# FIRE PREPARATION INFORMATION

### "BE READY WHEN IT'S TIME TO GO"

### Compliments of:



#### Mark & Darci Richardson



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# **Fire Preparation Information**

"We know we need to Prepare. Disasters Happen Every Day. Personal. Disaster Preparedness. Emergency Preparation. Are You Ready?" -O'Conner

Thank you for requesting our Fire Preparation information Booklet.

Our hope is to inspire and encourage readers to ready themselves in the event of a wildfire emergency...

- Mark & Darci Richardson



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## **Emergency Evacuation Grab & Go List**

#### Wallet or Purse Level 3 Car, House, and RV Keys Shoes, Jacket 72-hour pack Cell Phone, Chargers 5 Min. Medications Go binder Medical devices **Evacuation** • CPAP, Cane, etc. Glasses Photo Containers Level 2 Several changes of clothes Family photos 15 Min. Case of bottled water Sleeping bags and pads **Evacuation** First Aid Kit Journals **Level 2.5** Cooler with snacks Battery Powered Radio 30 Min.

- Blankets/guilts
  - Porta Potty
  - Flashlights
  - Tent

Level 1 1 Hour **Evacuation** 

**Evacuation** 

- Air mattress
- Camp Stove
- Shovel
- Fire Extinguisher

• External Hard Drive, Laptop, Charger

• Emergency Folder (Important documents: Passports - Birth Certificates - Proof of Residency -Insurance Cards - Utility Bill)



A Natural element of varied ecosystems of California, wildfire is one of the most feared, fought and controversial components of our physical environment.

Wildfires are unplanned wildland fires. They spread quickly through forest and rangelands. They are non-discriminatory and do not stop until they have run out of fuel or are stopped.

The wildland/urban interface (WUI) refers to areas where people have built homes in or near adjacent wildland areas and conservation easements.

Community members living in the wildland/urban interface (WUI) need to be prepared to evacuate themselves, their pets and their livestock in the event of a wildfire disaster.

60 percent of lives lost to wildland fire are of those that chose to stay and wait and see, and then evacuated too late.



### As fire nears - be ready when it's time to go:

- o Close or cover outside vents and shutters.
- o Position garden hoses so they reach the entire house.
- o Place large, full water containers around the house.
- Place a ladder against the roof of the house on the opposite side of the approaching wildfire.
- o Place a garden hose near the ladder.
- o Place portable pumps near available water supplies, such as pools, hot tubes, creeks, etc.
- o Close all windows and doors. Do not lock them.
- o Close all inside doors.
- o Turn on a light in each room, and all outside lights.
- o Leave them on even during daylight hours.
- o Fill tubes, sinks, and any other containers with water.
- o Shut off the gas at the outside meter or the propane tank.
- o Remove lace, nylon on any other drapes and curtains made from light material. Close Venetian blinds, heavy drapes or fire-resistant window coverings.
- o Move overstuffed furniture into the center of the house, away from windows and sliding glass doors.
- o Park your car in the garage, facing out. Close the windows but do not lock the doors. Leave the keys in the ignition.
- o Close the garage door but leave it unlocked.

#### DON'T WAIT TO BE TOLD TO EVACUATE.

If you are uncomfortable with the situation, LEAVE. It is unwise to shelter in place during a FIRE. Some areas of the United States use a three-stage evacuation warning system.

#### Level 1: A Level 1 Evacuation means "BE READY" for potential evacuation.

- Residents should be aware of the danger that exists in their area, monitor emergency services websites and local media outlets for information,
- This is the time for preparation and precautionary movement of persons with special needs, mobile property and (under certain circumstances) pets and livestock. If conditions worsen, emergency services personnel may contact you via emergency notification system.

#### Level 2: A Level 2 Evacuation means "BE SET" to evacuate.

- BE PREPARED TO LEAVE AT A MOMENT'S NOTICE
   This level indicates there is significant danger to your area, and residents should
   either voluntary relocate to a shelter or with family/friends outside of the affected
   area, or if choosing to remain, to be ready to evacuate at a moment's notice.
   Residents MAY have time to gather necessary item but doing so is at their own risk.
- THIS MAY BE THE ONLY NOTICE THAT YOU RECEIVE Emergency services cannot guarantee that they will be able to notify you if conditions rapidly deteriorate. Area media services will be asked to broadcast periodic updates.

#### Level 3: A Level 3 Evacuation means "GO" evacuate NOW.

- LEAVE IMMEDIATELY! Danger to your area is current or imminent, and you should evacuate immediately. If you choose to ignore this advisement, you must understand that emergency services may not be available to assist you further.
- DO NOT delay leaving to gather any belongings or make efforts to protect your home.
- THIS WILL BE THE LAST NOTICE THAT YOU RECEIVE.
- Entry to evacuated areas may be denied until conditions are safe. Radio and TV stations have been asked to broadcast periodic updates.



### Valuable Documents Check List:

Valuable documents are difficult to gather under the pressure of the emergency and often even harder to replace. This check list will help you ensure all are gathered before a crisis. A copy should also be placed in a system like Google Drive, Dropbox or Evernote – we prefer to backup to all three.

- Birth Certificates
- Marriage Documents
- Divorce Documents
- Adoption Documents
- Social Security Documents
- Death Certificates
- Child Custody Documents
- Driver's License
- □ Passports
- Property Leases
- Property Deeds
- Property Mortgages
- Property Tax Records
- Personal Tax Records
- Business Tax Records
- Medical Records
- Prescriptions

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- Medicines
- Contacts
- Eye Glasses o Shoes

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- Medical Provider
- Medical Cards
- Logins & Passwords
- □ Banking Documents
- Debit & Credit Card Numbers
- Duplicate Keys
- Safe Deposit Box Info
- Legal Titles Auto, Home, Business
- Insurance Policies
- □ Wills
- □ Living Wills
- Power of Attorney
- □ Family Photos
- Keepsakes
- □ Jewelry
- □ Inventory of Home
- Inventory of Office
- Photos of Vehicle



#### **Support Services Number:**

**Immediate Disaster Case Management:** Call the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services at 855-742-5989 to talk with trained case managers who can assist recovery by referring you to available resources.

**Crisis Counseling:** Call the Federal Disaster Help Line at 800-985-5990 or text TalkWithUs to 66746 to talk to a professional who can help you cope with emotional distress from the storm.

**Help For Veterans:** Call the U.S. Department of Veteran Affairs' Health Resource Center Disaster Hotline at 800-507-4571 or visit VA website at *va.gov/*.

Older Adults and those with Disabilities or Access or Functional Needs: Contact your local independent living center.

**Disaster Unemployment Assistance (DUA):** If you are out of work or lost income due to Hurricane Harvey and do not qualify for regular unemployment benefits, you may be eligible for DUA.

**Disaster Legal Services:** Call the Disaster Hotline at 800-504-7030 to receive legal assistance. Visit the National Disaster Legal Aid website *disasterlegalaid.org* for other sources of legal assistance.

**Tax Relief:** Visit the IRS website at *irs.gov* for more information on tax relief for federal disaster survivors.

**Stay in Touch with FEMA:** If you haven't registered, need to update changes to your contact information or find more information on types of assistance, call FEMA at 800-621-3362 or go online at *DisasterAssistance.gov*.