



# WILDFIRE CHECKLIST

From your friends at MySafe:LA

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Prior to a wildfire arriving in your immediate area, it's important that you check off those things that may be important to protecting your family and your property. Use this list to get ready:

- Alert family and neighbors of the impending fire risk.
- Dress in appropriate clothing (i.e., clothing made from natural fibers, such as cotton, and work boots). Have goggles and a dry bandana or N95 mask ready.
- Ensure that you have your emergency GO kit that includes all vital items, such as a battery powered radio, spare batteries, emergency contact numbers, and quantities of drinking water.
- Stay tuned to your TV or local radio stations for updates, and/or check local emergency response websites.
- Remain close to your house, stay hydrated, and keep an eye on your family and pets until you are ready to leave.

## INSIDE CHECKLIST:

- Shut all windows and doors, leaving them unlocked.
- Remove flammable window shades and curtains and close metal shutters.
- Remove lightweight curtains.
- Move flammable furniture to the center of the room, away from windows and doors.
- Shut off gas at the meter. Turn off pilot lights.
- Leave your lights on so firefighters can see your house in smoky conditions.
- Shut off the air conditioning, or any fans that may be on (check for auto schedules).

**REMEMBER:** If there's nothing to burn, your home won't either. Most homes have flammable contents, so it's not likely you'll have a perfectly protected home. The steps shown on this page will reduce the chances of something burning because you didn't make the attempt. IF you're gone, and firefighters need access to your home, unlocked doors and lights left on will greatly assist them.

## **OUTSIDE CHECKLIST:**

- Move flammable items from the exterior of your home and bring them inside (e.g., patio furniture, children's toys, door mats, etc.) or place them in a swimming pool, if available.
- Turn off propane tanks and make certain they're 30 feet away from your home.
- Don't leave sprinklers on or water running - they will waste essential water pressure.
- Leave all exterior house lights on.
- Back your vehicle into the driveway. Make certain windows are closed and the doors are unlocked.
- Have an extension ladder handy, in case you need to use it for access to the roof.
- Patrol your property and extinguish any small fires you may find.
- Prior to any evacuation order, position containers (one gallon or more) of water at all corners of your home.
- If you haven't hardened the vents in your home, you can (time permitting), close off attic and ground vents with pre-cut plywood.

## **EVACUATION CHECKLIST:**

If you need to evacuation, in addition to the structural checklist, you should also check off each of the relevant items you and your family should consider as you prepare to evacuate.

- family phone numbers (yes, separate from your contact list in your phone)
- Medical phone numbers - doctors, pharmacist, etc.
- Family food supplies (including for small children, etc.)
- Family pet supplies, including food, pet toys, blanket, transport crate
- Smartphone batteries (external USB chargers)
- Supplies for those with special needs (mobility, vision, hearing, etc.)
- Evacuation options (where will you go?)
- A full tank of gas in your vehicle
- Proper rain protection (boots, raincoat, umbrella, etc.)

Not every item on this list applies to every family, but do go through each list and make certain you have all of the materials and have taken all of the appropriate actions to give your family the best chance to escape safely.

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