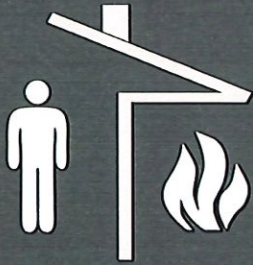




*If your family is in danger from a wildfire, don't wait for an evacuation order. **GO EARLY!** Most wildfire-related deaths occur during evacuation efforts. Residents wait too long, leave too late, and end up trapped in the path of the fire.*



Leaving early is the best way to protect yourself and your loved ones.



Orange County
Fire Authority

www.ocfa.org/RSG

Wildfires move at incredible speeds and can change direction in an instant. If you're trapped before you can safely evacuate, there are steps you can take to help your family survive.

Prepare to shelter-in-place. Most homes are exposed to a wildfire's flame front for a short time, but those 10 or 15 minutes can be terrifying. Loud noise, blinding smoke, and unbearable heat will trigger a natural urge to escape, but you must stay inside until the flame front passes. No matter how hot it gets inside, the air outside will be 4 to 5 times hotter.

- Keep everyone together, away from windows and outside walls
- Dress in thick, natural-fiber clothing. Wear long sleeves, long pants, goggles, a bandana or dust mask, and heavy boots to protect skin from radiant heat burns
- Stay hydrated. Heat exhaustion and dehydration are serious threats during a wildfire
- Make sure exit routes are clear. Leave outside doors and windows closed and close bedroom and hallway doors inside the house
- Keep flashlights and fire extinguishers within reach
- Fill sinks, bathtubs, and buckets with water. Soak towels and use them to cover gaps or cracks under doors or around windows to keep smoke and embers out
- Patrol inside your home, especially the attic, for spot fires and extinguish them before they spread
- Stay out of hot tubs and pools. They will not protect you from fire

Never underestimate the force and intensity of a wildfire. Staying calm and keeping a clear head will help you survive if you're forced to shelter-in-place, but early evacuation is the safest choice.

For more information, please visit the OCFA website or call **(714) 573-6774** to schedule a wildfire home assessment.



WILDFIRE EVACUATION



Wildfires are unpredictable. Strong winds can change a fire's direction and strength in an instant, making it impossible for law enforcement to carry out evacuation orders or make door-to-door announcements.



GO EARLY! If your family is in danger from a wildfire, leave immediately. Early evacuation is the safest choice and gives your family the best chance of survival.



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Whether you go early or leave during a mandatory evacuation, it's important to follow your Wildfire Action Plan.

- Make sure all family members are dressed in cotton or natural-fiber clothing
- Load your family, pets, Disaster Kit and Go! Bag into one car if possible
- Follow one of your pre-determined escape routes or evacuate as directed by law enforcement. The escape route should take you away from the fire, which is the same direction it's traveling
- Tune in to a local radio station and listen for instructions
- Drive with your headlights on for better visibility. Be aware of potential road hazards, including fire vehicles
- Don't attempt to pick up children from school or daycare. Teachers and staff members will respond according to the school's disaster plan
- Drive immediately to your family's meeting location. If you're separated from one or more family members, make contact according to your communication plan

Early evacuation is the safest choice during a wildfire, but it's only possible if you're prepared.

- If you don't have a Wildfire Action Plan, start one today. Make sure it includes at least two possible escape routes, a Family Communication Plan, and a Pet Disaster Plan
- Put together a Disaster Kit and Go! Bag
- Find out about the disaster plans at your workplace and your children's schools
- Keep the car fuel tank at least half-full at all times

For more information, please visit the OCFA website or call **(714) 573-6774** to schedule a Wildfire Home Assessment.

