

Be Ready Together for Wildfire

Let's face it, wildfire risk is real in Sonoma County. There is a lot you can do to get ready, limit disruption, and stay safe should a wildfire occur. The following recommendations are for all communities in Sonoma County from May through November:

- Learn about hardening your home and creating defensible space to mitigate your risk of wildfire, see <https://www.readyforwildfire.org/Prepare-For-Wildfire/>
- Have a family plan for evacuation and two meet-up locations predetermined
- Have a Go Bag for each member of the family (including pets) in an accessible place (e.g. near the exit door, in your car)
- Make sure your gas tank is always at least half full
- Keep your phone on and charged to allow for emergency alerts to reach you anytime
- Reach out to neighbors who may need help with this list and offer assistance
- **If you see a fire, call 911**
- **If asked to evacuate - Do so immediately**
- **To understand where events are happening go to [SoCoEmergency.org](https://www.socoemergency.org) for local emergency updates and maps**

A Red Flag Warning means that there is an **increased risk for fire danger** due to warm temperatures, very low humidity and stronger winds.

Get Ready:

- Make sure your **emergency plan** is up-to-date and ready
- **Get your go bag** out and make it accessible
- Make sure your **phone is charged**, and leave it on and near you to be sure you can receive alerts.
- **Leave your car** out of the garage and ensure you have plenty of gas
- **Contact neighbors** to ensure awareness of red flag warning and offer assistance as you are able
- Let your **out of town emergency contacts** know what is happening



The following activities are strongly discouraged when Red Flag Warning has been issued:

- No wood or charcoal **camp fires** in forests during periods of high fire danger.
- Thoroughly **extinguish all cigarettes** and smoking material.
- Don't **pull your vehicle over** in grass as it can spark a grass fire. If necessary, pull over on paved roads.
- Use **spark arrestors** on portable gasoline powered equipment to avoid an accidental fire.
- Properly **maintain vehicles** to prevent starting fires along roads due to sparks or flammable materials being spit out from the catalytic converter system.
- Ensure **trailer chains** don't drag on the ground and spark.
- Shooting of **firearms is unsafe** during periods of high fire hazards.

Learn More:

<https://socoemergency.org/get-ready/local-hazards/wildfire/>

<https://www.sonomacountyfd.org/open-burning>

<https://www.readyforwildfire.org/prepare-for-wildfire/ready-set-go/>

<https://www.readyforwildfire.org/Prevent-Wildfire/>