



Wildfire

What to do before, during and after a wildfire that threatens your community. Print it and keep it with your kit.

Before (preparation)

- Keep **go-bags ready** for everyone, with water, medications, copies of key documents, phone chargers and a change of clothes.
- Sign up for provincial and local alerts** so you receive evacuation notices on your phone day and night.
- Keep **N95 respirators** on hand to protect your lungs from wildfire smoke.
- Create **defensible space** around the home: clear dry leaves, deadfall and firewood away from walls, and keep gutters clear.
- Agree on a **meeting point and an out-of-area contact**, and plan more than one route out of your neighbourhood.
- Keep vehicles **fuelled and facing out** so you can leave quickly if ordered.

During (alert and evacuation)

1. **Follow evacuation alerts and orders.** An alert means be ready; an order means leave now. **Leave as soon as you are ordered to** — do not wait to see the fire.
2. **Wear an N95** when there is heavy smoke, and keep windows and doors closed to limit what gets inside.
3. **Take your go-bags, medications and pets**, and grab the documents and chargers you set aside.
4. **Tell your out-of-area contact where you are going** and close up the house: shut windows, doors and vents before you leave.
5. **Drive with headlights on** and follow the routes officials give you; do not return to a closed area until it is reopened.
6. **Call 911** only for life-threatening emergencies, and follow directions from firefighters and police.

If it lasts (extended evacuation)

- Stay where you are safe and **keep following official updates** from your provincial wildfire service and local authorities.
- Limit time outdoors** in heavy smoke and keep wearing an N95 when the air is poor.
- Check on neighbours**, especially older adults, people with breathing conditions and anyone without transport.
- Keep documents, medications and chargers together so you can move again at short notice.

After

- Return only when officials say it is safe**, and **watch for hotspots**, smouldering ground and weakened trees around the property.
- Check the air quality (AQHI)** before spending time outside, and keep using an N95 while smoke lingers.

Restock your go-bags and note what you were missing, ready for the next fire season.

Safety: never run a generator or any fuel-burning device indoors, in a garage or in an enclosed space. They release carbon monoxide, an odourless and invisible gas that can cause serious or fatal poisoning.

Get ready for wildfire season in your area

The planner sizes your kit by people and days.

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