

5 Steps to Ready

1. Make a plan

- Develop a short-notice evacuation plan that includes multiple exit routes and accounts for all family members. Include pets and livestock in the plan, if possible.
- Identify various meet-up locations, as the fire area will shift.
- Identify people you will need to contact and keep this list in your wallet, on your phone, and somewhere visible in your house.
- Plan to support family members and neighbors who would have difficulty evacuating quickly. Wildfires can move quickly and unexpectedly.
- Plan for power outages: Learn how to manually open your automatic garage doors or gates. If you have a power generator, be sure you know the safety guidelines of your model. And have a backup plan to maintain any life support equipment.

2. Build a kit

- In a container that can be quickly loaded into a car, store enough food and water for at least three days. Be sure to include the needs of pets and those with special diets.
- Include a first aid kit, sanitation supplies and N95 masks.
- Make copies of important documents (health insurance and prescription information, etc.) and save them on your phone, in the cloud, or on a USB memory stick.

3. Keep at least seven days of medication on hand

- Work with your pharmacist and insurance company to secure the extra doses.
- If you have cardiovascular or respiratory disease, talk with your health care provider about when to leave the area and how much medicine to have on hand. If you have asthma, talk to your provider about an asthma action plan.

4. Protect your home against wildfire damage

- Maintain homeowners/renter's insurance and make a home inventory video of your belongings.
- If you own property, create and maintain defensible space around your home (the buffer between the structure and plants, brush and trees that could catch fire).

5. Stay informed

- Sign up for your county, city, or local emergency alert systems. An early warning can give you the minutes you need to prepare for a fast-moving fire.
- Listen and watch for air quality reports and health warnings about wildfire smoke.
- Monitor those at higher risk for health complications due to smoke.
- If there is a fire nearby, frequently monitor movement and evacuation orders and prepared to leave quickly. If possible, leave the high-risk area prior to the evacuation to reduce traffic.
- Download the FEMA app for emergency alerts and the NOAA Weather Radio app for continuous national weather information. And learn more at ready.gov.