

24 Hours to Success

During recent years, studies have shown that most homes lost to Wildfires have been caused by some very small problems with simple solutions. It has been determined that flying embers or creeping ground fires are contributors to the loss of the majority of homes.

We have listed below some things that you can do to greatly help your home survive a wildfire threat. These items can be accomplished in a relatively short period of time (24 hours or less) with very little if any cost to the homeowner.

1. Remove needles and leaves from your home's roof and rain gutters, these can cause fast fire starts and spread fire quickly to your home.
2. Rake and remove flammable debris such as dead grass, pine or fire needles from around your home and out buildings. (Dead grass, pine or fir needles, etc.) Pile this material at least 50-feet away.
3. Clean or remove flammable materials from around wooden decks or walkways, get between the cracks of your walkway. Fire has been known to slowly burn the length of a deck or porch to a home.
4. Remove all firewood near your home to at least 30 -feet away. Woodpiles could cause a very intense fire.
5. If you have a wooden fence attached to your house, remove a section to reduce the risk of the fence acting as a wick and bringing fire to your house.
6. Move flammable deck furniture a safe distance away from your house (30 feet)
7. Cover all vents, (roof or foundation) with a small diameter / fine screen to prevent sparks or embers from being blown in or under your home.
8. Clean flammable materials from around any propane, oil or fuel tanks.

Possibility of evacuation:

In the event of an evacuation, if you have completed the items listed above, you should also try to do the following:

1. Place a sprinkler on your roof, but do not turn it on until the fires' arrival is imminent. This will help conserve water for use by the fire department.
2. Connect hoses to all spigots; this will aid the firefighters when they arrive.

These small tasks can greatly increase the chance of your home surviving when a wildfire threatens. Please take the time, **MAKE THE DIFFERENCE.**

For more information, visit www.or.blm.gov/nwfire/.

