

Welcome to the third and fourth edition of:

The Placer Valley Tidbits 3&4

Wild Fire information

Ember Awareness Checklist

Most of the homes lost in wildfires are not lost due to the flame front, but due to burning brands and embers that can blow in from up to two miles away. One of the most important things you can do as a home owner is “ember harden” your home.

1. Roofs – use fire-resistant types such as composition, metal and tile
2. Roof openings- plug openings such as the open end of barrel tiles with noncombustible materials.
3. Roof debris – Remove pine needles, leaves, branches and bark from roof.
4. Skylights – use glass double paneled tempered, close if fire is threatening.
5. Make sure to have approved spark arresters on Chimney's
6. Windows – use double pane tempered glass as possible – close all windows if fire is threatening.
7. Vents – Cover attic, foundation and eave vents with 1/8th in wire mesh – if fire is threatening, consider covering vents with ply wood or staple on aluminum foil folded several layers thick.
8. Rain gutters – keep free of plant debris
9. Siding and trim – fill gaps in siding and trim with good quality caulk and replace materials in poor condition.
10. Woodpiles – firewood and scrap lumber should be stacked at least 30 feet from house or other buildings.
11. Patio Furniture – remove combustible furniture into the house or garage.
12. Decks – remove any boards less than 1 inch thick. Clean out debris from under the deck. Make sure to have metal flashing between deck and the house. Consider 1/8th inch mesh to enclose open ends of deck to decrease the amount of windblown debris under the deck and to decrease ember entry.
13. Porch Accessories – remove grills and small propane tanks to garage, larger, more than 5 gal tanks, should be moved away from the home so they can vent

safely.

14. Flower boxes – remove all flower boxes from around windows and remove from porch or deck.

15. Flowerbeds – remove wooden mulch, plant debris from all beds next to the house other buildings and wooden fences. Replace Juniper with other deciduous shrubs.

16. Eaves – cover open eaves with sheathing such as plywood or fiber-cement board

17. Vehicles – Close all windows, back into the garage and close garage door or park away from the house

18. Garage Doors – Adjust the door to fit as tightly as possible. Consider using trim around door to decrease any gaps.

19. Fences – create a non-combustible fence section or gate section of at least 5 feet next to the house

House Preparation & Pre-evacuation Checklist

Only if time allows and no immediate evacuation order is issued

- Close all windows and doors and leave unlocked
- Remove or close curtains and shades
- Move furniture to center of rooms away from windows
- Turn on and leave on all interior and exterior lights
- Turn off furnace and hot water heater
- Turn off propane or natural gas to house
- Bring in all deck cushions
- Put propane tanks (under 5 gal) and doormats in garage
- Prepare pet carrier including food and any meds
- Set out go-bag
- Gather prescription medications
- Load “stuff to take” items in vehicle
- Make sure gas tanks are full
- Park preferred vehicle pointing out of driveway
- IF you have horses’ tag with contact information attach to mane or tail or spray paint phone number on animal

List of Emergency Documents

Having both an electronic and paper version is best

- Copy of Driver's license
- Actual Passports
- Social Security numbers
- Birth Certificates
- Credit card and bank account information; copy of credit cards
- Financial and medical account logins & passwords
- Wills
- Deeds
- Insurance policies
- Copy of Medical insurance cards
- Medication list and prescription numbers
- DD214 – for veterans

Electronic backups: Placed in your cloud account, place on thumb drive and put in evacuation bag, email list to self or loved one.

Thank you to Stephanie for gathering the information!

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