

A RESIDENT'S GUIDE TO WILDLAND FIRE SAFETY

<http://www.readysetgooc.org/>

GOALS

- A. **AWARENESS** OF RISK AND CURRENT CONDITIONS
- B. **SAFETY** FOR LIFE *AND THEN* PROPERTY
- C. **AWARENESS OF HOW YOUR ACTIONS AFFECT THE RISK TO OTHERS**
- D. **P L A C E S** People Lookouts Awareness Communications Escape routes Safety zones

1. PREPARATION OF THE PROPERTY *BEFORE THE EVENT OCCURS* READY

RISK REDUCTION - **RULE #1: DO NOT BE THE ONE WHO STARTS THE FIRE**

- A. CLEARANCE DEAD VEGETATION AND FIREWOOD PILES
- B. CHIMNEY SPARK ARRESTERS: COLD NIGHTS, HOT DRY DAYS
- C. MINIMUM CLEARANCES TO VEGETATION
- D. REMOVE LUMBER AND DEBRIS PILES – CLEAN OUT WHERE THE LEAVES GATHER
- E. CLEAN THE GUTTERS
- F. "HARDENING" YOUR HOME FOR WILDFIRE: <http://firecenter.berkeley.edu/bwmg/>

2. ANTICIPATE THE EVENT: SET: READING THE CONDITIONS - WATCH FOR ALIGNMENT OF FACTORS: HIGH WIND AND LOW HUMIDITY

- A. HAVE A PLAN: GO KIT, ITEMS OF VALUE, CONTACTS, FAMILY, DESTINATION, ROUTE
- B. RECOGNITION OF "TIME TO GO"
 - 1. FIRE DOWN CANYON WHICH COULD BLOCK YOUR EXIT
 - 2. WIND DRIVEN ERRATIC FIRE IN THE AREA
- B. ANTICIPATE: LEAVE TIME TO ALLOW ORDERLY EXIT

3. EVACUATION PROCEDURES GO

- A. PRE-PLAN YOUR DEPARTURE- MAKE A LIST
- B. LISTEN FOR ANNOUNCEMENTS OR LONG SIREN BLASTS, ANTICIPATE!
- C. ORDERLY EXIT - ONE WAY OUT ON A ONE LANE ROAD - BE CALM (SEE RULE #2)
- D. ANIMALS - STAGING FOR LARGE ANIMALS
- E. KNOW SCHOOL POLICIES IN TIME OF FIRE

4. PREPARING YOUR PROPERTY BEFORE YOU GO

- A. TURN OFF ALL APPLIANCES
- B. CLOSE DOORS AND WINDOWS - LEAVE DOORS UNLOCKED
- C. LEAVE A LIGHT ON
 - A. CLOSE HEAVY BLINDS - REMOVE LIGHT CURTAINS
 - B. PLACE LADDERS WHERE VISIBLE
 - C. REMOVE DEBRIS AND PILES OF FUEL
 - D. PLACE GARDEN HOSES
 - E. CLEAR DRIVEWAY **AND GET ANY VEHICLES OFF OF THE ROAD**

5. IF YOU CHOOSE TO STAY AND NOT EVACUATE

- A. **YOUR RESCUE MAY NOT BE POSSIBLE, OR YOU MAY CAUSE RISK TO OTHERS --- IT IS BEST TO LEAVE!!!**
- B. PREPARE YOURSELF FOR HEAT, FLYING EMBERS, SMOKE PERSONAL PROTECTION
 - 1. LAYERS
 - 2. FOOT GEAR - HEAVY DUTY
 - 3. EYE PROTECTION, GOGGLES
 - 4. GLOVES
- C. ACTIONS WHICH MAY HELP
 - 1. KNOCK DOWN OF SPOT FIRES
 - 2. OBSERVE ROOF, EAVES AND CORNER AREAS FOR SPOTS
 - 3. KEEP LADDERS READY - USE TWO LADDERS – 1 FOR ESCAPE
 - 4. MAKE FIREFIGHTERS AWARE OF YOUR LOCATION AND ACTIONS
- C. TEMPORARY REFUGE INSIDE THE STRUCTURE IF OVER RUN
- D. **RULE #2: NEVER BLOCK THE ROAD!**