



# Are You Prepared For A Wildfire?

[www.ocfa.org](http://www.ocfa.org)

The wildfire problem in Orange County exceeds what can be managed by the OCFA alone. The Fire Safe Council, OCFA, U.S. Forest Service, Orange County Sheriff, Red Cross, and school districts have developed emergency plans to combat threats posed by wildfire. Do you have your personal wildfire action plan?

## Be Aware of Embers

- Wind driven embers can destroy homes or neighborhoods far from the actual flame front of the fire.
- Eighty percent of home ignitions in a wildfire are caused by embers landing on them.
- Ninety percent of homes are destroyed once ignited.
- Wildfires move at a speed of up to 14 m.p.h.



## Take Responsibility Before the Fire – Get Ready Now

- Create 100 feet of fire resistant space around your home to prevent fires from starting or spreading to your home.
- Increase your home's and your family's safety by:
  - Having a roof that is non-combustible (i.e. tile).
  - Clear leaves and pine needles from roof and rain gutters.
  - Enclose roof eaves and ensure the undersides of decks or porches are non-combustible material.
  - Cover attic, foundation, and garage vents with 1/8 inch metal mesh.



- Remember, embers from a wildfire will find the weak link in your home's fire protections.
- Repair cracks, bird holes and other openings in roof coverings.
- Ensure spark arresters are on chimneys and are intact.



[www.readysetgooc.org](http://www.readysetgooc.org)

## Get Set – Make a Kit

Being prepared ahead of time will give you the peace of mind to leave early. Making a kit will save time, just make sure it is easy to load and has the necessary items:

- Keep a pair of shoes and a flashlight handy – smoke will make the day look like night.
- Make sure to have important papers, pictures, and documents, as well as your computer.
- Medication, eyeglasses, and clothing.
- Have your pets in a kennel or carrier – have food and water.
- Personalize your kit – carry it with you.



***Consider a second kit for your car.***

## Get Set –Make a Plan

Having a plan and practicing it regularly with your family will help you make an early escape.



- Create your plan that includes meeting location and communication plans – include your pets in the plan and any evacuation of large animals.
- Make sure your car's fuel tank is full and park facing out for an early exit – make sure to have two ways out.
- Appoint an out-of-area friend or relative as a point of contact so you can communicate with family members.
- If you have children in school, know the school's evacuation plans and where they will take the students.
- Develop a plan for your babysitter or other care-providers to escape and unify in another area.
- Have a plan for large animals – do not release them to run wild.

## If You are Trapped:

- Shelter away from outside walls.
- Stay hydrated.
- Patrol the inside of your home for spot fires and put them out.
- Wear long sleeves and long pants made of natural fibers such as cotton, as well as goggles, gloves, bandana, and heavy boots
- Ensure you can exit the home if it catches fire – remember if it's hot inside the house, it is four to five times hotter outside
- After the fire has passed, check your roof, attic, and garage – put out any fires, sparks or embers.
- Patrol your property for any fire and extinguish them.



**READY, SET, GO!**