# CALIFORNIA WILDFIRE HOME SAFETY CHECKLIST

HOW COMMON ARE CALIFORNIA WILDFIRES?

At least 6,284 wildfires occurred in California in 2018, according to the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE). These fires burned approximately 876,147 acres of land.

## • WHAT TO DO BEFORE A CALIFORNIA WILDFIRE •



#### Separate your home from flammable materials

Create at least 30 feet of space between your home and flammable vegetation and materials.



Trim trees and shrubs

Ensure trees and shrubs do not come into contact with electrical wires or hang over your home's chimney.



Clean your home's roof

Remove pine needles, leaves and other debris from your home's roof.



Store combustible materials properly

Store combustible or flammable materials in approved containers.



battery-operated flashlights and radios

Keep battery-operated flashlights and radios with additional fresh batteries in a safe, easy-to-access location in your home.

## WHAT TO DO DURING A CALIFORNIA WILDFIRE



Stay up to date

Use a TV or radio to receive wildfire emergency updates.



Set up hoses and water

If possible, fill buckets with water and set up hoses outside your home.



Turn on the house

p hoses Activate the lights in each nome. room of your home.



Remove flammable drapes or curtains

Take down flammable drapes or curtains in your home.



#### Get ready to evacuate

Prepare all family members and pets to evacuate your home.

## WHAT TO DO AFTER A CALIFORNIA WILDFIRE



Contact local fire officials

Check in with local fire officials to find out if it is safe to return home.



Look for hot spots

Check the ground for smoldering stumps and other hot spots and use buckets of water on these spots as needed.



## Examine your home's exterior

Look for sparks and embers across your home's roof and exterior areas.



#### Evaluate your home's interior

Keep an eye out for hidden burning in each room of your home.



#### Call 911

Contact 911 if you identify any potential dangers.

## How much do you know about wildfires?

#### True or False:

- 1. An average of 7 million acres of US woodland burn every year.
- 2. 1 in 5 wildfires are caused by humans.
- 3. Wildfires move faster downhill.
- 4. Some species of trees and shrubs require fire to reproduce.
- 5. The 'fuel' (trees, plants, etc.) you see burning isn't really on fire.
- 6. There are three broad types of fire spread: Subterranean, Surface and Crown fires.
- 7. Only YOU can prevent wildfires.

















- 1. True: Across the US, including Alaska, approximately 7 million acres of federal, tribal, state and private land burns annually.
- 2. False: More than 4 out of 5 wildfires are caused by humans.
  - 3. False: Fire moves faster uphill. The steeper the slope, the faster the fire travels.
    - 4. True: Species such as Ceanothus and many types of closed-cone coniferous trees require heat to germinate.
- 5. True: The fuel itself is not on fire, but rather, is being converted into a gas. It's the gas produced by the fuel that is actually burning.
- 6. False: The three types of fire spread are: Ground organic material in the soil is burning; Surface leaf litter, fallen braches, etc. on the ground are burning; Crown the top layer of foliage from trees is burning.