

Wildland fires

Wildland fires are uncontrolled, non-structure fires that occur in rural, woodland or bush areas.

The danger posed by wildland fires

Wildfires can cause extensive destruction of homes and other property located in the *wildland-urban interface*, the zone between developed and undeveloped areas. Wildland fires can quickly move from the interface area to more densely populated communities.

Take steps to mitigate the danger of wildland fires

- Avoid fire, heat or spark producing activities during periods of high wind.
- Avoid parking vehicles roadside or in dry brush areas.
- Avoid using spark/heat generating equipment in/near dry brush areas.
- Clear off debris from the roof and gutters, screen vents.
- Consider purchasing pool pumps or protective additives, like gel.
- Develop an [emergency plan](#), including escape routes. Every resident and business should plan to provide for basic needs (food, water, shelter, sanitation, etc.) for 72 to 96 hours.
- Dispose of flammables (charcoal, etc.) properly.
- Discuss hazard and actions with staff and family to broaden awareness.
- Ensure portable firefighting equipment is operational.
- Ensure vehicles are in proper repair.
- Establish [defensible boundaries](#) between home/work areas and dry brush areas.
- Pre-inspect grass areas before mowing to remove spark producing debris.
- Report hazardous activities, smoke or fire to 9-1-1.
- [Register cell phones](#) with Marin County Sherriff's Office, the county-wide emergency notification system.
- Schedule spark/heat generating work during cooler parts of the day.

What to do in the event of a wildfire

- Consult notices of the [County](#)
- Evacuate early or when directed to do so.
- Monitor stations that broadcast emergency alert messages: local TV and radio stations. Have battery powered radios on hand and preset those stations.