



Are You Ready?

From Your Firewise Committee -

Special points of interest:

- **How to be firewise**
- **How to evacuate and what to take**
- **Fire Restrictions pertaining to our neighborhood**
- **Emergency information**

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Highland Pines is considered a high-hazard fire environment. However, many homeowners are ill-prepared to survive an intense wildfire. Our ability to live safely in this fire environment depends on pre-fire activities – the actions taken *before* a wildfire occurs. This brochure is intended to help you protect your family, guests and property.

Please use this information to be ready if Yavapai County issues a “Ready, Set, Go” emergency status:

- **Take time now to plan and prepare in advance** – Increase the safety and survivability of your family, friends, tenants and property.
- **Post the important phone numbers and evacuation route map** in your home – Drive the evacuation route a few times a year; don’t wait to be evacuated to find it.
- **Inform anyone using your property** – Make sure they know about fire restrictions and how to evacuate safely.
- **Create defensible space** – Give firefighters a chance to defend your property.

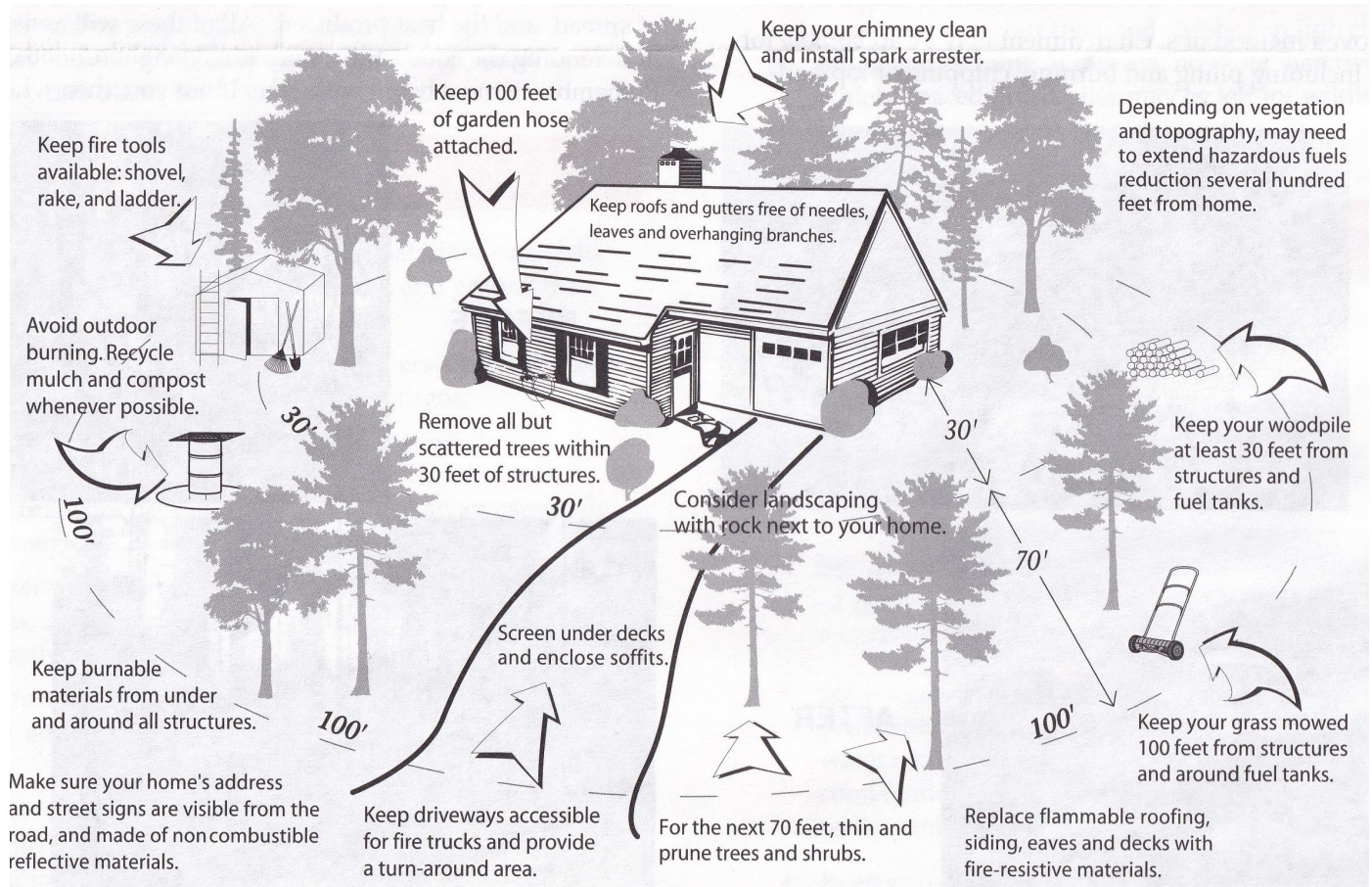
Our firefighters, specifically the Central Arizona Fire & Medical Authority or CAFMA, issue fire regulations and serve as our first responders. They make countless preparations for wildfire. Residents need to do the same. Preparing for a wildfire requires you as the property owner take personal responsibility for yourself, family and property. A wildfire creates chaos, and there may not be much time to react. **Getting ready in advance can save lives.**

Highland Pines is especially fortunate to have a dedicated Firewise committee made up of experienced retired forest service personal and grant writers. Our HP community includes people who know how to evaluate properties for fire mitigation and who have worked tirelessly to secure funding to get most of that work paid for, or performed at minimal cost to residents.

Ultimately, however, it is up to property owners to continue doing the work necessary to keep your property safe. Defensible space around your home is so important. **Give the firefighters a chance to save your property!**

It’s not a question of *if*, but *when* the next wildfire will occur!

Create Defensible Space



Visit These Websites

For more information on how to enhance the protection of your community from wildfires:

www.AzStateFire.org

www.Firewise.org

cals.arizona.edu/firewise/

ADDITIONAL LANDSCAPING RECOMMENDATIONS:

Limited landscaping 0-5' from structures.

All debris, dead vegetation, dried leaves and pine needles should be removed at least 5' from structures.

Stone, gravel or concrete should be installed around structures to keep the area free of vegetation. Do not use wood mulch products in this area.

Remove trees and shrubs and replace with succulents.

Trim tree limbs that overhang decks or are within 10 feet of the structure.

Consider making an appointment with one of our Firewise committee members to have an evaluation of your property and suggestions of how you can Firewise your property. Our committee members live in HP and know the challenges we face here.

Defensible Space Examples



BEFORE



AFTER

Defensible Space Examples (cont'd)



BEFORE



AFTER

Defensible Space Examples (cont'd)





*Wildfire
embers can
spread a mile
from the actual
fire location*

Structure Checklist

CARPORTS: Remove flammable items stored in carports. **Do not store firewood under carport during fire season.**

CRAWL SPACES AND FOUNDATIONS: **Remove combustible materials and install 1/8" metal mesh screening** in vents.

DECKS AND ELEVATED PORCHES: **Do not store flammable materials under decks or porches.** Remove dead vegetation or debris from under deck/porch. Place 1/8" mesh between low decks or porches from the surface to ground.

EAVES AND SOFFITS: **Cover vents in the eaves with 1/8" metal mesh** to prevent embers passing into the eaves. Inspect and maintain soffits.

FENCING: Use non-flammable materials for fencing that comes into contact with a structure: the recommendation is a minimum of 5' of noncombustible material where it attaches to the structure. **Wood fences can carry fire directly to a structure.** Clear vegetation adjacent to wooden fencing.

FIREPLACE CHIMNEYS: **Install a spark arrester** to prevent embers from exiting the chimney and possibly starting a wildfire. During wildfire season keep dampers, screens, and glass doors closed. During a wildfire, embers could enter your home via the chimney.

GARAGES: **Be sure garage doors are tight fitting** so embers can't enter the side or slide under the door. If possible, install a metal or wood core metal exterior door.

GUTTERS: **Keeping gutters clean is important**, because pine needles and debris in your gutters will catch fire. Vinyl gutters can ignite when debris ignites and the flaming gutters can fall next to the house, igniting vegetation next to a structure.

ROOF MAINTENANCE: **Remove pine needles and debris from the roof.** Remove tree limbs that overhang or are within 10 feet of the roof or chimney.

ROOFING MATERIALS: If you are replacing your roof, consider using Types of Class A fire-rated roofing, i.e.: composite shingles, metal, and tile. **Inspect the roof for loose or missing shingles or tiles. Repair and fill any holes or gaps to prevent embers from penetrating.** Make sure you do not have gaps between roof covering and roof deck at eaves or ridge. Fill gaps with "bird stop" material to prevent ember penetration.

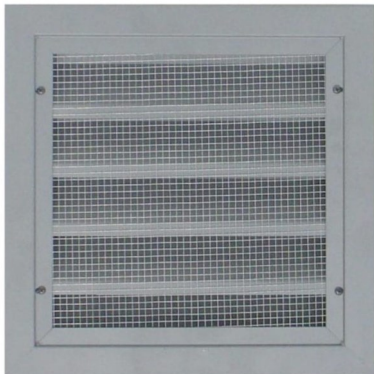
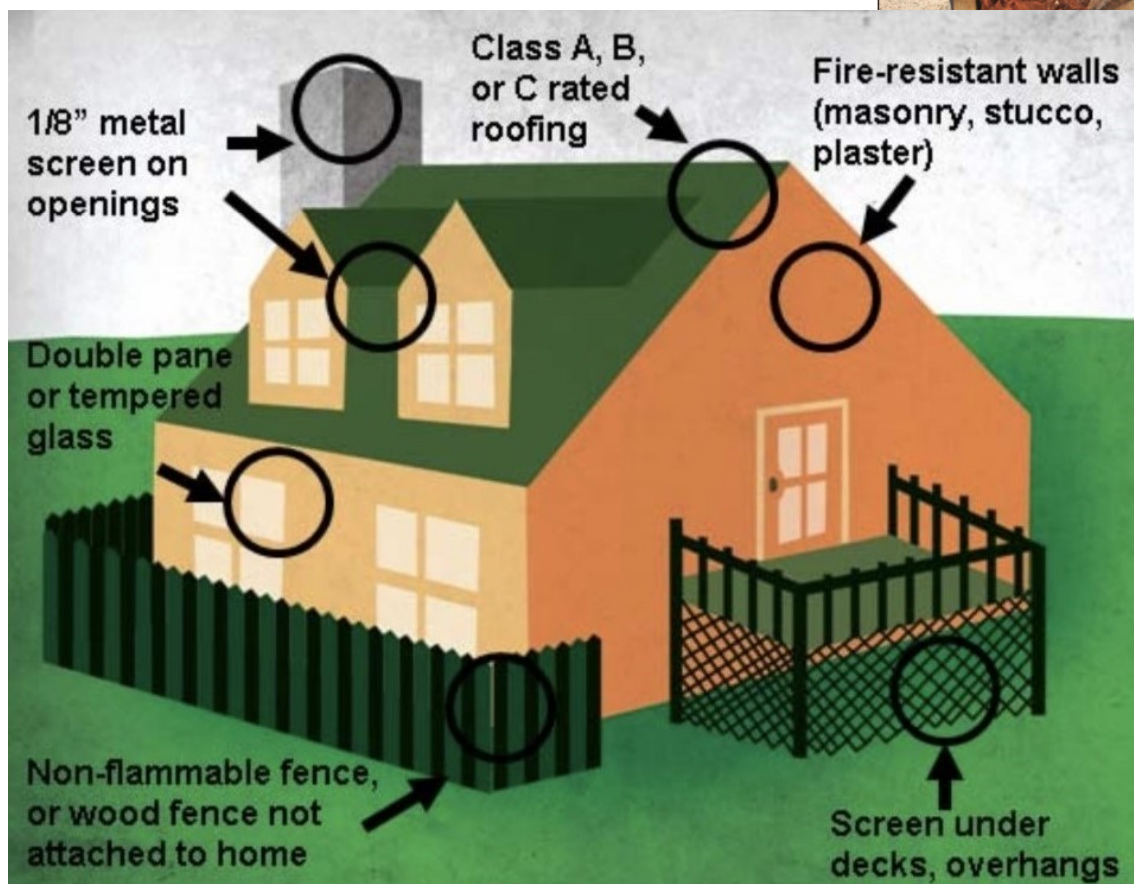
SIDING: Use ignition resistant materials on exterior walls. Seal any gaps or cervices. Examine siding for spaces where embers could accumulate or lodge, and caulk at trim to siding locations where it is missing or has failed.

SKYLIGHTS: **Remove debris next to and around skylights.** Glass is a better option than plastic or fiberglass.

VENTS: **Inspect all vents and remove debris**, including the dryer vent. Install **1/8" metal mesh screen** on any open vents or anywhere embers could penetrate.

WINDOWS AND GLASS DOORS: Multi-paned tempered glass may reduce the risk of fracture or collapse in a wildfire. Consider installing fireproof shutters to protect large windows and glass doors from radiant heat.

Structure Checklist (cont'd)



ALL-HAZARD EVACUATION STEPS

READY:

Prepare now.

SET:

Be alert.

Know there is
significant
danger in your
area.

GO:

Evacuate!

Danger in your
area is imminent
and life-
threatening.

Remember the Five P's:

People/Pets
Prescriptions
Paper
Personal needs
Priceless items

Personal Wildfire Plan

Property owners, renters, and friends using a property should be aware of what's needed to evacuate in case of wildfire. **Time may be limited so preparation is essential:**

- Take a few minutes to write down essential items to take during an evacuation.
- Use the following checklists to prepare your own list to keep in a handy place.
- Let your renters and friends know what's important and where to find everything.

When is it time to go . . . GO!

- **Leave early;** otherwise you may encounter traffic. We have only a few roads that lead out of the neighborhood, so it is better to be safe (early) than sorry!
- Yavapai County suggests a **"grab-and-go" emergency supply kit** (list below) stored in a plastic tub, suitcase, trash can, or backpack.
- With that kit, keep **copies of your 20-minute checklist and emergency route map** (someone unfamiliar with the route may need it). This will help during that rushed evacuation when you get the signal to leave.

Grab-and-Go Kit

This is the kit you keep on hand if there is no time to do anything but grab-and-go. Replace food every 6 months; replace batteries and update the list every year.

- ⇒ Water: 1 gallon/person per day for drinking/sanitation (3-day supply)
- ⇒ Ready-to-eat food, canned juice, comfort/stress food, can opener (3-day supply)
- ⇒ Aluminum foil, eating/drinking utensils, paper towels
- ⇒ Important documents: insurance policies, ID, bank records, bank/credit card #s, emergency contact numbers, passport
- ⇒ Battery-powered/hand-crank radio and NOAA weather radio with batteries
- ⇒ Flashlights with batteries
- ⇒ First aid kit
- ⇒ Medicines/pet medicines
- ⇒ Toothbrushes/eyeglasses/contact lenses/denture needs
- ⇒ Whistle to signal for help
- ⇒ Infant food/supplies
- ⇒ Pet food/supplies
- ⇒ Personal sanitation supplies: towelettes, garbage bags, soap disinfectant, bleach
- ⇒ Personal hygiene items
- ⇒ Dust mask (or cotton t-shirt)
- ⇒ Shelter-in-place supplies (plastic sheeting, duct tape)
- ⇒ Wrench/pliers to shut off utilities
- ⇒ Complete change of clothing: long pants, long-sleeve shirt, jacket, hat, sturdy shoes stored in a waterproof container



*Keep a "go bag"
ready and your
"20 Minute
List" where you
can easily
reference it*



Personal Wildfire Plan (cont'd)

Grab-and-Go Kit (continued)

- ⇒ Sleeping bag/warm blanket
- ⇒ Rain gear
- ⇒ Paper and pencil
- ⇒ Books, games, puzzles, portable music device
- ⇒ Work gloves
- ⇒ Tent, compass, waterproof matches, signal flare
- ⇒ Cash/travelers checks, change

20-Minute Evacuation Checklist:

Keep this list with an empty "getaway" bag for the items in the last bullet point.

- ⇒ Wear comfortable clothes and shoes
- ⇒ Shut off propane tank(s)
- ⇒ Move wooden patio furniture inside
- ⇒ Move portable propane tank(s) away from house
- ⇒ Close windows but leave unlocked; remove wooden window shades
- ⇒ Turn on all interior/exterior lights
- ⇒ Shut off air conditioning
- ⇒ Tie a white cloth to your door indicating that you have vacated your premises
- ⇒ Gather up in your **getaway bag**:
 - ⇒ Important medications/prescriptions
 - ⇒ Checkbook/
 - ⇒ Computer/ CPU/laptop/ back-up drive

Make a list of items to take if you have more time:

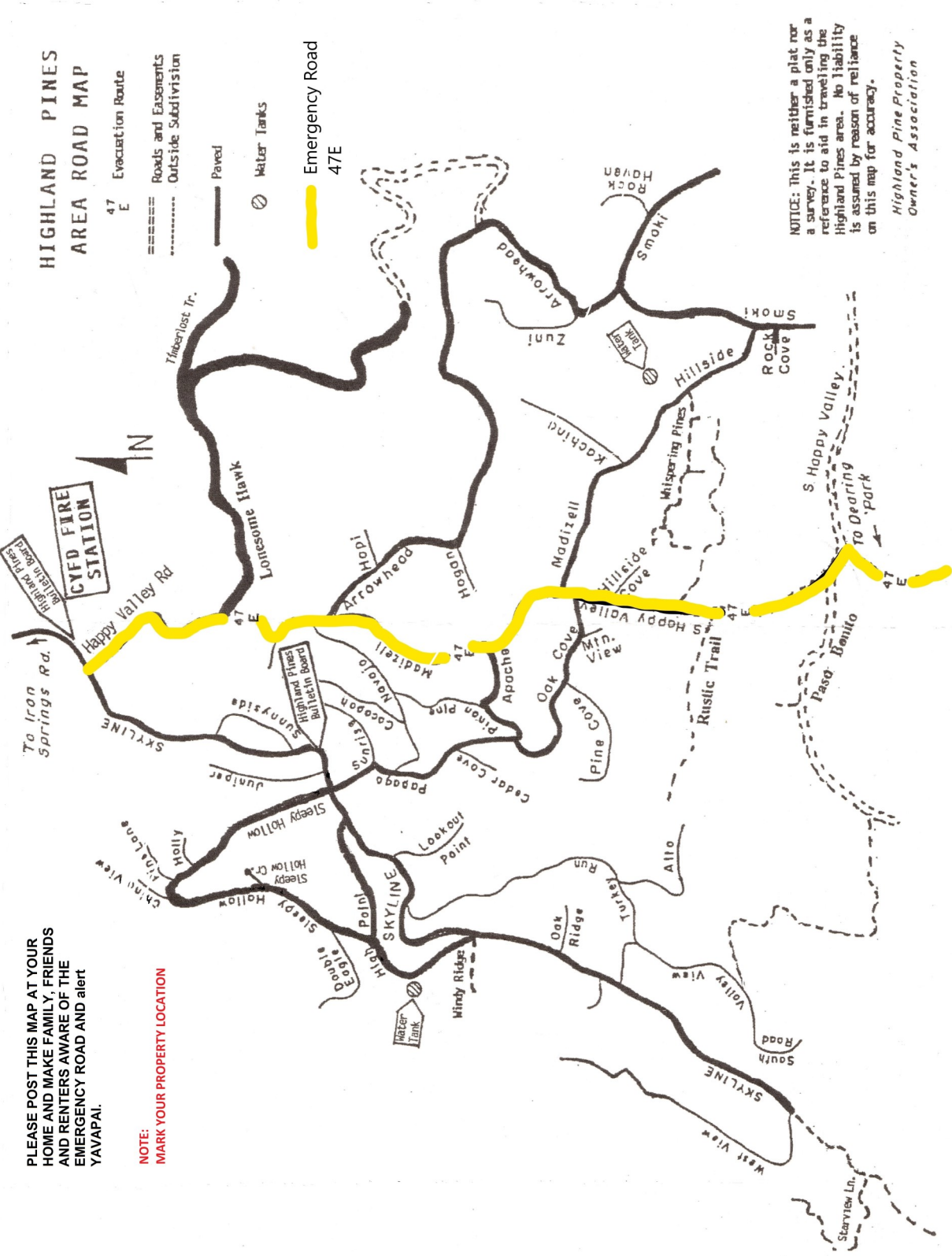
Keep your list with an empty bag so you can toss items into it, which might include:

- ⇒ Irreplaceable or sentimental items like grandma's quilt, jewelry, and photo albums.
- ⇒ Items to make an unscheduled stay more comfortable, like your child's teddy bear or your dog's toy.

Yavapai County Emergency Preparedness Information Link:

<https://yavapaiaz.gov/publicworks/Emergency-Management/Emergency-Preparedness-Resouces>

Emergency Evacuation Map – route to leave Highland Pines if Skyline Drive is closed



alertYAVAPAI Emergency Alert System

Sign up for Emergency Notification

Get up-to-the-minute information about severe weather, road closures, and more!

Yavapai County residents are encouraged to sign up for **AlertYAVAPAI**, the County's new Emergency Mass Notification System. **AlertYAVAPAI** replaces the CodeRed system that the County previously used to notify residents and businesses of emergencies.

The Alert YAVAPAI system helps officials quickly communicate with the public to provide potentially lifesaving information in emergencies such as wildfires, evacuations, floods and missing persons. By registering, you can receive alerts via phone calls, text message or email.

How Does It Work?

When Yavapai County learns of a potential safety hazard or concern, you will receive a message via the voice or text communication methods you have registered. You can sign up for alerts to one or more phone numbers and email addresses.

The system is easy to use. Notifications will instruct you to confirm receipt. If you do not confirm, the system will continue attempting to reach you through the contact paths you have registered.

One alternative is to simply opt in for text alerts. Text **AlertYAVAPAI** (all one word) to 888777. You will be asked to reply with your email address and zip code to get area-based alerts.

Download the Phone App

You can also download the Everbridge App and search for Yavapai County or Yavapai County Sheriff's Office. Then log in or sign up to receive notifications through the app.

The success of this service relies on **YOU**. **Yavapai County must have your latest contact information to ensure they can contact you in an emergency.** Please sign up on the YCSOaz.gov website or use the link below – it only takes a minute!

Sign up for Emergency Alerts!

<https://member.everbridge.net/337829242601768/new>





Highland Pines
property owners
must be aware of
current fire
restrictions in order
to keep our
community safe.



Fire Restrictions pertaining to Highland Pines

Central Arizona Fire and Medical Authority (CAFMA) provides fire protection for Highland Pines. CAFMA will issue Stage I and Stage II Restrictions as warranted.

Stage I Fire Restrictions:

- **NO** residential burn permits will be issued.
- Use of **model rockets** is **PROHIBITED**.
- Use of **fireworks** or **pyrotechnic displays** is **PROHIBITED** except upon approval of a pyrotechnics permit.
- **NO smoking** outside of vehicles, outside of residential yards, or outside of designated smoking areas.
- **NO** outdoor use of **firearms**.
- Cooking, warming, or camp fires (ash or ember producing) **ARE ALLOWED** at single and multi-family residential properties and town parks (where approved) but **MUST BE ATTENDED AT ALL TIMES**.

Stage II Fire Restrictions:

- **NO** burn permits will be issued — residential or commercial.
- Use of **model rockets** is **PROHIBITED**.
- Use of **fireworks** and other **pyrotechnic displays** are **PROHIBITED** except upon approval of a pyrotechnics permit.
- **NO** smoking outside of vehicles, outside of residential yards, or outside of designated smoking areas.
- **NO** outdoor use of **firearms**.
- **Welding, cutting and grinding** is **PROHIBITED**; permission may be granted under special circumstances and repair situations as approved by the Fire Marshal.
**** (See Note)**
- Chain saws are allowed **with a spark arrestor, water or fire extinguisher and a fire watch** (individual dedicated to watching for sparks or ignition).
- **Warming fires, camp fires, and charcoal or wood-burning barbecues** (ember and ash producing) are **PROHIBITED** in all locations. This also **prohibits** the use of other **devices that produce open flame**, such as tiki lamps.
- Propane, natural gas or other gas flame-producing barbecue cooking grills or fire pits **MAY BE USED** as long as they are **constantly attended, are in an enclosed device, and can be turned off**.

**** Note:** Under Stage II fire restrictions, any outdoor spark or flame producing activity (including welding, cutting, and grinding) **shall require:**

- A Fire Department permit for a specific time period, location, and activity that grants permission to conduct such activity in a safe manner.
- A fire watch: an individual with the sole purpose of watching for any sparks or ignition.
- Firefighting tool(s), such as a shovel.
- Approved water supply, readily available from a hose, water truck, etc.



Do not place ash bucket with hot ashes on flammable decking materials

It only takes one mis-step to start a fire along the road or on your property.



Do not let chains drag when pulling a trailer.

Common Mistakes and Things to Consider

- **If you have a burn permit, you must still check to see if burning is allowed on the day you want to burn.** Even in the winter, you can start a fire that gets out of control (for example, the burn gets out of hand but you didn't get the hose ready and then find out it is frozen).
- We can burn our house down in the winter. **Do not put your ash can on your deck without bricks or a piece of flagstone underneath.** Those ashes will come to life.
- **Keep your patio heater away from overhangs.** Hot reflectors will scorch and burn the eaves.
- **Do not leave fires unattended.** Campfires and firepits take an enormous amount of water and dirt to put out completely. One bucket of water or shovel of dirt is not enough.
- Dragging chains are a huge cause of wildfires. If you are pulling a trailer of any kind, **be sure your chains are not dragging.**
- **Do not pull your vehicle off the road onto grassy, weedy areas.** Hot exhaust pipes may start the vegetation on fire.
- **Make sure contractors or service companies** working at your property **know the fire restrictions.**
- **Do not dump fireplace ashes over the deck rail or in the forest, even if you believe they are out and cold.**
- **If you are renting your property and you have a charcoal BBQ,** you may want to change it out for a propane grill. **Stage II fire restrictions prohibit charcoal and wood burning grills and pellet smokers.** If it produces flame and ash, it is prohibited.
- **Cigarettes are a major fire hazard.** Too many people throw them on the ground, thinking they will go out and then disintegrate. With our fine dry grass, a cigarette is like a match to gas. By the way, did you know *cigarette filters are not biodegradable?* Like cockroaches; they will outlast us all.
- **If you own an RV, consider taking it to a safe place during the "Set" step** (see page 8). We have two evacuation routes: one is paved, the other is only partially paved and may be hard to get through with a large RV. Besides evacuees leaving, fire personnel will be moving firefighters and equipment into the area using the same two access roads.
- **Fireworks (including sparklers) are a bad idea in the forest anytime of the year,** but especially during our dry spring and summers! Fireworks are prohibited under Stage I Fire Restrictions.
- **Do not store wood, gas cans or propane tanks under your deck.**
- Most of us have wood burning stoves or fireplaces. We store extra wood in the winter on our decks or near our homes. **Move firewood away from your home and off your deck** as soon as we are no longer in need of the heat. Firefighters cannot spend precious time removing wood from a deck or home.



*Safest way to store
ammunition is a
fire-proof container*



Storing Ammunition

Storing ammunition for the long term is not that hard. Avoid humidity and wetness; store it below 120° F; store it in the original boxes or in proper aftermarket boxes so that the rounds do not get deformed from being loose in a pile.

But **what about a house fire**? Maybe you've heard stories like this. A fire crew is called to the scene of a fire when, all of a sudden, rounds are heard going off. By the time firefighters felt comfortable going inside, it was too late — flames were on all floors. The single-family home burned to the ground. In another city, burning bullets led firefighters to use a high-power hose to pump water into the building from the outside.

A burning box of ammunition will make a LOUD sound, create sparks, maybe send small pieces of brass flying a few feet, but it is nothing to a properly dressed firefighter. **Ammo set off by fire in the chamber of a gun is much more dangerous** because the "explosion" is directed through the barrel of the gun as if it were actually being shot. Not knowing the circumstances of the exploding ammo, **what fire chief is going to take a chance and send his crew into that house?**

"You would normally send the crews inside to get to the seat of the fire," said fire chief David Polk of Perth Amboy. With the sound of bursting ammunition ringing through the air, "You just can't do it."

"You'd let the building burn down before you're going to put a firefighter in danger," he said.¹

Tell the firemen all possible areas where you may have stored ammunition.

Gunpowder degrades around 120-160° F, so if your ammo is involved in a serious house fire, you will probably want to get rid of it.

If you're worried about firefighters saving your home and not standing outside until the excitement ebbs, **consider getting a fireproof safe**. Depending on the heat generated, the duration of the fire, and the quality and specs of the safe, your ammo may or may not be salvageable — but as long as you don't keep it inside your firearm(s), it should prevent fireworks."

¹<https://www.thetruthaboutguns.com/editorial-store-your-ammo-in-a-fireproof-safe/>

Emergency Numbers and Website

Report Fire

Central Yavapai Fire District: 911 or 928-772-7711

US Forest Service: 911 (or call Dispatch Center at 928-777-5700, however, Dispatch Center prefers people to call 911 first)

Sheriff

911 for emergencies or 928-771-3260 for other issues

Arizona Emergency Information Network – <https://ein.az.gov/>

Fire Reports and Updates

KYCA Radio – 1490 AM

KAHM Radio – 102.1 FM

KNOT Radio – 99.1 FM and 1450 AM

KQNA Talk – 9.9 FM) and 1130 AM

KNAU – 89.3 FM

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Are You Ready?



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