





Art Babbott District 1

March 28, 2018

Dear District 1 Resident,

As you know, our winter season has been reported as historically dry. After years of increasing fire danger, this year's hazardous fuel build-up may make the 2018 fire season particularly challenging.

The threat of catastrophic wildfire represents the #1 health and safety issue for Coconino County residents. My office and County staff are actively engaged in bringing capacity, innovation, and collaboration to increase the scale and pace of regional restoration efforts.

Enclosed is information, entitled "Ready, Set, Go", that provides comprehensive wildfire readiness information for residents. You can team up with Summit Fire, City of Flagstaff and Coconino County by taking the following steps on your property:

- 1. Selectively remove trees and brush close to buildings.
- 2. Clear your roof of pine needles.
- 3. Eliminate flammable items from underneath decks or close to buildings.
- 4. Clear needles, leaves and any other debris away from building foundations.

Further actions to consider include:

- Sign up for emergency alerts from Coconino County's EMERGENCY NOTIFICATIONS ALERT SYSTEM at http://www.coconino.az.gov/ready. For help registering, please call Emergency Management at 928-679-8311. Please note: If you have previously registered for the Code Red alert system, you do not need to register again.
 - If you or a family member would require special assistance during an evacuation, please check the Special Assistance box in the online EMERGENCY NOTIFICATIONS ALERT SYSTEM enrollment form. A member of the Coconino County Public Health Services District (PHSD) Emergency Preparedness Team will contact you to assist with preparing for any special evacuation needs. If you prefer to contact the County PHSD Emergency Preparedness Team directly, please call 928-679-7275 or 928-679-7228.
- WILDFIRE COMMUNITY PREPAREDNESS DAY is on MAY 5, 2018. Consider planning and implementing a neighborhood project that reduces wildfire threat. Having a plan with your family and neighbors is critically important in the event of evacuation. More information can be found at www.wildfireprepday.org.
- Visit www.flagstaff.az.gov/wildlandfire and http://www.sumitfiredepartment.org to learn more.

Your safety and welfare is the number one responsibility of our respective jurisdictions. Help us help you by reading the enclosed information; enrolling in the Coconino County EMERGENCY NOTIFICATIONS ALERT SYSTEM; and planning in advance with family and friends. Feel free to call with any questions at the numbers listed below. We look forward to working with you!

Art Babbott, District 1

Coconino County Board of Supervisors

ababbott@coconino.az.gov

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Flagstaff, AZ 86001

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Sheriff Jim Driscoll Coconino County

911 East Sawmill Road

Flagstaff, AZ

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Mark A. Gaillard

Fire Chief

Flagstaff Fire & Summit Fire

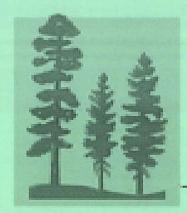
8905 Koch Field Road

Flagstaff, AZ 86004

928-526-9537

Cc:

Matt Ryan, Chair, Coconino County Board of Supervisors
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Dan Musselman, Interim Chief, Flagstaff Police Department
Jeff Meilbeck, CEO & General Manager, NAIPTA



GREATER FLAGSTAFF FORESTS PARTNERSHIP

WWW.GFFP.ORG

Cost Share Grants

Cost Share grant funding may be available through the Greater Flagstaff Forests Partnership (GFFP) to help area landowners with a portion of the cost of thinning unhealthy stands of trees that will increase both individual tree vigor and forest health. Most importantly, these actions will assist in reducing wildfire threat to your property and the greater Flagstaff community.

Wildfire remains one of the greatest threats our community faces, but proactive on the ground work that we implement now will make the difference between degradation of our natural resources or maintaining our forests' sustainability. Help us create a Fire Adapted Community to ensure the greater Flagstaff area continues to remain safe and resilent. Please contact us at admin@gffp.org to learn about available funding opportunities and visit www.gffp,org to learn how you can help promote forest health and reduce risk to our communities from wildfire.

Protect Your Home

7 Ways Residents Can Reduce the Risk that their Homes & Property Will Become Fuel for a Wildfire

#1

Clear

Clear off pine needles, dead leaves 8 anything that can burn from your rooflines, gutters, decks, porches, patios 8 along fence lines. Falling embers will have, nothing to burn.

#3

Screen & Seal

Wind-borne embers can get into homes easily through vents 8 other openings and burn the home from the inside out. Walk around your house to see what openings you can screen or temporarily seal up.

#5

Trim

Trim back any shrubs or tree branches that come closer than 5 feet to the house and attachments, and any overhanging branches.

#7

Close

If ordered to evacuate, make sure all windows & doors are closed tightly, and seal up any pet doors.

Many homes are destroyed by embers entering these openings and burning the house from the inside out.

#2

Store Away

Store away furniture cushions, rattan mats, potted plants & other decorations from decks, porches & patios. These items catch embers and help ignite your home if you leave them outside.

#4

Rake

Embers landing in mulch that touches your house, deck or fence is a big fire hazard. Rake out any landscaping mulch to at least five feet away.

#6

Remove

Walk around your house and remove anything within 30 feet that could burn, such as woodpiles, spare lumber, vehicles and boats – anything that can act as a large fuel source.



NFPA has many more tips and safety recommendations on its websites, including www.firewise.org.

READY, SET, GO!

YOUR PERSONAL WILDFIRE ACTION PLAN







he fire season is now a year-round reality in many areas, requiring firefighters and residents to be on heightened alert for the threat of wildfire throughout the year.

Each year, wildfires consume hundreds of homes in the Wildland/ Urban Interface (WUI). Studies show that as many as 80 percent of the homes lost to wildfires could have been saved if their owners had only followed a few simple fire-safe practices. In addition, wildfire-related deaths occur because people wait too late to leave their home.

Your fire department takes every precaution to help protect you and your property from wildfire. However, the reality is that in a major wildfire, there will simply not be enough fire engines or firefighters to defend every home.

Successfully preparing for a wildfire requires **you** to take personal responsibility for protecting yourself, your family and your property. In this publication, we hope to give you the tips and tools you need to prepare and be successful.

Fire is, and always has been, a natural occurance in the wildland. Our brush-covered hills, canyons and forests burned periodically long before we built homes there. Wildfires, fueled by a build-up of dry vegetation and driven by seasonal hot, dry winds, are extremely dangerous and impossible to control. However, many residents have built their homes and landscaped without fully understanding the impact a fire could have on them, and few have adequately prepared their families for a quick evacuation.

It's not a question of **if** but **when** the next major wildfire will occur. That's why the most important person in protecting your life and property is not the firefighter, but you. Through advance planning and preparation, we can all be ready for wildfire. We hope you find the tips in the next pages helpful in creating heightened awareness and a more fire-safe environment for you and your family.



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This publication was prepared with the assistance of the Ventura County Fire Department and the Orange County Fire Authority in cooperation with the International Association of Fire Chiefs. Special thanks to the Institute for Business and Home Safety, University of Nevada Cooperative Extension "Living with Fire" program, CAL FIRE, FireSafe Council, Firewise Communities and many other organizations for their contributions to content.

Living in the Wildland Urban Interface and the Ember Zone

Ready, Set, Go! begins with a house that firefighters can defend.

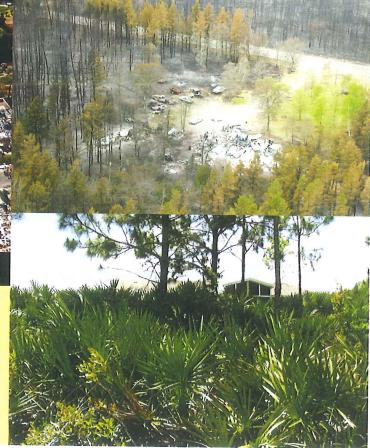
Defensible space works!

If you live next to a natural area, the Wildland Urban Interface, you must provide firefighters with the defensible space they need to protect your home. The buffer zone you create by removing weeds, brush and other vegetation helps to keep the fire away from your home and reduces the risks from flying embers.





A home within one mile of a natural area is in the Ember Zone. Wind-driven embers can attack your home. You and your home must be prepared well before a fire occurs. Ember fires can destroy homes or neighborhoods far from the actual flame front of the wildfire.



What is Defensible Space?



Defensible space is the required space between a structure and the wildland area that, under normal conditions, creates a sufficient buffer to slow or halt the spread of wildfire to a structure. It protects the home from igniting due to direct flame or radiant heat. Defensible space is essential for structure survivability during wildfire conditions.

ZONE ONE

Zone One extends 30 feet out from buildings, structures, decks, etc.

- Remove all dead or dying vegetation.
- Trim tree canopies regularly to keep their branches a minimum of 10 feet from structures and other trees.
- Remove leaf litter (dry leaves/pine needles) from yard, roof and rain gutters.
- Relocate woodpiles or other combustible materials into Zone Two.
- Remove combustible material and vegetation from around and under decks.
- Remove or prune vegetation near windows.
- Remove "ladder fuels" (low-level vegetation that allows the fire to spread
 from the ground to the tree canopy). Create a separation between low-level
 vegetation and tree branches. This can be done by reducing the height of lowlevel vegetation and/or trimming low tree branches.

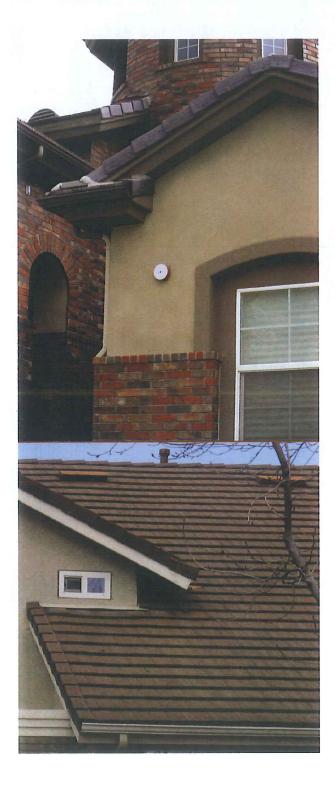
ZONE TWO

Zone Two extends 30 to 100 feet out from buildings, structures and decks. You can minimize the chance of fire jumping from plant to plant by removing dead material and removing and/or thinning vegetation. The minimum spacing between vegetation is three times the dimension of the plant.

- · Remove "ladder fuels."
- Cut or mow annual grass down to a maximum height of 4 inches.
- Trim tree canopies regularly to keep their branches a minimum of 10 feet from other trees.

What is a Hardened Home?

Construction materials and the quality of the defensible space surrounding it are what gives a home the best chance to survive a wildfire. Embers from a wildfire will find the weak link in your home's fire protection scheme and gain the upper hand because of a small, overlooked or seemingly inconsequential factor. However, there are measures you can take to safeguard your home from wildfire. While you may not be able to accomplish all the measures listed below, each will increase your home's, and possibly your family's, safety and survival during a wildfire.



ROOFS

Roofs are the most vulnerable surface where embers land because they can lodge and start a fire. Roof valleys, open ends of barrel tiles and rain gutters are all points of entry.

EAVES

Embers can gather under open eaves and ignite exposed wood or other combustible material.

VENTS

Embers can enter the attic or other concealed spaces and ignite combustible materials. Vents in eaves and cornices are particularly vulnerable, as are any unscreened vents.

WALLS

Combustible siding or other combustible or overlapping materials provide surfaces or crevices for embers to nestle and ignite.

WINDOWS and DOORS

Embers can enter gaps in doors, including garage doors. Plants or combustible storage near windows can be ignited from embers and generate heat that can break windows and/or melt combustible frames.

BALCONIES and DECKS

Embers can collect in or on combustible surfaces or the undersides of decks and balconies, ignite the material and enter the home through walls or windows.

To harden your home even further, consider protecting your homes with a residential fire sprinkler system. In addition to extinguishing a fire started by an ember that enters your home, it also protects you and your family year-round from any fire that may start in your home.

Tour a Wildfire Ready Home

Home Site and Yard: Ensure you have at least a 100-foot radius of defensible space (cleared vegetation) around your home. Note that even more clearance may be needed for homes in severe hazard areas. This means looking past what you own to determine the impact a common slope or neighbors' yard will have on your property during a wildfire.

Cut dry weeds and grass before noon when temperatures are cooler to reduce the chance of sparking a fire.

Landscape with fire-resistant plants that have a high moisture content and are low-growing.

Keep woodpiles, propane tanks and combustible materials away from your home and other structures such as garages, barns and sheds.

Ensure that trees are far away from power lines.

Roof: Your roof is the most vulnerable part of your home because it can easily catch fire from windblown embers. Homes with wood-shake or shingle roofs are at high risk of being destroyed during a wildfire.

Build your roof or re-roof with fire-resistant materials such as composition, metal or tile. Block any spaces between roof decking and covering to prevent ember intrusion.

Clear pine needles, leaves and other debris from your roof and gutters.

Cut any tree branches within ten feet of your roof.

Vents: Vents on homes are particularly vulnerable to flying embers.

All vent openings should be covered with 1/8-inch or smaller metal mesh. Do not use fiberglass or plastic mesh because they can melt and burn.

Attic vents in eaves or cornices should be baffled or otherwise protected to prevent ember intrusion (mesh is not enough).

Windows: Heat from a wildfire can cause windows to break even before the home ignites. This allows burning embers to enter and start internal fires. Single-paned and large windows are particularly vulnerable.

Install dual-paned windows with the exterior pane of tempered glass to reduce the chance of breakage in a fire.

Limit the size and number of windows in your home that face large areas of vegetation.

Inside: Keep working fire extinguishers on hand. Install smoke alarms on each level of your home and near bedrooms. Test them monthly and change the batteries twice a year.



Walls: Wood products, such as boards, panels or shingles, are common siding materials. However, they are combustible and not good choices for fire-prone areas.

Build or remodel with fire-resistant building materials, such as brick, cement, masonry or stucco.

Be sure to extend materials from foundation to roof.

Garage: Have a fire extinguisher and tools such as a Driveways and Access Roads: Driveways should shovel, rake, bucket and hoe available for fire emergenbe designed to allow fire and emergency vehicles cies. and equipment to reach your house. Install a solid door with self-closing hinges between Access roads should have a minimum 10-foot living areas and the garage. Install weather stripping clearance on either side of the traveled section of around and under door to prevent ember intrusion. the roadway and should allow for two-way traffic. Store all combustibles and flammable liquids away Ensure that all gates open inward and are wide from ignition sources. enough to accommodate emergency equipment. Trim trees and shrubs overhanging the road to a minimum of 13 1/2 feet to allow emergency vehicles to pass. Non-Combustible Fencing: Make sure to use noncombustible fencing to protect your home during a wildfire. Non-Combustible Boxed In Eaves: Box in eaves with non-combustible materials to prevent accumulation of embers. Raingutters: Screen or enclose rain gutters to prevent accumulation of plant debris. Water Supply: Have multiple garden hoses that are long enough to reach any area of your home and other structures on your property. If you have a pool or well, consider a pump. Deck/Patio Cover: Use heavy timber or non-flammable construction material for decks. Enclose the underside of balconies and decks with fire-resistant materials to prevent embers from blow-Chimney: Cover your chimney and stovepipe outlets with ing underneath. a non-flammable screen of 1/4-inch wire mesh or smaller to prevent embers from escaping and igniting a fire. Keep your deck clear of combustible items, such as baskets, dried flower arrangements and other debris. Make sure that your chimney is at least 10 feet away The decking surface must be ignition resistant if it's from any tree branches. within 10 feet of the home.

READY, SET, GO! Create Your Own Wildfire Action Plan

Now that you've done everything you can to protect your house, it's time to prepare your family. Your **Wildfire Action Plan** must be prepared with all members of your household well in advance of a fire.

Use these checklists to help you prepare your Wildfire Action Plan. Each family's plan will be different, depending on their situation.

Once you finish your plan, rehearse it regularly with your family and keep it in a safe and accessible place for quick implementation.

GET READY

Prepare Your Family

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GET SET | As the Fire Approaches

period of time, call 9-1-1.

	Evacuate as soon as you are set!	OU	OUTSIDE CHECKLIST	
	Alert family and neighbors.		Gather up flammable items from the exterior	
	Dress in appropriate clothing (i.e., clothing made from natural fibers, such as cotton, and work boots). Have goggles and a dry bandana		of the house and bring them inside (e.g., patio furniture, children's toys, door mats, etc.) or plac them in your pool.	
	or particle mask handy.		Turn off propane tanks.	
	Ensure that you have your emergency supply kit on hand that includes all necessary items, such as a battery powered radio, spare batteries, emergency contact numbers, and ample drinking water.		Don't leave sprinklers on or water running - they can waste critical water pressure.	
			Leave exterior lights on.	
			Back your car into the driveway. Shut doors and	
	Stay tuned to your TV or local radio stations for updates, or check the fire department Web site.		roll up windows.	
possess		Ц	Have a ladder available.	
	water and keep an eye on your family and pets until you are ready to leave.		Patrol your property and extinguish all small fires until you leave.	
IMC			Seal attic and ground vents with pre-cut plywood or commercial seals if time permits.	
1149	IDE CHECKLIST	IF \	OU ARE TRAPPED: SURVIVAL TIPS	
Ш	Shut all windows and doors, leaving them unlocked.		Shelter away from outside walls.	
	Remove flammable window shades and curtains and close metal shutters.		Bring garden hoses inside house so embers don't destroy them.	
	Remove lightweight curtains.		Patrol inside your home for spot fires and extinguish them.	
	Move flammable furniture to the center of the room, away from windows and doors.		Wear long sleeves and long pants made of natural fibers such as cotton.	
	Shut off gas at the meter. Turn off pilot lights.	П	Stay hydrated.	
	Leave your lights on so firefighters can see your		Ensure you can exit the home if it catches fire	
	house under smoky conditions. Shut off the air conditioning.		(remember if it's hot inside the house, it is four to five times hotter outside).	
			Fill sinks and tubs for an emergency water supply.	
			Place wet towels under doors to keep smoke and embers out.	
			After the fire has passed, check your roof and extinguish any fires, sparks or embers.	
			Check inside the attic for hidden embers.	
/			Patrol your property and extinguish small fires.	
1			If there are fires that you can not extinguish with a small amount of water or in a short	

GOI | Early!

By leaving early, you give your family the best chance of surviving a wildfire. You also help firefighters by keeping roads clear of congestion, enabling them to move more freely and do their job.

WHEN TO LEAVE

Leave early enough to avoid being caught in fire, smoke or road congestion. Don't wait to be told by authorities to leave. In an intense wildfire, they may not have time to knock on every door. If you are advised to leave, don't hesitate!

WHERE TO GO

Leave to a predetermined location (it should be a low-risk area, such as a well-prepared neighbor or relative's house, a Red Cross shelter or evacuation center, motel, etc.)

HOW TO GET THERE

Have several travel routes in case one route is blocked by the fire or by emergency vehicles and equipment. Choose an escape route away from the fire.

WHAT TO TAKE

Take your emergency supply kit containing your family and pet's necessary items.



EMERGENCY SUPPLIES

The American Red Cross recommends every family have an emergency supply kit assembled long before a wildfire or other emergency occurs. Use the checklist below to help assemble yours. For more information on emergency supplies, visit the American Red Cross Web site at www.redcross.org.

Three-day supply of water (one gallon per person per day).
Non-perishable food for all family members and pets (three-day supply).
First aid kit.
Flashlight, battery-powered radio, and extra batteries.
An extra set of car keys, credit cards, cash or traveler's checks.
Sanitation supplies.
Extra eyeglasses or contact lenses.
Important family documents and contact numbers.
Map marked with evacuation routes.
Prescriptions or special medications.
Family photos and other irreplaceable items.
Easily carried valuables.
Personal computers (information on hard drives and disks).
Chargers for cell phones, laptops, etc.

Note: Keep a pair of old shoes and a flashlight handy in case of a sudden evacuation at night.

Write up your Wildfire Action Plan and post it in a location where every member of your family can see it. Rehearse it with your family.

My Personal Wildfire Action Plan

During High Fire Danger days in your area, monitor your local media for information on brush fires and be ready to implement your plan. Hot, dry and windy conditions create the perfect environment for a wildfire.

important Phone Numbers:	
Out-of-State Contact:	Phone:
Work:	
School:	
Other:	
Evacuation Routes:	
Where to go:	
Location of Emergency Supply Kit:	
Notes:	



Arizona Fire Chiefs Association P.O. Box 171 Avondale, AZ 85323 www.azchiefs.org & www.wildlandfireRSG.org



READY, SET, GO!

Residential Safety Checklist Tips To Improve Family and Property Survival During A Wildfire

	Home	Yes	NO	
1.	Does your home have a metal, composition, or tile (or other non-combustible) roof with capped ends and covered fascia?			
2.	Are the rain gutters and roof free of leaves, needles and branches?			
3.	Are all vent openings screened with 1/8 inch (or smaller) mesh metal screen?			
4.	Are approved spark arrestors on chimneys?			
5.	Does the house have non-combustible siding material?			
6.	Are the eaves "boxed in" and the decks enclosed?			
7.	Are the windows made of at least double-paned or tempered glass?			
8.	Are the decks, porches and other similar areas made of non-combustible material and free of easily combustible material (e.g. plastic furniture)?			
9.	Is all firewood at least 30 feet from the house?			
	Defensible Space	Yes	No	
1.	Is dead vegetation cleared to the recommended defensible space area? (Consider adding distance due to slope of property.)			
2.	Is there separation between shrubs?			
3.	Are ladder fuels removed?			
4.	Is there a clean and green area extending at least 30 feet from the house?			
5.	Is there a non-combustible area within five feet of the house?			
6.	Is there separation between trees and crowns?			
-	Emergency Access	Yes	No	
1.	Is the home address visible from the street?			
2.	Is the home address made of fire-resistant materials?			
3.	Are street signs present at every intersection leading to the house?			
4.	Are street signs made of fire-resistant materials?			
5.	Is flammable vegetation within 10 feet of the driveway cleared and are overhanging obstructions removed?			
6.	If a long driveway is present, does it have a suitable turnaround area?			





