

# Wildfire preparedness checklist



A guide to protecting your health and home before, during, and after wildfire smoke.

## BEFORE Wildfire season

### SMOKE-RELATED

- Sign up for air quality and wildfire safety alerts
- Optimize filters and air cleaners
- Purchase proper masks
- Create a medical plan
- Optimize generator safety

### OTHER PREPARATIONS

- Create an evacuation plan
- Stay connected, keep a backup battery for your phone
- Learn emergency skills, like first aid and CPR
- Gather emergency supplies
- Create defensible space around your home
- Contribute to community efforts to prevent wildfires

## DURING A smoke event

- Be ready to evacuate if authorities advise, or if you feel in danger
- Track outdoor air quality to know when to take precautions
- Remain indoors with doors and windows closed, or seek shelter
- Avoid intense physical exercise
- Run your AC, maintain filters, and/or run a HEPA purifier
- Avoid using wood-burning appliances
- Wear a proper disposable respiratory mask if you go outside
- Avoid fans or coolers with outside air intake

## AFTER Wildfire season

### WHEN CLEANING ASH

- Wear a proper disposable respiratory mask tightly on your face
- Wear protective gear: gloves, long sleeves, goggles
- Mist with water and gently sweep
- Collect the ash in a bag and dispose of it
- Wash any vehicles or outdoor toys
- Use a vacuum with a HEPA filter or similar
- Direct ash-filled water away from storm drains
- Clean any ash off pets

### OTHER PRECAUTIONS

- Wait until officials say it is safe before returning home
- Avoid anything that may still be hot, including ground heat pockets
- Avoid damaged power lines or wires
- Avoid food or water that may be contaminated
- Wash off any ash on your skin; avoid direct contact
- Contact your local officials for recovery guidance