Don’t burn dangerous things

- Never burn pressurized containers such as spray cans. They may explode.
- Never put glass in a fire. Glass does not melt away; it only heats up and shatters, leaving dangerous slivers.
- Don’t put aluminum cans in a fire. They do not burn.

Get ready to evacuate

- If there are reports of a wildfire nearby, prepare to evacuate. Be ready to leave at a moment’s notice.
- Confine pets, so that you can take them with you, if you need to leave quickly.
- Bring a handkerchief to protect your face.

Stay informed and ready

- Monitor local news broadcasts, and keep a lookout.
- Place valuable papers, mementos and anything “you can’t live without” inside the car, ready to go.
- Call an out-of-town contact and to explain what has happened and where you will be going, if/when you leave.

Prepare your home

- If — and only if — time permits, prepare your home. Shut off natural gas, propane or fuel oil supplies at the source. Reduce drafts.

If fire is approaching or authorities advise you to leave

- Evacuate immediately! Head for safety, taking special care of dependents.
- Leave doors and windows closed but unlocked. Firefighters may need a quick entry, and police will provide security.
- Choose an escape route that steers as clear of the fire as possible. Watch for changes in the speed and direction of fire and smoke.

If you find yourself trapped at home

- Stay inside and away from outside walls.
- Close doors, but leave them unlocked.
- Try to remain calm and, if you are with other people, stay together.