



Weekly Safety Briefings

Week # 27 – July 6 to July 9, 2021

Wildfire Prevention & Protection

Wildfires affect everyone. They can spread fast and harm us. Wildfires are getting bigger and more dangerous. More people are living in areas at risk for wildfires, but we can take action to prepare. This week we will discuss wildfire prevention and protection.

Tuesday – What to do when a wildfire is in your area

You may have to leave your home quickly to stay safe. Know where you will go, how you get there and where you will stay. Have different escape routes from your home and community. Practice these routes so everyone in your household is familiar with them. Be sure to understand how your community will respond to a wildfire.

Red Cross Wild Fire Safety Checklist:

https://www.redcross.org/content/dam/redcross/atg/PDF_s/Preparedness___Disaster_Recovery/Disaster_Preparedness/Wildfire/Wildfire.pdf

Gather food, water and medicine in advance because stores and pharmacies might be closed. Organize your supplies into Go-Kit and Stay-at-Home Kits.

- Go-Kit: 3 days supplies that you can easily carry with you.
- Stay-at-Home Kit: 2 weeks of supplies if you need to stay at home.
- Have a 1 month supply of medication in a child-proof container.
- Keep personal, financial and medical records safe.

Wednesday – Plan to Stay Connected

- During a wildfire, the most important information will come from your local government. Authorities will let you know when you should leave to stay safe.
- Sign up for free emergency alerts from your local government.
- Have a backup battery or a way to charge your cell phone.
- Have a battery powered radio.
- Plan to monitor weather conditions and fires near you.

Thursday – Emergency Skills and Health Impacts

- Learn First Aid and CPR.
- Utilities may be offline. Be ready to live without power. Plan for your electrical needs, including cell phones and medical equipment
- Wildfires can make drinking water unsafe. Check with your local health department about drinking water safety.
- Wildfire smoke is a mixture of air pollutants that are harmful to your health. Learn how to reduce your exposure.
- Throw out food that was exposed to heat, smoke, fumes or chemicals.

Friday – Stay Safe After a Wildfire

- Wait for officials to say it is safe before going back home.
- Avoid hot ash, charred trees, smoldering debris, and live embers. The ground may contain heat pockets that can burn you or spark another fire.
- Avoid damaged or fallen power lines, poles, and downed wires. They can electrocute you.
- Wear safety equipment (gloves, long-sleeved shirts, long pants and shoes and socks to protect skin. Goggles to protect eyes. Limit how much ash you breathe in, wear an N95 respirator.