



Fire Prevention and Investigation *CHELAN COUNTY* STATE OF WASHINGTON

Ready, Set, Go!

In the Pacific Northwest fires are a natural part of the changing landscape. Many county area homes are built adjacent to areas where trees and vegetation, combined with seasonal hot and dry winds, provide fuel for wildfires that can be extremely dangerous and difficult to control. Few have adequately prepared their families and homes for a timely evacuation in the event of a wildfire.

The Ready, Set, Go! Program wishes to share information with residents and visitors on how they can successfully be prepared in the event of a wildfire. Face it, we choose to live in or frequent an area where a wildfire can occur without advance notice. We need to be ready, be alert and act early should this occur.

Ready — Be Ready

Prepare your property long before the wildfire occurs. Create a defensible space between your home and the trees and brush. Use fire-resistant landscaping and harden your home using firesafe construction. Know what emergency supplies and belongings you will need to take in the event of an evacuation and keep in a safe and easily accessible place. Know your escape routes and make sure other family members know what to do in the event of a wildfire.

- Prepare your property using Firewise principles.
- Create a FAMILY DISASTER PLAN that includes communication plans. Include plans for your pets and/or livestock.
- Have fire extinguishers on hand and train family members how to use them.
- Ensure your family knows the locations of the gas and electric shutoffs.
- Know at least two evacuation routes.
- Designate an emergency meeting location such as a shelter or out of area relative.
- Assemble an emergency supply Go! Kit.
- Have a portable radio or scanner so you can stay updated on the fire.
- Appoint an out of area friend or relative as a point of contact so you can communicate with family members.
- Maintain a list of contact numbers in your Go! Kit.



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Set — Be Alert

Put together an emergency supply kit known as a Go! Kit. Include food, water, medications, important papers, phone numbers, First-Aid kit, pet needs, chargers for electronic devices and anything else that you would need while away from home or items you would not want to lose in a fire.

- Stay alert and aware of fire status. Monitor media and emergency notification systems. See last page for information sources.
- Alert family and neighbors.
- Dress in appropriate clothing (i.e., made from natural fibers such as cotton and work boots). Have goggles, mask or dry bandana handy.
- Have your Go! Kit on hand that includes all necessary items, such as battery-powered radio, spare batteries, emergency contact numbers, nonperishable food and ample drinking water.
- Have a full tank of gas in your vehicle.
- Remain close to home, drink plenty of water and know where your family and pets re until you are ready to leave.

IF TIME ALLOWS

- Close all windows and doors, leaving them unlocked and remove all shades and curtains.
- Move furniture to middle of the room, away from windows and doors.
- Turn off pilot lights and air conditioning.
- Leave your lights on so firefighters can see your house under smoky conditions.
- Bring combustible items from the exterior of the house inside (patio furniture, children's toys, door mats, etc.).
- Turn off propane tanks and other gas at the meter.
- Don't leave sprinklers on or water running, as they can affect critical water pressure.
- Back your car into the driveway to facilitate a quick departure. Shut doors and roll up windows.
- Cover attic and ground vents with pre-cut plywood or commercial seals.



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Go! — Act Early!

Leave if you feel threatened. Take your Go! Kit. Know your evacuation route. Do not wait for officials to tell you to leave. Cooperate with local authorities during evacuation and re-entry processes.

By leaving early, you give your family the best chance of surviving a wildfire. You also help firefighters by keeping roads clear of congestion, enabling them to move more freely and do their job in a safer environment.

WHEN TO LEAVE

Do not wait to be advised to leave if there is a possible threat to your home or vacation route. Leave early enough to avoid being caught in fire, smoke or road congestion. If you are advised to leave by local authorities, do not hesitate!

WHERE TO GO

Leave to a predetermined location. It should be a low-risk area, such as relative's house, a Red Cross or evacuation shelter, motel, etc.

HOW TO GET THERE

Have several travel routes in case one route is blocked by the fire or emergency vehicles. Choose the safest route from the fire.

WHAT TO TAKE

Take your Go! Kit containing your family and pet's necessary items.

CHELAN COUNTY EVACUATION LEVELS

LEVEL 1

BE ALERT. Be alert and stay aware of the danger that exists in your area; evacuations are voluntary.

LEVEL 2

BE READY. Significant danger to your area; leave voluntarily or be ready at a moment's notice.

LEVEL 3

LEAVE IMMEDIATELY. Danger to your area is current or imminent; leave immediately.



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HELPFUL WILDFIRE TIPS

WHAT TO TAKE IF YOU MUST EVACUATE – **GO! KIT**

- Address book/contact information for family, friends and doctors
- Important papers, insurance documents, unpaid bills and account numbers
- Home inventory list and photos or video of home contents
- Driver's license/identification, credit & ATM cards, checkbook and cash
- Computer, backups, cell phone with car and wall chargers
- Personal photos and other valuables, heirlooms and firearms
- Keys to home, car, RV, boat and other equipment
- Prescription medications, insurance cards and basic First-Aid kit
- Hearing aids, eyeglasses and/or contact lenses and solution
- Sanitation and personal hygiene items
- Pets and pet food, along with leash, bowl and medications
- Drinking water and food for several days
- Flashlights, battery-powered radio and extra batteries
- Change of clothing, coat, warm blanket or sleeping bag

When a wildfire is in the area, maintain your situational awareness by staying informed. Listen to the radio and/or other media sources. Evacuate if you feel unsafe or if you need extra time to accommodate elderly or special needs individuals, children or large animals. Do not wait to be advised to leave if there is a possible threat to your home or evacuation route.

Information Resources

Chelan County Emergency Management <https://www.co.chelan.wa.us/emergency-management>

www.facebook.com/CCSOEM and, <https://twitter.com/chelancountyem?lang=en>

U.S. Forest Service Fire Information <https://inciweb.nwccg.gov/>

Northwest Interagency Coordination Center Fire Information - <https://gacc.nifc.gov/nwcc/>

Radio Stations KOHO 101.1FM, KPQ 560AM, The Quake 102.1FM

Ready, Set, Go! Wildland Fire Preparedness - www.wildlandfires.org

Ready, Set, Go! For pets - www.wenatcheehumane.org/wildfire-disaster-planning

Air Quality Information - <https://ecology.wa.gov/Research-Data/Monitoring-assessment/Air-Quality-Index>

Washington State Department of Natural Resources - <https://www.dnr.wa.gov/> - https://twitter.com/waDNR_fire