

2019-2020

WILDFIRE SEASON GUIDE

What Each of Us Can Do to be More Prepared to Survive



Get READY, SET, GO for WILDFIRE SEASON!

Photo by John Hart for The Union



A public service in wildfire prevention brought to you by the U.S. Forest Service, your State Forester, and supported by the Fire Safe Council of Nevada County, Nevada County Fire Chief's and CAL FIRE.

Includes:

**Emergency Preparedness
and Evacuation Guide**

To the Residents of Western Nevada County

WILDFIRE IS COMING. ARE YOU READY?

California has many rich historical moments, some of those being wildfires. Last year was one for the record books. Firstly, with the largest fire in the state's history, the Mendocino Complex fires near Clear Lake that charred 458,123 acres. Secondly, the most destructive and deadliest fire, the Camp Fire in Butte County blackening 153,336 acres, destroying 18,804 homes and 85 civilian deaths. All told was an absolutely staggering total of 876,147 acres burned in 2018! Our state's fires are becoming larger, more rapidly spreading, with greater destruction of property and loss of lives.

It is easy to understand, everyone is talking about fire prevention and what can be done, how can we do more, how do we save our homes, and most importantly, how do we save more LIVES?!

It all starts with you, the landowners, homeowners and even tenants taking responsibility and creating a safer environment around your home for your family, pets, and livestock. In this Guide are lots of suggestions and procedures that can help you prepare.

The most devastating and difficult wildfires to suppress are wind-driven fires such as the Camp fire that roared through Paradise and the surrounding areas in Butte

county, at its worst consuming the equivalent of a football field (1.32 acres) every second.

These fires not only burn faster and hotter, but they throw hot embers out in front of the main fire. All those firebrands have to do to ignite spots even a mile ahead, is land on a receptive fuel bed of dry grass, needles or other forest litter, your patio furniture cushions and through your eave and foundation vents.

Removing or otherwise altering those receptive fuel beds could mean the difference to returning to your home or an ash pile. This may sound harsh but far too many times every year we see the tragedy unfold, some from the comfort of our home (watching TV) and some on the front lines. So please help us help you.

Get prepared for wildfire before it strikes by following the READY, SET, GO process outlined in this Guide and that can be found at www.readyforwildfire.org.

The Nevada County Fire Chiefs hope that our citizens never face a fire like the one in Paradise last year. But we also know that it's not if, but when the next wildfire will occur in our county. Let's be as ready as possible.

From your Fire Chiefs of Nevada County

**NO
FIREWORKS
ALLOWED
ANYWHERE
IN NEVADA
COUNTY AT
ANY TIME!**



**BURN BAN —
OUTDOOR
FIRES ARE
PROHIBITED
DURING THE
DRY MONTHS.**



HELP from the Fire Safe Council will make you FIREWISE!

The Fire Safe Council of Nevada County is a non-profit, local volunteer based organization dedicated to making Nevada County safer from catastrophic wildfire through fire prevention education, fire break clearing projects, and creating Firewise Communities/USA®.

FREE HELP:

- Defensible Space Advice at Your Home
- Year-Round, Drive-by Chipping Service
- Defensible Space Clearing for Low-Income Seniors & the Disabled
- Hazard Tree Removals for Low-Income Residents
- Emergency Evacuation Guide
- Scotch Broom Challenge – Weed Wrench Loans & Community Project Sites
- Fire Safe Products – Reflective Road/Address Signs & Fire Rated Tarps
- Firewise Communities/USA® Certification Assistance
- Neighborhood Education Presentations
- Reduced Cost Air Ambulance Service Memberships

For complete information on all programs and services,
please visit www.areyoufiresafe.com
or call the Fire Safe Council at (530) 272-1122.



Together, we can make all of Nevada County fire safe! Nevada County Firewise Communities/USA®!

Working together, residents can make their own property – and their entire neighborhood – much safer from wildfire. The Fire Safe Council of Nevada County has been assisting individual neighborhoods in completing the National Fire Protection Association's Firewise Communities/USA® certification process for over 10 years.

It begins with a few concerned citizens who form a committee. Next, a community wildfire hazard assessment is conducted in collaboration with a Registered Professional Forester, your local fire department, and CAL FIRE. From this assessment, recommendations are given in how to best address the wildfire hazards. The community committee develops an action plan to implement the recommendations. Once the action plan is in place, an educational event is held to let residents know their part in implementing the action plan. The certification is renewed annually to keep a focus on the ongoing need for vegetation management to reduce the wildfire fuel on the landscape.

Aside from being safer from wildfire by working together in your neighborhood to address the wildfire hazard, you may be eligible for a discount on your homeowner's insurance if you live in a certified Firewise Community/USA®. The United Services Automobile Association (USAA) announced a rate reduction program for California which provides policyholders living in Firewise Communities/USA® a 5% discount on their homeowner's insurance policy premium. That's real cash savings along with the peace of mind that you've done all you can to protect your family from the most significant natural disaster threatening Nevada County. Other insurance carriers are starting to notice the remarkable efforts of Firewise Communities, and are pre-qualifying those living in a Firewise Community for homeowners insurance.

To learn more, contact the Fire Safe Council of Nevada County at (530) 272-1122 or online at www.areyoufiresafe.com.



GET READY, GET SET, GO!

Wildfire Is Coming. Are You Ready?



GET PREPARED FOR WILDFIRE BEFORE IT STRIKES BY FOLLOWING THE READY, SET GO! GUIDE:

BEING READY



100^{FT}



UP TO 1 MILE

CREATE DEFENSIBLE SPACE: 100-FEET OF DEFENSIBLE SPACE IS REQUIRED AROUND YOUR HOME. LEARN HOW TO MAINTAIN THE TWO ZONES OF DEFENSIBLE SPACE NEEDED.

HARDEN YOUR HOME: FLYING EMBERS CAN DESTROY HOMES UP TO A MILE FROM WILDLAND AREAS. LEARN HOW TO PROTECT AND HARDEN YOUR HOME FROM A WILDFIRE THREAT.

GETTING SET



PREPARE YOUR HOME AND FAMILY FOR THE POSSIBILITY OF HAVING TO EVACUATE.

1. WHAT
2. HOW
3. WHO
4. WHEN

CREATE A WILDFIRE ACTION PLAN.



ASSEMBLE AN EMERGENCY SUPPLY KIT.



FILL OUT A FAMILY COMMUNICATION PLAN.

BEING READY TO GO



PRE-EVACUATION STEPS: PREPARE BOTH THE INSIDE AND OUTSIDE OF YOUR HOUSE FOR EVACUATION. GET THE CHECKLISTS.



REVIEW YOUR EVACUATION PLAN CHECKLIST.

GO!

EVACUATION STEPS: WHEN IMMEDIATE EVACUATION IS NECESSARY, GET READY TO GO!



ENSURE YOUR EMERGENCY SUPPLY KIT IS IN YOUR VEHICLE.



COVER-UP TO PROTECT AGAINST HEAT AND FLYING EMBERS. WEAR LONG PANTS, LONG SLEEVE SHIRT, HEAVY SHOES/BOOTS, CAP, DRY BANDANNA TO COVER FACE, GOGGLES OR GLASSES. 100% COTTON IS PREFERABLE.



LOCATE YOUR PETS AND TAKE THEM WITH YOU.

**ONE LESS
SPARK**
ONE LESS WILDFIRE



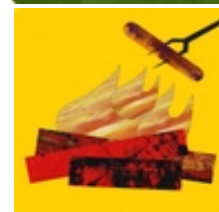
FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT:
READYFORWILDFIRE.ORG
#READYFORWILDFIRE

ONE LESS SPARK ONE LESS WILDFIRE

Mow before 10 a.m., avoid hitting rocks and use a spotter.



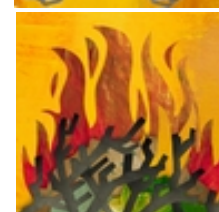
Use caution with campfires and extinguish completely.



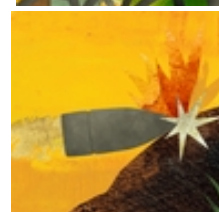
Avoid trailer safety chains and flat-tire rims contacting the roadway.



Be careful with debris burning. If you light it, be prepared to fight it.



Use caution with target shooting. Don't strike rocks.



Download the
Ready for Wildfire App
to your smartphone

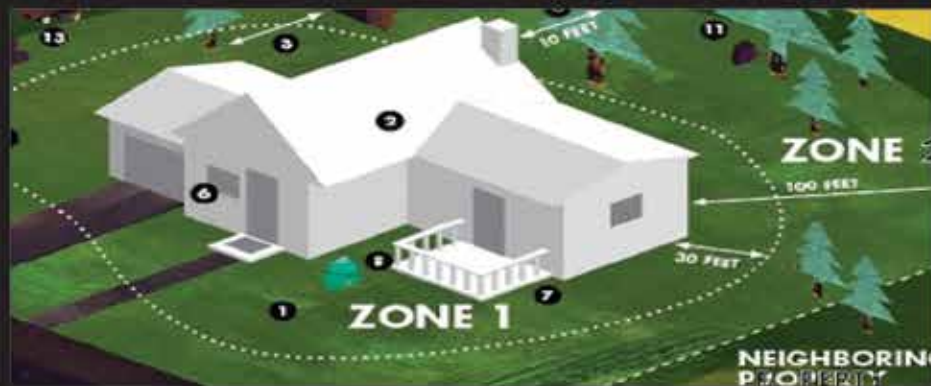


Discover What To Do Before Wildfire Strikes

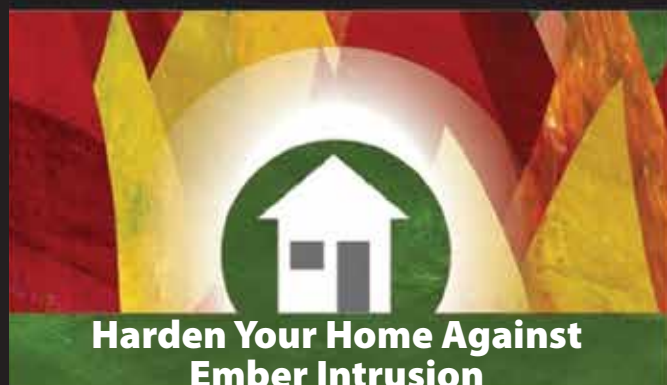
Prepare Your Home & Family Now!



**Create Your Action Plan
and Practice it**



**Create Defensible Space
Around Your Home**



**Harden Your Home Against
Ember Intrusion**



**Prepare Your
Emergency Supply Kit**



Learn More at: ReadyForWildfire.org



SPECIAL NEEDS PERSONS: BE READY!

Complied mostly from the American Red Cross at www.redcross.org



PLANNING FOR EMERGENCIES

A SUPPORT NETWORK is often vital to assist in preparing for a disaster. Establish and maintain a support network or self-help team (Network) that can help identify and secure the resources needed to cope effectively.

ASSESSMENT OF THE NEEDS – Know what is required in order to get to safety as easily and as quickly as possible in a safe manner.

EARLY EVACUATION is key since it generally can take special needs persons more time to mobilize and therefore, early warnings are paramount. See Evacuation checklists and other helpful information elsewhere in this Prepare for Wildfire Season Guide (Guide). In fact, some might consider getting temporarily away to safety on Red Flag days ahead of any potential wildfires.

STAY INFORMED - Emergency notification services should be monitored, especially on Red Flag days. See the sources of emergency notifications listed elsewhere in this Guide.

CONTACT with each other needs to be pre-planned, and alternatives included. For instance, what if cellphones or landline phones fail? How will you communicate? Practice those methods.

AWARENESS of each other's movements and activities. The Network needs to be informed so it is known where the special needs person is at all times. Disaster can strike at any time and any place.

ACCESS to the home of the special needs person. Be sure security codes and keys are shared as well as the Network be familiarized with pets (especially larger dogs) ahead of time.

EMERGENCY SUPPLIES and **DOCUMENTS** need to be at

the ready at all times, so these can be swooped up as an evacuation becomes necessary. A Go Bag (a backpack can work) once assembled can be placed near the typical exit. See elsewhere in this Guide for list of important items to be included.

TRANSPORTATION and **EQUIPMENT** requirements should be determined ahead of time. Are there special types of vehicles needed? Are there workarounds that can be done in a pinch? Does the Network of helpers know how to operate these? Training and/or a list of instructions given to the Network will help.

MOBILITY AIDS and **RAMPS** – What will be done if these are damaged or unavailable at the time of need? What alternatives/back-ups should be prearranged?

SERVICE ANIMALS and **PETS** – Prior arrangements should be in place.

COMMUNITY DISASTER and **ASSISTANCE PLANS** – Be aware of what could be available and where.

CONTINGENCIES and **BACKUPS** for all the above need to be included in emergency planning. Technologies (for instance) have “many moving parts” and failure at critical times can make almost any urgent situation, become life threatening. Look for the “lowest common denominator” or simplest solutions that don't completely rely on things that might not work or be available during a disaster.

This list is intended to begin the discussion a special needs person might have in order to be prepared for emergency situations where evacuation is possible.

Be aware some persons may run away, resist help, not understand or have no awareness of the danger. Proceed accordingly.

IS YOUR INSURANCE POLICY READY FOR FIRE SEASON?

Now is the time! Review, Review, Review, Update and Understand what you are or not getting before wildfire season starts

- Update the replacement value of your home and extent of coverage annually.
- Add options for: updated Building Code requirements, debris removal, and not to rebuild, if you so desire.
- See elsewhere in this Guide for things that can help improve you chances in obtaining and keeping fire insurance.

DON'T WAIT, REACH OUT AND TALK TO YOUR AGENT NOW!

Tips for finding residential insurance can be found at www.insurance.ca.gov and the non-profits United Policyholders at www.UPhelp.org and National Association of Insurance Commissioners at www.NAIC.org.

ASSISTANCE FOR FOREST LANDOWNERS



Nevada County
Resource Conservation District
www.NCRCD.org

The Nevada County Resource Conservation District (NCRCD) offers: science-based land management advice to Nevada and western Sierra County landowners; programs and tools to aid you in the successful management of your property; links to great conservation information; and can provide you with contact information of local professionals, because sometimes reading about the solution just isn't enough - sometimes you need a little help with the work.

Our Advisory Visit Program connects you with our consultant (a local expert with 37 years' experience in the conservation field) who will visit your property with you and provide personalized

advice on issues you're encountering and making your land healthy again. After your visit, we will mail you a hard-copy summarization of your visit along with detailed documents on the topics you discussed.

We're here to help you with all your land management needs. For more information check out our website, stop by the office at 113 Presley Way, Suite 1, Grass Valley, or call (530) 798-5529.

The NCRCD partners with the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) in assisting landowners and land managers in improving their land. The NCRCD and the NRCS provide technical assistance regarding issues that include erosion control, pond management, invasive weed control, fuels management, wildlife habitat improvement, pasture, orchard and vineyard management, and rangeland management. ■



DENSE FOREST BEFORE THINNING



FOREST AFTER THINNING



United States Department of Agriculture

Natural Resources Conservation Service

The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) is a federal agency that emphasizes voluntary, science-based assistance to help private forest landowners. The NRCS promotes and informs private forest landowners about forestry practices that can improve growth, reduce risk, and improve forest health. Many of these practices can be cost-shared through Farm Bill programs.

CONSERVATION PLANNING

The NRCS works with forest landowners to develop a conservation plan customized to meet the owner's objectives for their land. The conservation plan will address resource concerns and propose improvements that can be voluntarily implemented on the landscape. Conservation planning provides direction to forest landowners to achieve goals and improve natural resources.

HEALTHY FORESTS

Forest health is a very broad term. Many forests are both healthy and productive. A number of concerns have been identified as major forestry problems. These include fire and fuels, invasion of non-native and native pests, loss of biodiversity, air pollution, water quality and quantity, and degraded riparian forests. Many forests stands have too many trees per acre or contain a disproportionate amount of shrubs in the under-story. This competition for light, nutrients, and water, leaves forests extremely susceptible to disease,

insect damage, increases the risk of catastrophic fire, reduces productivity, and provides poor quality wildlife habitat as well as limited recreational opportunities.

FUEL HAZARD REDUCTION

Forests and woodlands make up about 42 percent of California, and half of that portion is in private ownership. Many of these acres are overstocked and at risk of wildfire damage. California, and many of our neighboring states, have experienced abnormally dry conditions. These adverse conditions have fueled severe wildfires that are challenging our natural resources.

FOREST LANDOWNER ASSISTANCE

NRCS conservationists can assist forest landowners with management decision as well as providing technical and financial assistance to improve forest health, and reduce the impacts of catastrophic wildfires. In more than 75 years of assisting for landowners, NRCS has assembled a body of technical standards to help producers address a large number of natural resource concerns.

ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY INCENTIVES PROGRAM

The Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) is a voluntary conservation program that promotes production and environmental steward-ship as compatible goals.

HOW TO APPLY

Contact the local NRCS office at (530) 798-5533. We will discuss your property concerns and make an appointment to visit your property for evaluation. Eligible projects will be evaluated, prioritized, and selected for funding as budget allocations permit. ■



NEVADA COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

As fire season becomes a more year-round event, the Nevada County Sheriff's Office continues to work closely with our public safety partners to ensure we are all prepared to respond to any incident, small or large. With the assignment of Sheriff's Captain Jeff Pettit to the Office of Emergency Services (OES), our collaboration has increased even more to provide the highest level of emergency response to our County.

While we are prepared to respond, a large wildfire event will take teamwork from you, the resident. Do you have a "go bag" packed and ready to evacuate? Are you familiar enough with the area to have a backup evacuation route in mind if your routine path is blocked? Have you signed up for CodeRED emergency alerts? A successful evacuation requires your preparation as well. If you are waiting to pack your "go bag" or look at a map, now is the time to do it!

With the ever-changing wind and weather conditions, dry timber and the unpredictable path of a fire, please do not wait for an official notification if you feel your safety is in danger. Technology like CodeRED are great resources but should not be relied upon as



the only notification to evacuate. Technology can fail at the most inopportune time. Instead, make yourself familiar with the conditions around you and evacuate sooner rather than later.

For additional information and to stay abreast of upcoming community training events, follow the Nevada County Sheriff's Office on Facebook.

AIR AMBULANCE SERVICE

Are you covered for air ambulance transport? Living in a rural county, you should be! Due to the lack of a medical trauma center in Nevada County, a critical life-threatening injury or illness often requires air ambulance transport. Air ambulance transport saves lives, but costs tens of thousands of dollars. Most medical insurance policies do not cover the entire portion of the bill for air medical transport, leaving the patient with a huge bill after insurance payment. Ask your insurance provider if they guarantee they will cover 100% of the cost for air medical transport, covering everyone in your household regardless of age or relation, and covering multiple transports, if required.

The Fire Safe Council of Nevada County's mission includes helping our residents prepare for emergencies. To aid in meeting this mission, they have negotiated a group discount with AirMedCare Network, the membership



provider for local air ambulances CALSTAR and REACH Air Medical Services. Online enrollment is easy at www.AMCNRep.com/SONJA-CONKLIN, enter Fire Safe Council of Nevada County's discount code 9555-CA-BUS or call Sonja Conklin, Membership Manager, at 530-648-6455 with questions and phone enrollment.

Membership with AirMedCare Network includes a network of 320 bases in 38 US states, including 37 bases in California from San Diego to the Oregon border, six bases on the Hawaiian Islands and six bases in Alaska. The annual membership includes everyone living in your household, and members do not receive a bill for air medical transport provided by the entire AirMedCare Network. Provide yourself peace of mind, by researching and enrolling today.

2019 Emergency Preparedness Guide & Evacuation Plan

This Information May Help Save Your Life In An Emergency. Keep for Future Use!

Is An Emergency Plan Really Necessary?

Nevada County has the potential for a number of natural disasters with wildland fire being the number one hazard our community. However, a variety of other emergencies including heavy rains, high winds, snow storms, extreme heat or cold, flooding, earthquakes, hazardous material releases and even acts of terrorism are all possible. This emergency preparedness guide is being provided, so you will be better informed and may prepare well ahead of time to take care of yourself, your loved ones, pets and your neighbors.

Annual Pre-Emergency Planning

- ☐ Agree in advance what family members should do if they are away from home when an emergency strikes.
- ☐ Establish a meeting place away from your neighborhood to reconnect with loved ones
- ☐ **Our meeting place is:** _____
- ☐ Become familiar with more than one evacuation route from your home.
- ☐ If underage children will be home without access to transportation, create an emergency exit strategy and arrange for a trusted neighbor or friend to take care of them.
- ☐ Ask an out-of-state friend or relative to be your emergency contact because during a disaster, it is often easier to call long distance than make a local call. Everyone should be instructed to call this person with their location. **In the event of a disaster we will call:** _____
- ☐ Plan how to care for your pets and livestock.
- ☐ Check and restock emergency supplies (see 4-Day event.)
- ☐ Identify the location of important documents such as wills, insurance policies, passports, social security cards, immunization records, and don't forget the family photos.
- ☐ Update household inventory with a video/photograph of house/personal effects for insurance annually.
- ☐ Keep important computer files on a memory stick, store in a safety deposit box, email directory, or in the cloud for online access from anywhere.
- ☐ Check flashlights and replace batteries regularly.
- ☐ Check portable water and chemical fire extinguishers.
- ☐ Affix a wrench to the propane tank for quick access to shut off gas in the event of an emergency.
- ☐ During fire season, maintain vehicles with more than a half a tank of gasoline.
- ☐ Keep gutters and roofs clean of leaves and pine needles.
- ☐ Create and maintain 100 feet (and more on steep slopes) of defensible space around your home.
- ☐ Stack firewood at least 30 feet from house.
- ☐ Service (top off gas) and test emergency backup generator and water pump regularly.
- ☐ Check garden hoses and store near water faucets.
- ☐ Check address, water supply and generator signage.
- ☐ Have your street name clearly marked to help fire crews find your home.
- ☐ Have a reflective house number sign posted at the road to quickly direct emergency crews to your home.
- ☐ Check to ensure you have adequate insurance coverage.
- ☐ Replace stored water and food at least every six months.
- ☐ Test your smoke detectors and carbon monoxide detectors monthly and change batteries at least once a year.
- ☐ Hold a family meeting to review your emergency plan on an annual basis.

WHAT TO HAVE IN YOUR 4-DAY HOME SURVIVAL KIT

In a large plastic container with lid, store the following items:

- ☐ A good first aid kit
- ☐ One gallon of drinking water per person and pets, per day for 7 days
- ☐ Freeze-dried and canned food – make it a variety and include hand operated can opener
- ☐ Items required for infants or small children such as diapers, formula & bottles
- ☐ Flashlights, candles, oil lamps with lamp oil or lanterns
- ☐ Large box of wooden matches
- ☐ Camping stove with fuel (cook in well ventilated areas only!)
- ☐ Battery operated radio with extra batteries
- ☐ Non-electronic telephone (old style phones without power cord will operate without electricity).
- ☐ Cards, games, books and other things to keep your mind busy
- ☐ Remember, you will still have all the amenities of your home such as hygiene supplies, warm clothes and blankets. Just think of it as "Camping at Home."

Evacuation Planning

Emergency services are overtaxed in all disasters. It takes time and additional resources to get help to those in need. In other words, you want to be prepared to take care of yourself– potentially for days. Successful evacuations require good planning and great coordination – amongst families, neighborhoods, communities and agencies. Let us help you NOW to start planning for future emergencies. Specific neighborhood guides are also available online at www.areyoufiresafe.com under the Get Fire Smart section or by going to following site: <http://www.mynvadacounty.com/nc/igs/oes/Pages/Community-Emergency-Preparedness-Guides.aspx>

☐ **Two escape routes from our home are:**

1. _____
2. _____

SUGGESTED ITEMS TO TAKE IN AN EMERGENCY EVACUATION

Prioritize choices based upon the time you have to evacuate.

Emergency Items

- ___ Cell phone/charger
- ___ Flashlight/batteries
- ___ Portable radio/batteries
- ___ Cameras, computers & back up disk

Food and Water (for 4-7 days)

- ___ Water (1 gallon per person and pet per day)
- ___ Non-perishable, ready-to-eat food
- ___ Manual can opener

Documents

- ___ Drivers' / Marriage licenses

- ___ Proof of Insurance
- ___ Birth certificates and passports

Money

- ___ Checking and Savings books
- ___ Purse/Wallet with credit cards/cash

Medications

- ___ Prescriptions, Analgesics, 1st Aid Kit
- ___ Glasses/contacts, dentures, hearing aids

Family

- ___ Family Heirlooms/Keepsakes

- ___ Pets with ID tags, medications, leashes, food

Jewelry

- ___ Valuable jewelry
- ___ Military Medals
- ___ Sentimental
- ___ Photos albums/videos
- ___ Family Bible

Toiletries

- ___ Soap, towels, toothbrush and toothpaste

- ___ Shaving articles
- ___ Sanitary devices

Clothing

- ___ Clothes for each person warm/cold
- ___ Extra Shoes/Boots
- ___ Sleepwear
- ___ Infant Supplies & Toys

Additional Items to Take

- ___ Reading material
- ___ Recreational items
- ___ Recreational Items

IF AN EVACUATION IS ANNOUNCED

Register for Code Red Emergency Alert Notifications Code Red is a high-speed mass notification system designed to notify residents in the event of an emergency. This service allows the Nevada County Sheriff's Office to deliver emergency or time-sensitive messages to you via SMS/text, email, landline, cell phone, or TTY. Code Red alerts will display as originating from 866- 419-5000 or 855-969-4636 on your caller ID. If you missed any of the message details, you can also dial the number back to hear the complete message.

If you have a residential or business phone number utilizing AT&T, your phone number is already accessible as part of the public safety data base. If you desire to be notified via your AT&T residential or business phone only, no action is required on your part.

In order to be notified by the county's Emergency Notification System via your cable service phone line, Voice over IP (VoIP), cell phone, cell phone text messaging, or personal email, residents will need to manually add their information to the emergency notification data base. You may also add family members to receive notices.

Encourage everyone in your household to register and make sure these numbers are excluded from your do not disturb settings by adding them to your favorites group (iOS) or with exceptions (Android.) You don't want to miss these calls. If you need help signing up with CodeRED please dial 211 for assistance.

No Guarantee — Monitor local media too. Code Red alerts only work when cell phone towers and telephone lines are working too. There is no guarantee you will receive an alert during an emergency.

Sign Up Questions? 211 Connecting Point is helping Nevada County residents with sign up assistance. Dial 2-1-1 to talk to someone who can help you sign up in Code Red. However, accounts set up over the phone will not be a managed account where information can be modified later. <https://211connectingpoint.org/>

It is imperative that you tune into local media for up to the minute information.

REGISTER FOR LOCAL EMERGENCY NOTIFICATIONS NOW!

To assure your contact information is included, go to the Nevada County OES website:

<http://www.mynevadacounty.com/nc/igs/oes/>

Look for the CodeRED link and input your information.

The emergency notification system will only be activated by County Public Safety Personnel to send emergency messages.

HOW TO STAY INFORMED

- KVMR 89.5FM or 105.1FM IS NEVADA COUNTY'S EMERGENCY INFORMATION STATION
- KNCO 830AM or STAR 94.1FM
- **www.yubanet.com** or **www.theunion.com**
- Listen for fire and law enforcement announcements in your neighborhood.
- Keep your home phone available for emergency evacuation information.
- Call CAL FIRE, Fire Information at (530) 823-4083.
- Nevada County Office of Emergency Services on Twitter, @NevCoOES

- Nevada County Office of Emergency Services on Facebook, @NevadaCountyOES
- Call 211 to speak with a live person and to receive updated information.

STAY INFORMED WITH 211 CONNECTING POINT

211 is a free service that connects Nevada County residents with critical non-emergency information before, during, and after a disaster. Before disaster strikes, call 211 to learn about preparedness resources and enroll in the CodeRED emergency alert system. During a disaster, 211 provides information on evacuations, shelters, road closures, and more. Our trained call specialists provide up-to-date official information directly from the Emergency Operations Center. After a disaster, 211 is your starting point to connect to resources such as food, shelter, clothing, and recovery programs. Dial 2-1-1 (or 1-844-319-4119) to connect by phone or learn more about us at 211connectingpoint.org. To connect with 211 via text message, text your zip code to 898211 to start a conversation. **Do not call 911 for information** – only call if you have an emergency to report. For additional questions or comments, contact the Nevada County Office of Emergency Services at oes@co.nevada.ca.us or 530-265-1515.

WHEN AN EVACUATION IS ANNOUNCED – LEAVE IMMEDIATELY

Don't wait to evacuate if you feel unsafe. Wildland fires move quickly and change direction depending on weather conditions and fuel load. Evacuation routes may become severely congested in an emergency. Late evacuations contribute to traffic jams and put you, your neighbors and first responders at risk. Leaving early increases your chance of survival. If an evacuation is ordered, every minute counts. Do not delay. Be prepared: know where your go bag is, be sure you can open your garage if the power goes out, and keep pets close.

STAY CALM & FOLLOW DIRECTIONS

This Emergency Preparedness Guide and Evacuation Plan cannot predict all possible evacuation scenarios. Each incident presents unique problems and may require alternative evacuation routes. You may be directed into green zones, such as irrigated pastures, golf courses, or orchards as a temporary measure for your protection. This makes it imperative that you listen to and follow all directions. Don't wait to evacuate if you feel unsafe.

ONCE OUT – STAY OUT

Once out, you will not be allowed back into your home until the evacuation order is lifted. This is for the safety of you and firefighters, as well as reducing the chance of looting.

There are countless potential hazards to be aware of during and after a fire or other emergency. A few hazards to be aware of are:

- Reduced visibility from smoke
- Downed power lines with live wires
- Falling trees and limbs
- Rolling rocks

Be sure to obey officers' directions. Follow traffic cones and route markers. Message boards may be used to provide key information. Please follow instructions and remain calm. Stopping to talk to officers during an emergency is not recommended as it slows the evacuation process.

EVACUATION ORDER CHECKLIST

The time you have may change in a moment's notice - start with the first priority.
Secure Structure, People & Pets

Time Available	Priority	Task
0-10 Minutes	1	Load your medications, important documents, supplies and pets into vehicle.
	2	Park car in driveway facing out with keys in ignition for a quick exit. Disconnect automatic garage door opener for quick access by emergency personnel.
10 Min. to 1 Hour	3	Close windows, vents, doors, venetian blinds or non-combustible window coverings and drapes.
	4	Shut off gas at the meter. Turn off propane tanks including BBQ and other portable tanks. After fire threat passes call gas company to re-establish service if assistance is needed. Affix wrench to propane tank for quick access to shut off gas during an emergency.
	5	Close fireplace screens and/or doors.
	6	Move flammable furniture, doormats, brooms and other flammable items into the center of the home away from windows and glass doors.
	7	Turn on a light in each room to increase the visibility of your home in heavy smoke.
	8	Erect ladders against house and place fire-fighting tools (rake, shovel, chainsaw) in front of house.
	9	Place combustible patio furniture either inside or at least 30 feet away from structure.
	10	Connect garden hoses to outside taps and sprinklers.
1 Hour to 4 Hours	11	If available, set up portable gasoline powered pump.
	12	If combustible materials are present, place lawn sprinklers on the roof and near above-ground fuel tanks and wet down. Do not leave unattended and turn off when you leave your home.
	13	Wet or remove shrubs within 30 feet of home.
	14	Seal attic and ground vents with pre-cut plywood or heavy aluminum foil.
	15	Seal attic and ground vents with pre-cut plywood or heavy aluminum foil.
	16	Protect water sources – wet down pump house, clear flammable vegetation away from supply infrastructure.
	17	Implement evacuation of livestock.

EVACUATION DESTINATION

- ☐ Follow instructions and cooperate with emergency personnel. There are multiple community evacuation destinations to which you may be directed and the location may not be the closest to your home.
- ☐ Notify an out of area contact person to inform them of your location and status.
- ☐ Leave a note with your emergency contact information and out of area contact on your refrigerator or kitchen table in the event emergency crews need to contact you.
- ☐ Take only essential vehicles – the more vehicles, the more congestion on the road. Larger vehicles such as horse trailers and RV's clog evacuation routes and endanger everyone's life.
- ☐ Put on long trousers, heavy shoes, cotton long sleeve shirts, gloves and scarf -No polyester/synthetics – it melts!
- ☐ Stay clear of any downed power lines and poles. Always assume they are live!
- ☐ Early evacuation in the face of a life-threatening wildfire is the single most important thing a resident may do to protect lives. History has shown that individuals who chose to stay and fight a wildland fire soon understand that they were not prepared to be a firefighter. **If you are trapped by fire**, please refer to the Fire Entrapment checklist.

POSSIBLE EVACUATION CENTERS/SHELTERS:

Listen to local media for evacuation center destinations. Examples of American Red Cross shelters in Nevada County:

- The Fairgrounds (unless there is a large event taking place such as the County Fair or Draft Horse Classic.)
- Nevada Union High School.
- The Red Cross shelter at the First Baptist Church across from Nevada Union High School.
- The Grass Valley Veteran's Hall.

NOTE: The chosen shelter will be announced via all available media outlets based on current emergency conditions.

FIRE ENTRAPMENT CHECKLIST

LEAVE EARLY. You are strongly urged to evacuate when advised. If you are in doubt, just get out. Due to the unpredictability of wildland fire there is always the possibility that you may become cut-off from escape and trapped at your home, so we have developed a guide that may help save your life.

Remember, one of the first things to go is electricity, so you won't have the garden hose to help you if you are on a well without a backup power supply.

It is **strongly recommended** you evacuate whenever possible. During a wildfire event, there will NOT be a fire engine available to protect every home. Defending your

property from wildfire may take many hours of strenuous activity. You must be physically and emotionally able to provide for your safety during the emergency. **Most people are not.**

You may be placed in a situation that demands you stay due to the inability to safely evacuate.

FIRE ENTRAPMENT CHECKLIST

1. **REMAIN CALM** – an approaching wildfire will be extremely loud, create extreme heat and smoke and likely evoke fear and panic as it reaches your home. The duration of the fire front varies by vegetation type and density. Generally, grassland vegetation environments typically burn for 10 minutes, brush lands for 20 minutes and timber for over an hour.
 2. Before the fire front arrives, identify **SAFETY ZONES**. A simple definition of a SAFETY ZONE is: an area used for escaping a wildfire that is clear of flammable materials. Examples include irrigated pastures or golf courses, parking lots, large ponds and any other area that will not support combustion.
 3. Your home will serve as your primary **SHELTER** from the fire front.
 4. **BEFORE** the fire arrives: dress in protective clothing (long sleeve cotton shirt, heavy pants, vibram soled boots, shut all windows and doors to prevent smoke and flames from entering the house; move furniture away from windows to help prevent embers that enter the house through a broken window from igniting furniture inside of home; place a ladder next to home; fill bathtub and buckets for putting out small fires; cover your face with a cotton handkerchief to protect yourself from smoke inhalation; place wet blankets or towels around window and door edges inside the house to stop smoke and embers from entering.
 5. **BEFORE** the fire arrives **OUTSIDE** the home: check water supplies around your home and fill any available containers; remove garden furniture, doormats and other loose items that could trap embers; hose down the structure and 30 feet of vegetation surrounding it; block downspouts and fill rain gutters with water; actively patrol your property for any embers blowing in from the fire front and extinguish with wet mops, buckets, backpack sprayers or fire pump; turn on your irrigation system if available; continue to monitor media outlets for updates on the fire.
 6. **DURING** the fire: go inside the home when it becomes too hot to stay outside. The skin on your ears and hands will alert you that conditions have become too hot to survive outside. When you feel it has become too hot for you, go inside to take shelter. Take all fire fighting equipment inside with you, including hoses, rakes, shovels and water supplies. Stay inside your house while the fire front passes around the house and look out for burning embers landing inside the home. Extinguish any spot fires. Do not shelter in a part of your home that does not allow you to see the progress of the fire. If your home catches fire and you are unable to extinguish what has now become a structure fire – go outside onto burnt ground after the fire front has passed (or go to your auxiliary safety zone.) Keep well away from the radiant heat that is being generated from the structure fire. Do not return into the house for any reason.
 7. **AFTER** the fire front has passed: continue to wear your personal protective clothing; after main fire front passes, go outside again as soon as it is safe; inspect the perimeter of the home to extinguish any spot fires; water down the outside of the home and vegetation; continue to look for small fires from burning embers for many hours after the fire front has passed.
 8. **LOOK** for burning embers: inside and on the roof; under the floor boards; under house crawl spaces; on decks and patios; window ledges and door sills; roof lines and gutters; outdoor furniture; doormats; garden beds and mulch; wood piles; sheds or other outbuildings.
 9. **COMMUNICATE** your status to your out of area contact so your family knows you are safe.
- Work with your neighbors and your community to prepare for wildfire. It is not a matter of **IF** another **WILDFIRE** will happen in Nevada County, but rather **WHEN and WHERE** it will strike. **BE PREPARED YEAR ROUND!**

CHECKLIST FOR RETURNING HOME AFTER A FIRE

Unfortunately, a fire has passed through your area and considerable damage may have been done. To ensure your safety as your return, please keep these precautions in mind.

CHECKLIST FOR RETURNING HOME AFTER A FIRE

Unfortunately a fire has passed through your area and considerable damage may have been done. To ensure your safety as you return, please keep these precautions in mind.

When returning to your property check for:

- ☐ Trees, brush and rocks which may be weakened or loosened by fire. Trees and brush weakened by fire may lose limbs or fall. Rocks loosened by fire may roll and crumble. If rocks have rolled down a slope, expect more to follow.
- ☐ Debris or damage from fire on roads and driveways.
- ☐ Debris on the road near your home and in your driveway. Clearing the debris to the edge of your driveway and removing it later will help keep your home safe from fire.
- ☐ Utility poles weakened by fire.

At your property, check for fire or fire damage:

- ☐ At your property, check for fire or fire damage:
- ☐ Hot embers in rain gutters, on the roof, under decks, crawl spaces and under overhangs.
- ☐ Hot embers in wood piles, debris piles and lawn.
- ☐ If well or pump-house is in working order.
- ☐ If your electrical service has not been interrupted you

may continue to use your power for such things as pumping water, etc.

If your utility services are off, check for burned service equipment and facilities:

- ☐ If your utility services are off, check for burned service equipment and facilities: Is there damage to the gas meter, gas lines, or propane tank. If there is ANY visible damage DO NOT attempt to repair or turn on these services. Call your local propane or utility company for assistance.
- ☐ Look at the electric meter. If there is any visible damage DO NOT ATTEMPT to turn the breaker on. Call your local utility company for assistance.
- ☐ If there are electrical wires on the ground STAY CLEAR, CONSIDER THEM ENERGISED and contact your local utility company immediately.
- ☐ Beware of metal fences – they may be energized by downed power lines away from view.

When you have secured safety outside your home, check inside for fire or fire damage:

- ☐ Embers in the attic, which may have entered through vents.
- ☐ If electricity is off, before turning it on, check all appliances to ensure they are off. Once you are sure

all appliances are turned off, there is no fire damage to your building and the meter does not have any visible damage you may turn on the main circuit breaker, or contact your utility company for assistance.

- ☐ Check if the phone is working.
- ☐ Check if security system and alarms are working.
- ☐ Use flashlights to help inspect your home and surrounding area.

If you find any of these conditions:

If you find any of these conditions:

Fire – stay away and report condition to a local fire or law enforcement official in the area or call 911.

Damaged Utility Equipment – report electrical problems or damaged equipment to your local utility company.

Gas Leaks – Report gas service problems to your local supplier.

Other – Report any other safety issues or emergencies to 911.

After checking your property, continue to use caution and note outdoor conditions:

- ☐ Trees and poles with deep charring, particularly if still smoking should be considered hazardous.
- ☐ Smoldering holes in the ground can be full of hot coals.
- ☐ White ash is evidence of hot material.

Tahoe National Forest Prevention Technicians: The Front Lines of Wildfire Prevention

The radio crackles and an Emergency Command Center dispatcher, located in Grass Valley, relays coordinates for reported smoke above Highway 20. A possible wildfire has ignited. A lone Forest Service firefighter on patrol answers the call. Within minutes she reaches the location and finds an escaped campfire.

The flames are spreading through adjacent chaparral and climbing ladder fuels into the crown of a white fir. As first on scene, the firefighter sizes up the blaze and assumes a critical role –incident commander – and begins to order additional resources to combat the flames. Within minutes, aviation support circles the area. More wildland firefighters arrive on the ground.

At a school in Truckee, a forest service firefighter enters a classroom along with local firefighters from the nearby protection district. He has already spoken to hundreds of K-3rd graders about indoor and outdoor fire safety this spring. Later, this same forest service firefighter will hang fire safety posters, designed by the students, at popular access points and trailheads on the Tahoe National Forest. These posters serve as a reminder of wildfire risk.

Near Bowman Lake, a forest service firefighter climbs out of his patrol vehicle and approaches a dispersed camping group preparing to make a campfire. After a few polite introductions, he checks to make sure someone in the group is in possession of a campfire permit and that all required protocols of the permit are in place. The group is in compliance. With a wave and a smile he climbs into his vehicle and continues along his route.

All of the wildland firefighters described above hold the same position: They are Tahoe National Forest Fire Prevention Technicians. The Tahoe National Forest has ten Fire Prevention

Technicians, also known as Patrol Units, and they share a unique role in the wildland firefighting organization.

Like their Tahoe National Forest wildland firefighter counterparts, a Fire Prevention Technician's primary duty is the suppression of wildland fires to protect life and property. It's their secondary duties that set them apart. The prevention of unwanted and unplanned fires. On any given day a Fire Prevention Technician may be:

Patrolling National Forest System lands as Forest Protection Officers to enforce fire restrictions, Forest Orders or other laws and regulations.

Serving as a liaison to local community organizations and assisting with Fire Wise projects or other collaborative efforts.

Escorting Smokey Bear and providing outreach at public events about wildfire safety, defensible space, and wildfire preparedness.

Educating school groups on indoor and outdoor fire safety alongside local protection district and Cal Fire firefighters.

Inspecting permitted construction activities or heavy equipment operating on National Forest System lands to ensure wildfire safety.

Performing fire investigations regarding the origin and cause of a recent wildfire.

Responding to wildfire incidents and performing suppression activities.

Respond to medical incidents to provide public and agency/ interagency assist.

The Forest Service, like many organizations, uses the phrase "they wear many different hats" to describe a position with diverse duties. And perhaps no position wears as many hats as Tahoe National Forest Fire Prevention Technicians. Their combined efforts form the frontline of wildfire prevention.



Fire Prevention Technician Robert Crowder receiving the 2018 Public Safety Award from the Auburn Elks Lodge.



Fire Prevention Technician Whitney Martinetti, alongside Truckee Fire Protection District, Northstar Fire, CAL FIRE, and the Town of Truckee/Public Works, construct new fire safety education boards around Truckee. Fire safety posters are created by local students who participated in the multi-agency coordinated Fire Safety Poster Program.





Given the continued and growing threat of extreme weather and wildfires, as seen in 2017 and 2018, PG&E is **enhancing and expanding our Community Wildfire Safety Program** as an additional precautionary measure to further reduce wildfire risks and **help keep our customers and the communities we serve safe.**

New and Enhanced Safety Measures

- **Further enhancing vegetation management efforts** to increase focus on addressing the vegetation that poses a higher potential for wildfire risk, such as overhanging branches and dead and dying trees.
- **Conducting accelerated safety inspections of electric towers and poles** from top to bottom through ground, climbing or helicopter inspections and, in some cases, drones. This is in addition to our routine inspections and maintenance programs.
- **Disabling automatic reclosing of circuit breakers and reclosers** on lines in high fire-risk areas during wildfire season.
- **Proactively turning off electric power for safety as a last resort when extreme fire danger conditions are forecasted (Public Safety Power Shutoff)**, and helping customers prepare by providing early warning notification when and where possible.

Real Time Monitoring and Intelligence

- **Coordinating prevention and response efforts** by monitoring wildfire risks in real time from our **Wildfire Safety Operations Center**.
- **Adding approximately 1,300 new PG&E weather stations by 2022** to enhance weather forecasting and modeling; real-time data available at mesowest.utah.edu.
- **Supporting the installation of nearly 600 high-definition cameras** in high fire-threat areas by 2022, increasing coverage across high fire-risk areas to more than 90 percent; current images available at alertwildfire.org.

System Hardening and Resiliency

- **Installing stronger and more resilient poles and covered power lines** in the highest fire-risk areas over the course of the next 10 years, reducing the likelihood of damage from debris, animals and birds.
- **Replacing equipment to further reduce wildfire risks and tailoring upgrades** based on terrain and weather conditions using more granular analysis of fire-prone regions.
- **Piloting new resilience zones** to allow PG&E to provide electricity to central community resources serving local customers during a Public Safety Power Shutoff event.

Do You Have a Plan to Stay Safe During Wildfires?



UPDATE YOUR CONTACT INFORMATION
by visiting
pge.com/mywildfirealerts



PREPARE & PRACTICE
a plan to make sure everyone in your home knows what to do during an emergency



CREATE & REFRESH
your emergency kit with supplies to last a week in waterproof containers



MAINTAIN DEFENSIBLE SPACE around your home by regularly trimming bushes and trees

LEARN MORE AT [PGE.COM/WILDFIRESAFETY](https://pge.com/wildfiresafety)

ANIMAL EVACUATIONS

Listen to local media for the locations to which animals are being evacuated. Pets/animals are not allowed at shelters except for official disabled persons' assistance animals. Owners are responsible for locating placement for pets/animals during an evacuation.

For animal specific evacuation planning visit the FEMA Ready website at <http://www.ready.gov/animals>. If time allows for an orderly evacuation, assistance for animal evacuation may be coordinated through the Nevada County Office of Emergency Services.

THINGS YOU CAN DO TO GET YOUR ANIMALS SAFELY OUT -

1. Be sure that your driver's license shows your current street address. If not, go to the DMV and get an address card to carry with your license. If your animals are boarded some place other than your residence there is currently no way for you to gain access to the area during a fire.
2. You must have a pet carrier, leash or halter/lead for each animal. Always keep them together in an easily reached place.
3. Train each animal to tie, lead and load into a car or trailer.
4. Each animal needs ID such as collar tags, microchips or spray paint. Do not make your information visible. It is a good idea to have a picture of you with your animal.
5. If you have a good defensible space, consider keeping animals there, rather than attempting to evacuate. Never confine animals in a barn, as they can die from smoke inhalation.
6. If you do evacuate, you need to make sure that each animal — and you — have evacuation boxes, with supplies likely to be needed in an evacuation emergency. In these boxes you need to have medication, medical records and first aid materials. Also have leashes, food, water, bowls, cat litter and pan (or newspaper to make into a cat pan), can opener and bedding.
7. During fire season, weigh the risks and benefits of leaving gates latched but not locked and leaving driveway gates open.
8. Never believe that someone will come to your premises to save your animals. Your friends will not be able to get past the roadblock. There won't be fire crews to circulate through the area. **YOU NEED TO GET YOUR ANIMALS TO THE ROADBLOCK WHERE HELP WILL BE AVAILABLE!**
9. If you find yourself at a roadblock arguing with the CHP/Sheriff trying to get back to your animals, take a deep breath and think. Remember that your goal is to get your animals out safely. Perhaps the sheriff could let the animals out of the barn, or ferry our crew to lead them out, or help with some other solution.
10. Listen to KVMR (89.5 FM). They are our emergency broadcasting system. We may have radio repeat instructions regarding evacuation site, locations of roadblock and phone numbers to call for help. If you have internet, check **YubaNet Fire News** and **Happening Now**.



ADDRESS SIGNS

Make it easy for first responders to find your home in an emergency by placing familiar reflective address placards at the end of your driveway that can be easily seen from the road.

These can be obtained from the Fire Safe Council of Nevada County and most local Fire Districts as well as local hardware stores.

Get two that be placed back-to-back so they can be seen from either direction on the road.



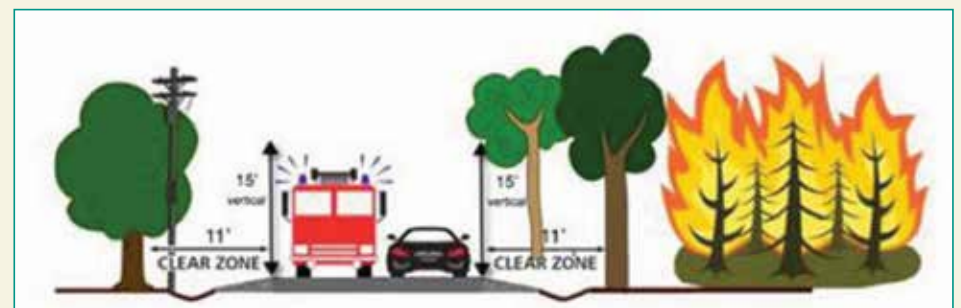
GATE ACCESS

In an emergency can first responders get through your gate? Make it easy by setting a Code your local fire department recommends and register your code with the Sheriff's Command Center.



ROADSIDE CLEARANCE

Clear roadsides to at least 10 feet on both sides and at least 15 feet high. Make it easy for fire engines to enter and residents to evacuate at the same time.



Fire AND Water

NEVADA IRRIGATION DISTRICT IS WORKING DILIGENTLY
TO PROTECT OUR COMMUNITY AGAINST WILDFIRE RISKS
THROUGH DIVERSE EFFORTS AND PROJECTS.



Fire Fuel Reduction and Forest Health

NID partners with other agencies and organizations to remove fire fuels and selectively thin forests on District-owned lands in portions of the Bear and Yuba River watersheds.

For example, at Scotts Flat campgrounds, crews are in their third year of removing hazardous trees and dense dying vegetation. This project will significantly reduce the catastrophic fire risk to forested lands adjacent to the Scotts Flat Reservoir and to nearby residential communities. It also will improve forest health. The project is part of a larger fuels reduction program in partnership with the Sierra Nevada Conservancy (SNC), Cascade Shores, Scotts Flat and local Firewise communities, and CAL FIRE.



Loma Rica Reservoir Water Supply for Air Tankers



NID has been working to remove accumulated sediment in Loma Rica Reservoir to reclaim lost water storage. So far, 40,059 cubic yards of material have been removed. That's enough sediment to fill about 264 semi-truck trailers. The District has regained storage in Loma Rica Reservoir for about 8.1 million gallons (or 24.9 acre-feet) that can be used for community supplies.



As part of its support of community firefighting efforts, NID has contributed water free of charge to the nearby Grass Valley Air Attack Base, which mixes the water with retardant dropped by air tankers to fight wildfires regionally and around the state.



Strict Campfire Rules at NID Campgrounds

Each year about 200,000 people visit 15 NID campgrounds in the foothills at Rollins and Scotts Flat reservoirs, as well as higher in the Sierra at Jackson Meadows, Bowman, Canyon Creek, Sawmill and Faucherie reservoirs. The Nevada Irrigation District is proud to work with CAL FIRE and the U.S. Forest Service to address fire risks, and set rules and regulations for its campgrounds.



Campfires only are permitted in fire rings and designated camping areas. Fires and coals cannot be left unattended, and fires must be extinguished before visitors leave their campsites or retire for the evening. NID personnel routinely inspects campsites for unsafe or inappropriate behavior and educate both first-time and seasoned visitors about fire safety and campfire regulations.

Hydrants Provide Water for Fighting Fires



In total, there are 2,551 fire hydrants within Nevada Irrigation District's boundaries, including 130 new hydrants paid for by NID and installed during the past five years to help protect neighborhoods. In 2019, ten new fire hydrants will be installed as part of a treated water pipeline replacement project on Boreham Lane and Gayle Lane in Nevada City.



When designing pipeline projects, NID works with local fire departments for input on hydrant placement that can best support their firefighting efforts. Also, NID crews perform hazard tree removal, brushing and vegetation control in an effort to maintain a reliable source and flow of water, defensible space and safe access to water infrastructure.





FIREWISE USA®
RESIDENTS REDUCING WILDFIRE RISKS

THE COALITION OF FIREWISE COMMUNITIES

In Nevada County, the Firewise Communities have organized as a coalition to promote safe practices in a dangerous wildfire environment. As part of a well-respected national movement, the Firewise Communities are trained and supported by the Fire Safe Council of Nevada County.

The Coalition promotes fire safety through advocacy, education, and community involvement with other stakeholders interested in working toward stronger fire safety practices.

It is through the Coalition that Firewise Communities and those communities who are working toward that recognition share information, receive valuable training and information, and advocate for a safer environment. Our monthly meetings provide the avenue through which this information is shared or developed.

Attend meetings the first Tuesday of each month at the Nevada County Board of Realtors office on Crown Pointe Circle, Grass Valley.

Find out if you live in a Firewise community and participate in their activities. Or if you don't live in one, contact the Fire Safe Council of Nevada County to learn about starting one with your neighbors.



United States Department of Agriculture



Forest Service

DRONES NEAR WILDFIRES ARE NOT SAFE!

**IF YOU FLY,
WE CAN'T**



- FLYING DRONES OR UAS (UNMANNED AIRCRAFT SYSTEMS) WITHIN OR NEAR WILDFIRES WITHOUT PERMISSION COULD CAUSE INJURY OR DEATH TO FIREFIGHTERS AND HAMPER THEIR ABILITY TO PROTECT LIVES, PROPERTY, AND NATURAL CULTURAL RESOURCES.
- FIRE MANAGERS MAY SUSPEND AERIAL FIREFIGHTING UNTIL UNAUTHORIZED UAS LEAVE THE AREA, ALLOWING WILDFIRE TO GROW LARGER.
- CONTACT YOUR NEAREST LAND MANAGEMENT AGENCY OFFICE TO LEARN MORE ABOUT UAS AND PUBLIC LANDS.

UNAUTHORIZED USE OF UNMANNED AIRCRAFT, ALSO KNOWN AS UAS, "DRONES," OR REMOTE CONTROLLED MODEL AIRCRAFT IN A FIRE AREA ENDANGERS THE LIVES OF PILOTS AND FIREFIGHTERS. NEVER FLY AN UNMANNED AIRCRAFT OVER OR NEAR FIRES.

**BUREAU
OF LAND
MANAGEMENT**

**Take
Responsibility...**

Protect your home.
Create 100 feet of
defensible space!

**MOTHER LODGE
FIELD OFFICE**

takeresponsibility.cafirealliance.com



Are you **REALLY** ready for fire season and evacuations?

Have peace of mind this year by knowing you have done everything you can to survive a wildfire. The easiest way to know you have effective defensible space is to get a free Defensible Space Advisory Visit by a quality trained Fire Safe Council volunteer. Or complete this self-verification checklist. After verifying you're prepared, sit back, relax, and enjoy the beauty of a well-maintained landscape!

- ☐ YES! I have had my defensible space verified by the Fire Safe Council of Nevada County and am prepared to evacuate my family in an emergency. CONGRATULATIONS!!
 - ☐ Have you developed or reviewed your family's emergency preparedness and evacuation plan this year? Is your evacuation kit refreshed? Emergencies strike when you least expect it. Think about the Oroville Dam citizen evacuation. They were given an immediate order to leave. Having a good emergency plan in place that all family members are familiar with, will make the event less stressful and help provide for a safe and smooth exit. Many neighborhoods have special planning guides. Please visit: <http://www.mynevadacounty.com/nc/igs/oes/Pages/Community-Emergency-Preparedness-Guides.aspx> for these individual neighborhood guides. Or use the Nevada County Guide in this Prepare for Fire Season Guide.
 - ☐ Does your road and driveway have 12 feet of good surface with 10 feet of vegetation management on both sides, and a 15 foot vertical clearance? Do you have a proper turnaround area (hammerhead, bulbous or loop? This will allow good access for the fire department or other emergency vehicles.
 - ☐ Do you have a reflective address sign to clearly identify your property for an emergency response? Moments matter when responding to medical aid calls in the dark of night. Make sure it is EASY to find you!
 - ☐ Have you removed all dead/dying leaves, pine needles, tree limbs, brush, and trees at least 10 feet from your structure? Keeping fire away from your home structure will help it withstand a wildfire.
 - ☐ Have you cleaned your roof and rain gutters of all leaves and pine needles? Roofs are one of the most susceptible areas of a home. Ensure you have a Class A fire-rated roof on your home. The building code for fire-rated roofing was changed after Nevada County's catastrophic 49'er Fire. This is now required throughout the State of California. This is how many homes burn in wildfires.
 - ☐ Are all tree limbs a minimum of 10 feet from the chimney or stovepipe outlet? Is the chimney or stovepipe screened or equipped with a collared spark arrestor? Embers from home warming fires may escape the chimney and cause limbs that are too close, or dry leaves on the roof to ignite.
 - ☐ Is there 10 feet of clearance around your propane tank? Propane tanks are a significant fuel source near your home. Proper safety clearance is required.
 - ☐ Are all soffit and foundation vents screened with 1/8-inch metal wire mesh or a metal baffled vent, to catch embers? Flying embers from wildfire may enter your home through vents and cause the home to ignite.
 - ☐ Are all woodpiles more than 30 feet from the structure – or covered with a fire-rated tarp? Many homeowners use wood as a heating source that creates a hazard if stored too close to the house. Unused piles that are stored next to the home create a fire hazard and should either be moved outside the home ignition zone or covered with a fire-rated tarp.
 - ☐ Is there irrigation for landscaping around the structure? Keep your home ignition zone either very lean of flammable material or well-irrigated, to decrease the chance of a fire near your home.
 - ☐ Does your home have stucco/stone/brick or cement board siding? Non-flammable siding on your home will make it more difficult to burn. Building codes throughout California would require you to install these construction features if you build a home today in the Wildland Urban Interface.
 - ☐ Do you have a cement, wood or Trex deck? Is it boxed in or open? Non-flammable cement and tile decks are the best for withstanding fire, however, solid redwood, cedar, and fir decks, perform very well provided they do not have wood, recycling, or fuel containers stored under them. Decks that have been fully boxed in with plywood provide added safety.
- For detailed information on building products suitable for a high wildfire hazard area, please visit http://www.fire.ca.gov/fire_prevention/fire_prevention_wildland_codes.php

RESOURCE DIRECTORY

Agencies to assist with fuel reduction, conservation planning, & emergency preparedness.

Fire Safe Council of Nevada County (530) 272-1122

Nevada County Office of Emergency Services (530) 265-1515

Nevada County Resource Conservation District (530) 272-3417

Cal Fire – Regional Office – Auburn (530) 889-0111

Cal Fire Recorded Fire Incident Information (530) 823-4083

Tahoe National Forest (530) 265-4531

Bureau of Land Management (916) 941-3101

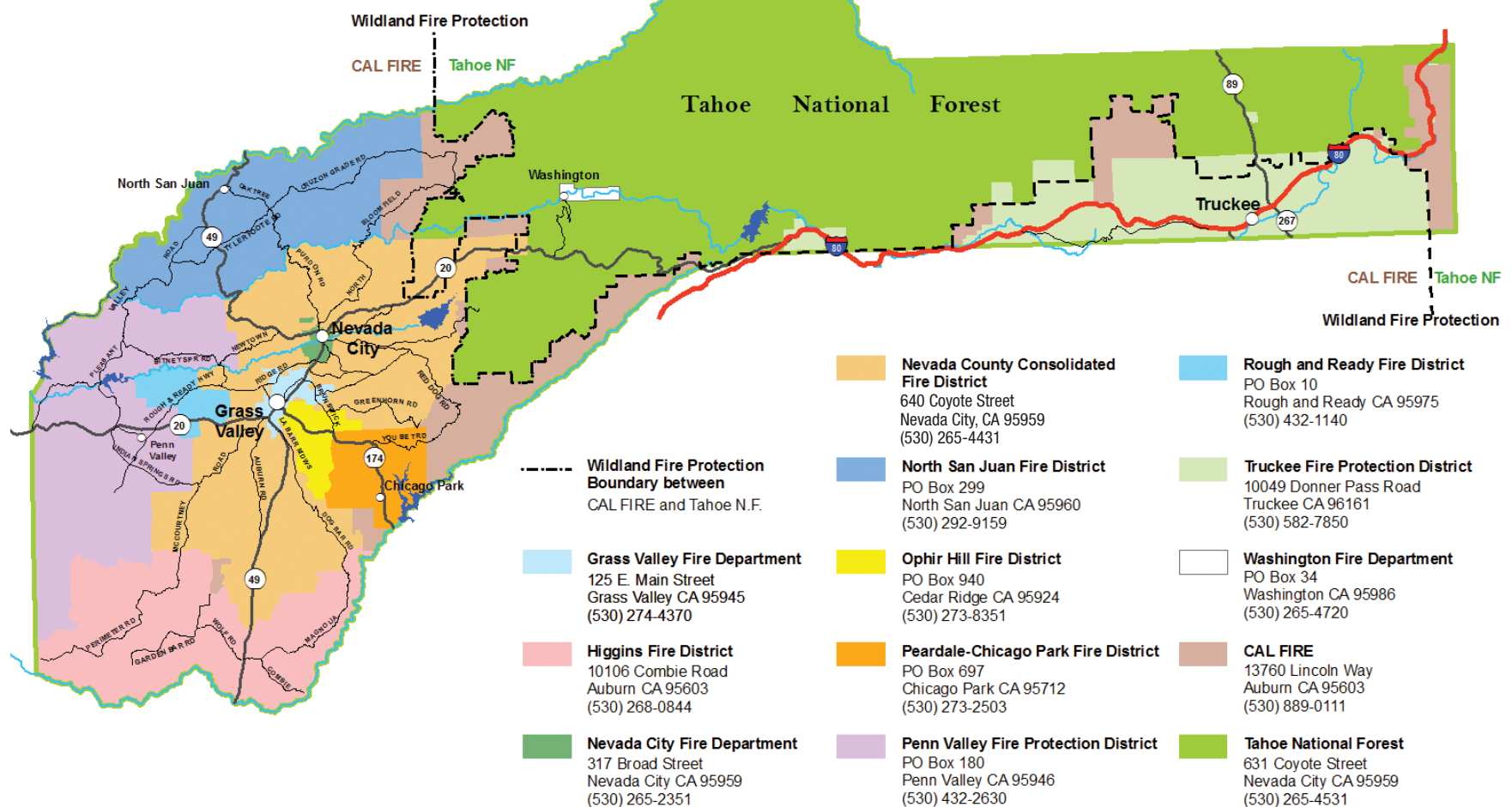
Nevada County Public Health Department (530) 265-7174

American Red Cross Capital Region (916) 993-7070

American Red Cross Northeastern Chapter (530) 673-1460



What Fire District Are You In?



CAL FIRE has primary wildland fire responsibility within local Nevada County fire district boundaries.



Ready Nevada County represents the multifaceted, stakeholder effort coordinated by the County of Nevada to raise awareness and mobilize the community to prevent and prepare for wildfire. We are working to increase Nevada County's wildfire readiness through increased planning, strategic partnerships, improved communication, and ongoing public engagement.



When you see this logo, know you are getting the best information about steps you can take to prevent wildfire and prepare for a potential emergency. This information has been compiled through the collaborative efforts of County Officials, local and state agencies, first responders, non-profits, and community leaders.

**Wildfire safety
starts with you!**

**Talk to friends, family, and neighbors
about their preparedness strategy.**

Look for the Ready Nevada County
"Ready, Set, Go Handbook" in the mail.

Get involved at **ReadyNevadaCounty.org**