in a garage or in a pool. Remove anything that is combustible; such as, Patio furniture, Doormats, Trash cans, & Umbrellas.

4. Turn off gas /propane tank (vegetation above tanks should be removed up to 15’ in case of a breach).

5. Move BBQ propane tank/ gas cans 30 feet away from structures.

6. Leave exterior lights on, so your home is visible to firefighters in the smoke or darkness.

7. Connect garden hoses to outside water valves for use by firefighters.

8. Don’t leave sprinklers on or they can affect critical water pressure for hydrants.

9. Place a ladder at the corner of the house, for firefighter quick access to the roof.


11. Attic and ground vents should be covered with ¼ to 1/8 inch wire screen (ember barrier)

12. Rake leaves and debris away from foundation

INSIDE THE HOUSE

13. Shut all windows and inside doors, unlock the garage door for firefighter entry.


15. Move flammable furniture /curtains away from windows and doors.

16. Shut off gas at the meter; Pilot lights will turn off.

17. Shut off the air conditioning.

18. Whether or not to lock your front door depends or what you believe your greater risk is. Firefighters request front doors to be left open, but so do looters. Firefighters can break doors/ window to gain entry. Looters will focus on easier targets of opportunity.

ANIMALS

I. Store all pet supplies in one location for a quick grab during an emergency.

II. During a fire: fill your pet kennel with:
   a. Pet food – one week supply
   b. Leashes, medication, water bowl

III. Before fire season: arrange with a neighbor to remove animals, in case you’re not home during a wildfire event.

GO BAG  (may have to initially stay at a shelter)

- A size bag easy to handle and store
- Go Bags are intended for when there is no time
- Clothing for one week, w/ sleepwear
- Medications
- Toiletries, shampoo, soap, towel
- Flashlight travel clock, reading material
- Spare reading glasses

Prepare ahead for extended fire closure. Need to be able to validate your home address for re-entry.

Update Home Insurance and photo document the home including drawers, closets, cabinets & garage.

Store your documents in locking firebox; passport, house deed, insurance, marriage license, etc.