

# BE PREPARED FOR A WILDFIRE

Wildfires can ruin homes and cause injuries or death to people and animals.

A wildfire is an unplanned fire that burns in a natural area such as a forest, grassland, or prairie.





Can cause flooding or create problems with transportation, gas, power, and communications.



Can damage your property. Set up defense zones to protect your home.



Can happen anywhere, anytime. Risk increases with little rain and high winds.

## IF YOU ARE UNDER A WILDFIRE WARNING, GET TO SAFETY RIGHT AWAY

Leave if told to do so.





Listen for emergency information and alerts.

If trapped, call 9-1-1.





Use N95 masks to keep particles out of the air you breathe.

Sign up for Skamania County emergency alerts: <a href="https://tinyurl.com/Skamania-Emergency-Alerts">https://tinyurl.com/Skamania-Emergency-Alerts</a>

### **HOW TO STAY SAFE**

#### WHEN A WILDFIRE THREATENS





National Weather Service (NWS) also provides weather alerts.

**Know your community's evacuation routes** and find several ways to leave. Drive the evacuation routes and find safe meeting locations and shelters. Have a plan for pets and livestock.

Gather emergency supplies, such as Go-Kit and N95 respirator masks. Prepare for each person's specific needs, such as diapers, glasses, medication. Don't forget the needs of pets.

**Keep important documents** in a fireproof safe. Create password-protected digital copies.

**Create a fire-resistant zone (defensible space)** that is free of leaves, debris, or flammable materials 30 feet from your home.

Use fire-resistant materials to build or renovate.

Find an outdoor water source with a hose that can reach your property.

**Review insurance coverage** - make sure it would replace your property.



**Evacuate.** Leave immediately if authorities tell you to do so. Bring:

- Your Go-Kit
- Medical, RX, diapers, wheelchairs and other special supplies for kids and adults with special needs.
- Computer, external hard drive and/or important documents
- Cell phone with photos of your family members and pets
- Cell phone chargers for car, wall and pocket chargers
- Pets, animals and their Go-Kits (food, water, fencing and crates)

If trapped, call 9-1-1 and give your location but emergency response could be delayed or impossible. Turn on lights to help people find you.

Listen to the radio, and pay attention to emergency alerts on your phone or email and official social media channels (ex: Skamania County Sheriff) for information and instructions. If power is out, try your car radio.

**Use N95 masks** to keep particles out of the air you breathe.



**Listen to authorities** to find out if it is safe to return and whether water is safe to drink.

Avoid hot ash, charred trees, smoldering debris, and live embers.

The ground may contain heat pockets that can burn you or spark another fire.

Consider the danger to pets and livestock walking the ground.

**Send text messages or use social media** to reach out to family and friends. Phone systems are often busy following a disaster. Make calls only in emergencies.

**Document property damage with photographs.** Conduct an inventory and contact your insurance company for assistance.



#### Take an Active Role in Your Safety

Go to Ready.gov/wildfires. Download the **FEMA app** to get more information about preparing for a wildfire.