

Wildfire Evacuation

RESIDENTIAL EMERGENCY CHECKLIST

FireSafe
COUNCIL
OJAI VALLEY

Plan ahead of a wildfire emergency. Register for *VC Alert* - readyventuracounty.org/vc-alert for evacuation notifications and print copies of this 2-sided pdf for your home and family. An **Evacuation Order** means evacuate NOW, don't wait. An **Evacuation Warning** means you have enough time to pack and prepare your house before evacuation. **Shelter-In-Place** means to go quickly to the nearest designated shelter.

Prepare to Evacuate

- ☐ Pack Go Kit into your car (*see page 2*).
- ☐ Have at least 1/2 tank of fuel in your vehicle at all times.
- ☐ Always have each family member carry identification in case people and pets get separated. Children should have an ID tag on school bags.
- ☐ Dress in long sleeves and long pants no matter the temperature outside. Wear clothes made of natural materials like cotton or wool and cover as much skin as possible.
- ☐ Wear a wide brimmed hat, eye protection (full coverage is best), leather gloves, face covering such as a dry bandana or N95 respirator, wool socks and leather boots.
- ☐ Carry a headlamp or flashlight, cell phone and spare battery at all times.
- ☐ Drink lots of water and stay hydrated.
- ☐ If there is time to communicate, email or text your plans to family, friends and neighbors.
- ☐ Carpool to reduce traffic while evacuating. If you have more than one car, take only one. Don't wait for an evacuation order if you feel threatened.
- ☐ Know your shelter-in-place options depending on fire behavior.
- ☐ Park your car in your driveway, facing out, with windows and doors shut, ready to evacuate.

Inside the House

- ☐ Close all windows and interior/exterior doors but leave them unlocked.
- ☐ Take down flammable window treatments like shades and curtains, and close metal shutters.
- ☐ Move anything flammable to the middle of the room away from doors and windows.
- ☐ Turn off gas at the meter and pilot lights.
- ☐ Switch interior/exterior lights on for firefighters to see your house in smoke.
- ☐ Switch off the A/C.

Outside the House

- ☐ Bring flammable items inside like patio furniture, doormats and toys, or put them in the pool or move them at least 30 feet away.
- ☐ Turn off propane tanks, and move far away from the house or store in a fire bunker.
- ☐ Attach garden hoses to outdoor taps and place full buckets of water around for firefighter use.
- ☐ Keep ladders handy at house corners for firefighter roof access.
- ☐ Seal attic and ground vents with plywood or commercial seals.
- ☐ Don't leave sprinklers/water running as it can lower water pressure.
- ☐ If possible, park all extra cars at least 30 ft away from any structure.
- ☐ Close garage doors and know how to close without power.

References: readyforwildfire.org/prepare-for-wildfire/go-evacuation-guide/, fs.usda.gov/Internet/FSE_DOCUMENTS/stelprdb5305121.pdf, sgverg.org/an-evacuation-checklist, wildfire.oregon.gov/evacuations