

# Evacuation:

Keeping You and Your Family Safe

Pollock Pines-Camino Fire Safe Council



# About me:

- PP resident since 1998
- PPCFSC since founded
- Secretary, Vice Chair
- 6<sup>th</sup> grade math and science, leadership
- Teaching fire unit  
about 12 yrs
- Playing with fire since  
8<sup>th</sup> grade
- No. Not yet. . .  
We could be more  
prepared.



Jay Chopp

# Some facts:



Reported September 2016

- In the U.S., over 46 million homes in over 70,000 communities have been built in the Wildland Urban Interface zone (WUI).
- Since 2000 over 38,000 homes have been lost to WUI fires. (.08% or 8 in 10,000, or 1 in 1,250)
- ...when residential development is exposed to extreme wildfire conditions, numerous houses can ignite and burn simultaneously, overwhelming fire fighters and reducing fire protection effectiveness. **High winds of extreme fire events resulted in fires igniting between 1 and 4 houses per minute, Laguna Fire, CA (1993) and Painted Cave Fire (1990).**

# Some more facts:



- Camp Fire, 2018:
  - 85 people perished; 153,000 acres; 18,800 structures burned (14,000 residential, 530 commercial)
  - 10,000 acres in 90 minutes or 1 football field every second
  - ***About 52,000 were evacuated*** (Wikipedia)
- Tubbs Fire, 2017:
  - 22 perished; 36,807 acres; 5643 structures (half homes, or 5% of homes in Santa Rosa)
  - ***About 100,000 were evacuated*** (KQED)

# More facts from CalFire for 2021:



<b>Interval</b>	<b>Fires</b>	<b>Acres</b>
Jan, 1, 2021 through July 28, 2021	4,701	228,091
Jan. 1, 2020 through July 28, 2020	4,223	106,113
5-year average (same interval)	3,443	279,818
2021 combined YTD (CalFire & USFS)	5,671	484,519

## Summary:

- 2021 has seen 478 more fires, an 11% increase.
- Those fires burned more than twice as many acres as a year ago.

# *It's IMPERATIVE!*



- *Extreme wildfire conditions and loss of life and property are increasing.*
- *Residents play a key role in reducing the risk.*
- *Residents must be prepared to evacuate themselves, their family including animals, their valuables, and maybe their neighbors.*

# *Main Idea:*

## *Get prepared.*



- *Prepare to evacuate yourself and your family.*
- *Prepare to evacuate your animals.*
- *Prepare to leave your home and property.*

# Prepare yourself and family: Communication



- **Register with CodeRED at [ready.edso.org](https://ready.edso.org).** Texts, calls, email.
- **Establish an emergency plan;** tell everyone. Where to meet, whom to call.
- **Install an emergency address sign:** heat-resistant, reflective, visible in smoke



# Prepare yourself and family: Essentials



## **Pack a GO Bag**—when you must leave **NOW**

- Clothing and sleepwear for several days
- Medications
- Toiletries, towel
- Flashlight, electronics, charging gear
- Critical paperwork including proof of address for re-entry
  - Passport, deed(s), insurance, marriage license, home photos

# Prepare your pets and other animals



- **Assemble essential supplies for quick departure:** pen, food, bowls, meds, vaxx records
- **Talk with your neighbors:** make a plan to evacuate animals if someone is not home
- **Animal Control may rescue your animals:** have a key available, pictures on your phone. Vaxx records determine where your pet will be housed

# Prepare your home: Inside, as time permits



- Close windows, doors; unlock garage door for firefighter entry
- Remove flammable window coverings
- Move flammable furniture away from windows
- Turn off gas at the meter
- Lock the door? Which is greater risk? Looters or firefighters can't enter

# Prepare your home: Outside, as time permits



- Position vehicles for quick departure; close windows; carry keys
- Bring flammables inside; remove combustibles
- Turn off gas/propane
- Move BBQ away from the house
- Leave exterior lights ON so house is visible in smoke or darkness
- Connect garden hoses for firefighter use; leave sprinklers OFF
- Leave a ladder for easy roof access by firefighters
- Remove debris from roofs and gutters and away from foundation

# Time to Leave?

## Know the *statewide* terminology:



**Evacuation Order:** Immediate threat to life; **a lawful order to leave now**; closed to public access.

**Evacuation Warning:** Potential threat to life, property. Those **needing additional time** and those with pets, livestock **should leave now**.

**Shelter in Place:** Go indoors. Shut, lock doors, windows. Prepare to self-sustain until further notice, or if contacted by emergency personnel.

# Time to Leave?

## When?



### Nothing you own is worth your life.

- **Evacuate immediately when directed by fire or law enforcement.**
  - Information through CodeRED
  - Could be first responder at your door
- **If you are concerned, don't wait to leave. Go.**
  - Especially in an ember storm
  - Especially in a firestorm
- **Drive slowly with lights ON.**
- **Fire fighting vehicles are LARGE. Stay to the side.**
- **If you MUST abandon your vehicle, pull off the road to keep it clear.**

# Resources:



[Calalerts.org](https://www.calalerts.org)

[Fire.ca.gov](https://www.fire.ca.gov)

[Firesafemarin.org](https://www.firesafemarin.org)

[Firewise.org](https://www.firewise.org)

[Fire Adapted Communities: The Next Step in Wildfire Preparedness](#); a publication of the Pollock Pines-Camino Fire Safe Council

[NIST.gov](https://www.nist.gov): National Institute of Science and Technology; US Chamber of Commerce

[NFPA.org](https://www.nfpa.org): (National Fire Protection Association) Including “Codes and Standards for the Built Environment” by Revised by Arthur E. Cote Casey C. Grant