

Colusa County Resource Conservation District

Colusa County **FIRE** **EVACUATION** **GUIDE**

Preparedness and Resilience



Published in partnership, 2026

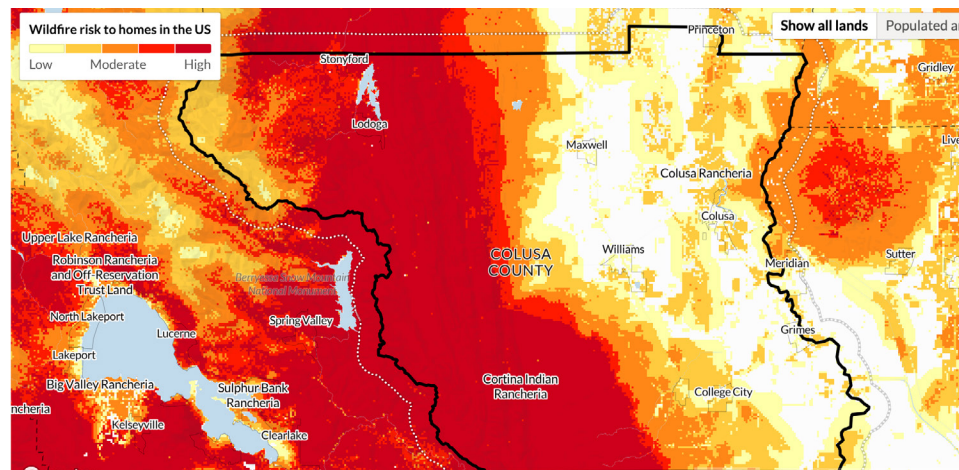
To the resilient residents of Colusa County:

You are at work. Someone comes in for regular services. As you are working with them, they ask you if you know anything about the smoke outside. Your phones sound at the same time with an alert about a quickly approaching fire. You think of your partner at work and your kids at school.

Do you know what to do?

This guide was created to help you answer, “Yes!”

This moment, or one like it, is very likely to happen soon, if not for you, then someone you love. As we continue to experience longer, hotter, drier summers, the fire risk in Colusa County continues to increase, especially in the western half of the county.



We can start planning now, so when fire does come, we will be ready to respond.

With support from the California Fire Safe Council, Colusa County Resource Conservation District led the assembly of this document. In addition to residents and community leaders, the RCD consulted the following agencies for support in planning:

Colusa County Sheriff
CAL FIRE
Mendocino National Forest
Colusa County Fire Safe Council
Colusa County Office of Emergency Services

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Plan for Fire:

5 Steps to Evacuation Planning

1

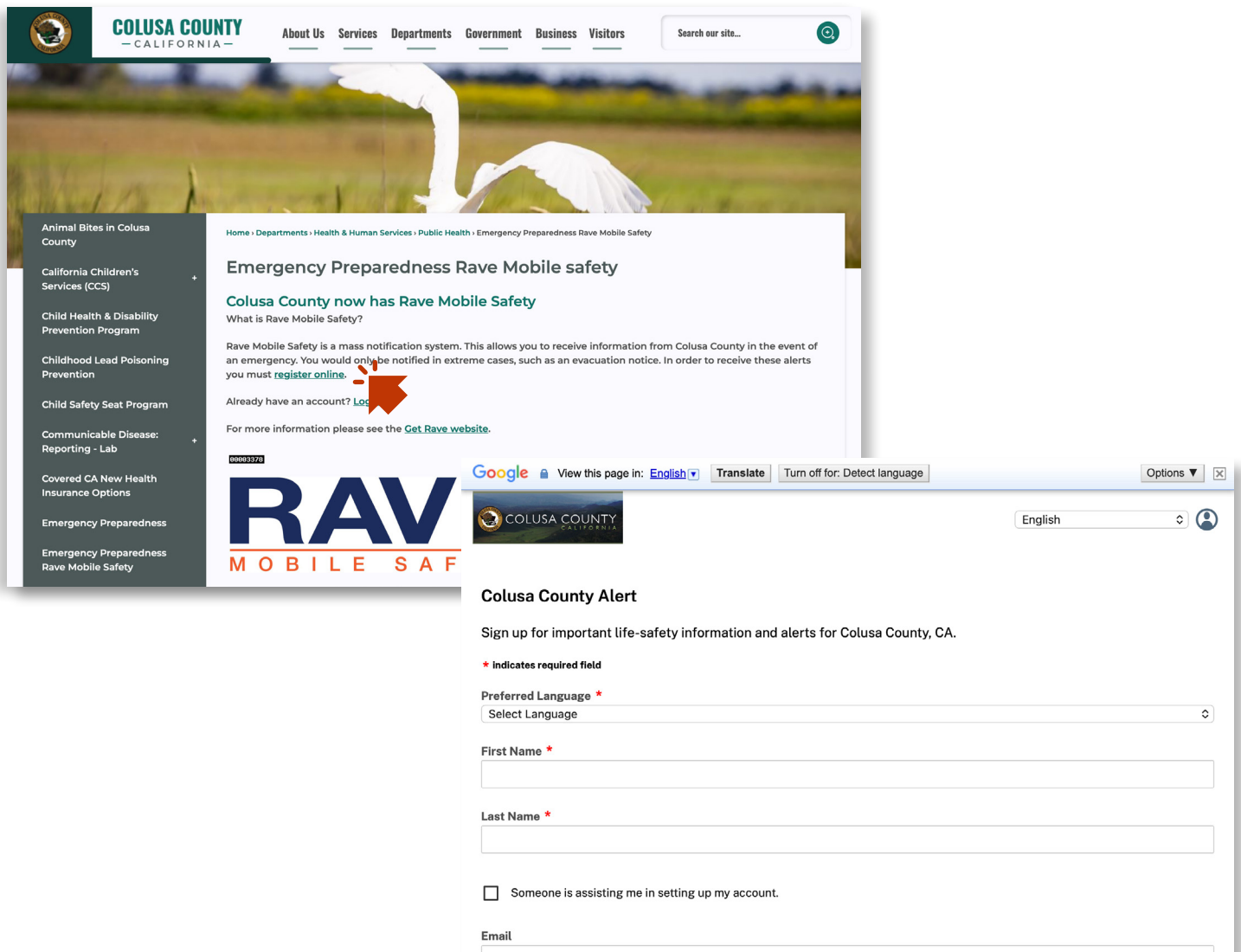
Sign Up for Alerts



When evacuation and other emergency notices are issued, the Sheriff and Office of Emergency Services use RAVE notification system to alert residents via landline and mobile phone alerts.

Register online to receive these alerts:

www.CountyofColusaCA.gov/719 



The screenshot shows the Colusa County website with a sidebar menu on the left containing links such as "Animal Bites in Colusa County", "California Children's Services (CCS)", "Child Health & Disability Prevention Program", "Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention", "Child Safety Seat Program", "Communicable Disease: Reporting - Lab", "Covered CA New Health Insurance Options", "Emergency Preparedness", and "Emergency Preparedness Rave Mobile Safety". The main content area is titled "Emergency Preparedness Rave Mobile safety" and includes a sub-header "Colusa County now has Rave Mobile Safety". Below this, it explains that Rave Mobile Safety is a mass notification system and provides a link to "register online". A red arrow points to the "register online" link. At the bottom of the main content area, there is a "RAVE MOBILE SAFETY" logo. The footer of the page contains a "Colusa County Alert" section with a sign-up form. The form includes a "Preferred Language" dropdown menu, "First Name" and "Last Name" text input fields, a checkbox for "Someone is assisting me in setting up my account.", and an "Email" text input field. The form also includes a "Google" logo and a "View this page in: English" link.

COLUSA COUNTY
— CALIFORNIA —

About Us Services Departments Government Business Visitors

Search our site...

Animal Bites in Colusa County

California Children's Services (CCS)

Child Health & Disability Prevention Program

Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention

Child Safety Seat Program

Communicable Disease: Reporting - Lab

Covered CA New Health Insurance Options

Emergency Preparedness

Emergency Preparedness Rave Mobile Safety

Home » Departments » Health & Human Services » Public Health » Emergency Preparedness Rave Mobile Safety

Emergency Preparedness Rave Mobile safety

Colusa County now has Rave Mobile Safety

What is Rave Mobile Safety?

Rave Mobile Safety is a mass notification system. This allows you to receive information from Colusa County in the event of an emergency. You would only be notified in extreme cases, such as an evacuation notice. In order to receive these alerts you must [register online](#).

Already have an account? [Log in](#)

For more information please see the [Get Rave website](#).

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RAVE
MOBILE SAFETY

Google View this page in: English Translate Turn off for: Detect language Options

COLUSA COUNTY
CALIFORNIA

English

Colusa County Alert

Sign up for important life-safety information and alerts for Colusa County, CA.

* Indicates required field

Preferred Language *
Select Language

First Name *
[Text Input Field]

Last Name *
[Text Input Field]

☐ Someone is assisting me in setting up my account.

Email
[Text Input Field]

2

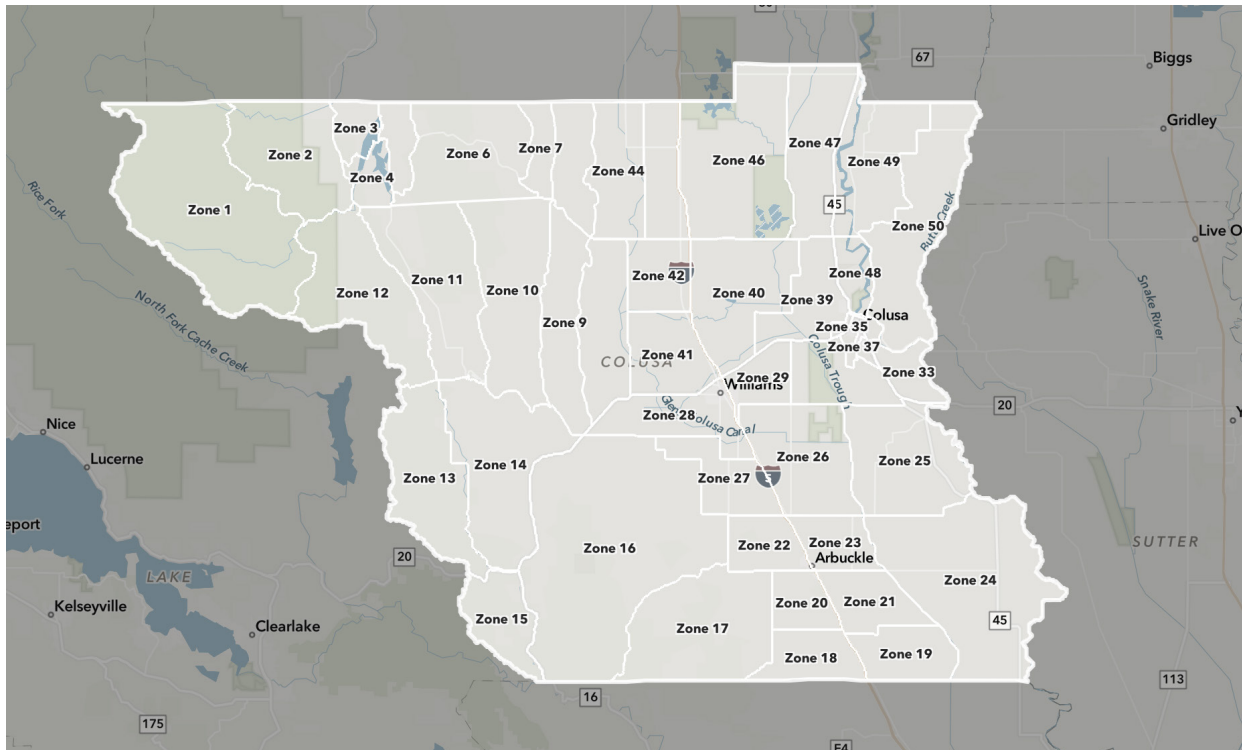
Know Your Zone



The Colusa County Sheriff's Office and Office of Emergency Services have designated **50 zones** in Colusa County to facilitate safe, orderly evacuations.

If you **know your zone**, you will know what evacuation notice applies to you.

To learn what zone your home is in, visit the county website, and enter your address.



Evacuation Notice Types

EVACUATION ORDER



Leave immediately. Immediate threat to life; danger is imminent.

EVACUATION WARNING



Plan to evacuate. Threat to lives not yet imminent, situation is unstable. Leave now if your family needs extra time to evacuate (pets, kids, elders, etc.).

3

Make A Plan



You can save lives by preparing for different scenarios and working with your loved ones.

Evacuation Routes

Be familiar with and practice taking all possible routes away from your home. If your primary egress route is closed, what roads will you take to evacuate? Be aware of nearby road conditions and potential obstacles, such as locked gates and overgrown vegetation.

Talk to your neighbors about evacuation concerns, use shared local knowledge and resources, and work together to mitigate potential hazards and obstacles along all your evacuation routes.

Make Note: Routes

Evacuation Route 1: _____

Hazards/Obstacles/Notes: _____

Evacuation Route 2: _____

Hazards/Obstacles/Notes: _____

Evacuation Route 3: _____

Hazards/Obstacles/Notes: _____

Share Your Plan

Identify 5 people who will be your allies and partners during an emergency.

These 5 people will check in with you regularly and provide support if they can. Choose at least one person who lives nearby and at least one person who lives out of the area. In a disaster, it is important that officials know who is accounted for and who might be missing or need additional aid.



Make Note: Contacts

CONTACT 1

Name: _____

Phone Number: _____

CONTACT 2

Name: _____

Phone Number: _____

CONTACT 3

Name: _____

Phone Number: _____

CONTACT 4

Name: _____

Phone Number: _____

CONTACT 5

Name: _____

Phone Number: _____

Plan with Family, Friends, and Neighbors

Lives are at risk during an evacuation. Plan ahead with your loved-ones and neighbors to ensure that everyone has the resources they need to evacuate safely.

Some people may need extra support during evacuation emergencies:

PREGNANT PEOPLE



Ask your doctor how to be prepared to get care or deliver during a disaster. Take precautions to avoid unsafe air, water, or food. Tell staff at shelters you are pregnant.

PARENTS OF INFANTS



Pack plenty of clean water for formula. Pack or make a body sling/wrap to walk or stand for a long time with the baby. Know your caregivers' evacuation plans.

CAREGIVERS



Coordinate with your care recipient when making an evacuation plan. Build a network of support for your care recipient beyond you. Review their and your evacuation plans with your care recipient twice a year and update if needs or conditions change.

PEOPLE WITH PETS



Pack food, water, shot records, and waste supplies for your pet. Dial 211 to ask which shelters accept pets or to learn where large animals can be evacuated.

Who among your family friends and neighbors fall within these categories?

Can you support their planning and evacuation before emergencies?

RURAL COMMUNITIES



Meet and discuss with neighbors ahead of time to make the most of shared local knowledge and resources.

Know what options there are for evacuating large animals.

ELDERS AND PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES



Carry a card to support communication with others, including information about who you are evacuating with, additional family, and how to contact them. Make a backup plan in the event that assistive devices fail or cannot be charged normally. Plan for mobility obstacles, like stairs and damaged ramps. As much as possible, let elders and people with disabilities make decisions for themselves about how they would like to evacuate. Review the plan twice annually and adjust if needs or conditions change.

PEOPLE WITH LIMITED ENGLISH



Plan and communicate with bilingual family members. Establish trusted sources of information (individuals, organizations, media, etc.) to stay tuned to for updates.

Make a Plan: Large Animals

Do you need an Ag Pass?



An Agriculture Pass (or Livestock Pass) facilitates access to areas that have been evacuated by the sheriff's office during an emergency. Through this access, ranchers may be able to gain access to their property to evacuate their livestock.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

You are eligible for an Ag Pass if you have documentation confirming you are a **Commercial Livestock Operation**. Your operation must also be vetted through the Agricultural Commissioner's office in Colusa.

You **must complete a CAL FIRE safety training course** and sign a release of liability before being issued an Ag Pass.

WHERE SHOULD I TAKE MY LARGE ANIMALS?

Even if an evacuation order is issued, the County may not open an evacuation shelter for livestock. Monitor RAVE Alerts to be informed of the details for any shelters or safe zones for large animals.

HOW TO GET AN AG PASS?

Find more information at the Agricultural Commissioner's office in Colusa, or apply online. When all criteria are met, the pass is issued in person at the Colusa office. The sheriff's office holds a list of Ag Pass holders.

WHAT IF I DO NOT TAKE MY LARGE ANIMALS?

If you are evacuating without your livestock, open gates or fencing along the route when safely possible. Open fences and gates will give large animals freedom to run to safety.

For more information visit or call:
Agricultural Commissioner's Office

**100 Sunrise Blvd, Colusa, CA
(530) 458-0580**

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Pack a Go Bag

In the event of a wildfire emergency, preparedness is key. Pack a “Go Bag” now for an efficient evacuation later.

Your bag should contain survival supply essentials, as well as important documents and information. The following checklists will help you pack a Go Bag to sustain you and your family for **three days**, in case of an emergency.



Family Go Bag Checklist:

- ☐ Medication
- ☐ Contact lenses/saline solution
- ☐ Hearing aids/batteries
- ☐ Necessary medical equipment (oxygen, syringes, batteries etc.)
- ☐ Nonperishable food (3-day supply)
- ☐ 3 gallons of water per person
- ☐ First aid kit (double check it is stocked, with the right size bandages)
- ☐ Credit cards, cash, checks
- ☐ Flashlight or headlamp/batteries
- ☐ Radio/batteries
- ☐ KN-95 masks
- ☐ Paper map with evacuation routes
- ☐ Legal documents (passport, etc.)
- ☐ Written contact list
- ☐ Blankets
- ☐ Clothing, shoes (for various weather)
- ☐ Pocket knife/multi-tool
- ☐ Sanitation and hygiene products



Tip: Use a light-weight, waterproof bag with shoulder straps



Medical and Insurance Needs and Records

Make note of and share these important medical details with your 5 allies and partners to ensure you maintain a network of care.

These simple notes made now can become vital if your records get lost or left in evacuation, especially if you need medical assistance during your evacuation.

Make Note: Medical Records

Doctor's Name: _____

Doctor's Phone Number: _____

Health Plan Name, Policy Number: _____

Blood Type and Allergies: _____

List any medications with their use/purpose, dosage, schedule:



And don't forget about your furry friends! Think ahead about how to safely evacuate with your pets.

Pet Go Bag Checklist:

- | | |
|---|---|
| ☐ Vet contact, medication and shot records | ☐ Non-spill food and water bowls |
| ☐ Medication | ☐ Litter/litter box |
| ☐ Pet carrier | ☐ Cage liners/newspaper |
| ☐ Leash, collar, harness | ☐ Waste bags |
| ☐ Food and water (14-day supply) | ☐ Disinfectants |



5

Go Informed

Don't Wait, Go!

Leaving early increases your chance of survival. Refusing or delaying evacuation puts you and first responders at risk.

What to do at each stage of an emergency:

EVACUATION WARNING



There is a potential threat to property or life. If you need extra time to evacuate, leave now. You do not have to wait for an Evacuation Order to be issued to evacuate.

- **Park cars for egress** (face the escape route for an efficient evacuation).
- Put family and pet **Go Bags** into your vehicle.
- **Notify your network** of the evacuation.
- **Protect Zone 0**, remove flammable materials around your house. (see page 16)
- **Turn on outdoor lights** to increase home visibility for first responders.
- **Attach outdoor hoses**, leave faucets closed and sprinklers off to preserve pressure.
- Gather and **prepare pets** for evacuation.
- **Monitor** radio and television for evacuation and traffic updates (your evacuation routes may be affected by traffic and need to be altered).

EVACUATION ORDER



There is an immediate threat to life. This is a lawful order to leave immediately.

- **Leave** as soon as possible utilizing clear, safe evacuation routes.
- **Notify your network** of the evacuation.
- **Drive cautiously**, stay present and alert to the surroundings
- **Monitor** the situation via official outlets.
- **Open gates or fencing** along the evacuation route, when safely possible, to let large animals run freely to escape harm.
- **RAVE alerts** to cell phones will notify you of shelter locations and other resources available.

Dial 2-1-1 for Support

For information about shelters, evacuation sites, road closures, missing persons, and more: dial 2-1-1 to be connected with an agency that can help.

Caring for One Another During and After Evacuation

It can be difficult to process the emotional impact of an emergency evacuation, even if your home and loved ones survive safely.

Here are common physical and emotional responses to a disaster:

- Intense or unpredictable feelings
- Changes to thought/behavior patterns
- Feeling physically/emotionally drained
- Changes in appetite/eating patterns
- Trouble falling/staying asleep
- Nightmares
- Recurring mental images
- Difficulty making decisions, focusing
- Feeling numb, powerless, lack of energy
- Headache, stomachache, body aches
- Feeling lonely, worried, or irritable
- Crying or tearfulness for no clear reason
- Shortness, arguing with others
- Depression, hyperactivity
- Sensitivity to loud noises, etc.
- Decreased social/physical activity

All of these responses are normal; knowing what to expect can help us care better for our loved ones and ourselves. Be patient with yourself and others as we collectively process the event.

Free 24/7 support, call or text
Disaster Distress Helpline
1-800-985-5990



Action Steps For Care

- Eat, hydrate, and rest well and routinely
- Avoid excessive drug/alcohol use
- Limit exposure to images of disaster
- Communicate experience/emotions
- Engage hobbies and physical activity
- Offer support to others
- Reach out to pros for an extra boost

Consider This:

Children, people with disabilities, and people who don't speak the local language are especially at risk when disasters occur and have the biggest challenge accessing the support we all need to recover. If you can, take care to offer support

A photograph of a forest. In the foreground, a fire is burning on the ground, which is covered in dry pine needles and leaves. The fire is bright orange and yellow. In the background, there are many tall, thin trees with green needles, likely pines. The sky is visible through the trees, showing a clear blue color. The overall scene is a natural forest environment.

Before the Fire:

*Understanding Fire
Preparedness and Resilience*

Fire Behavior

Understanding fire behavior will help you better prepare your home or property for a wildfire event.

While all fires need fuel, heat (an ignition), and oxygen to start and grow, the way a fire behaves is influenced by **topography**, **weather**, and **fuel**.

TOPOGRAPHY

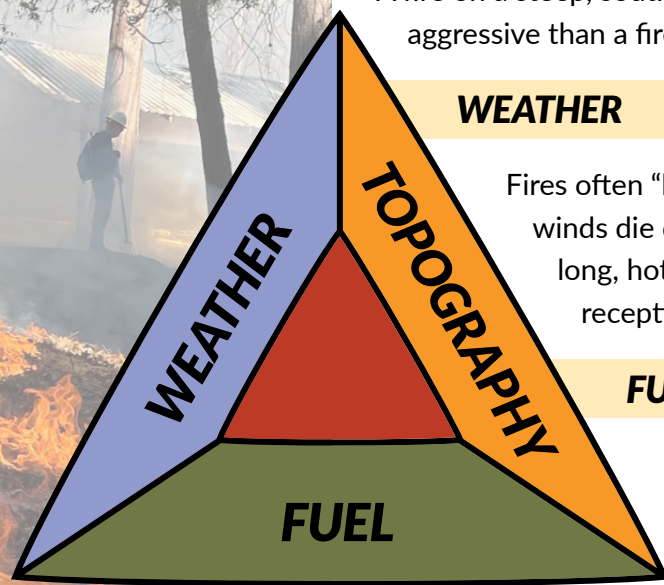
A fire on a steep, south-facing slope (the dry, sunny side) will be much more aggressive than a fire on a gentle, north-facing slope.

WEATHER

Fires often “lay down” at night when the sun goes down, winds die down, and the moisture in the air goes up. As long, hot, dry days stack up, landscape fuels become more receptive to fire and ignition.

FUELS

A dense stand of dry pines will carry and drive a hot, intense canopy fire whereas a more spacious oak grove might slow a fire or keep it on/return it to the ground. Grass, leaf litter, brush, and trees dry at different rates, varying the landscape’s fire receptivity.



Consider This:

What mix of weather, topography, and fuel informs your home’s fire risk? How close is your home to trees? Vegetation? Other homes? Irrigation? Is it situated at the top/ bottom of a slope? On the north or sunny/dry side of a slope?



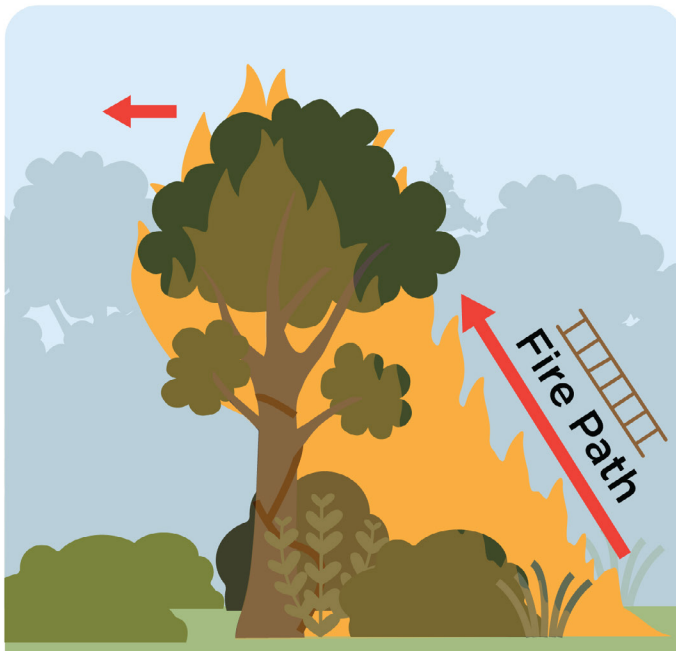
Ladder Fuel Mitigation

Identifying ladder fuels and removing/reducing them is an essential step toward fire preparedness.

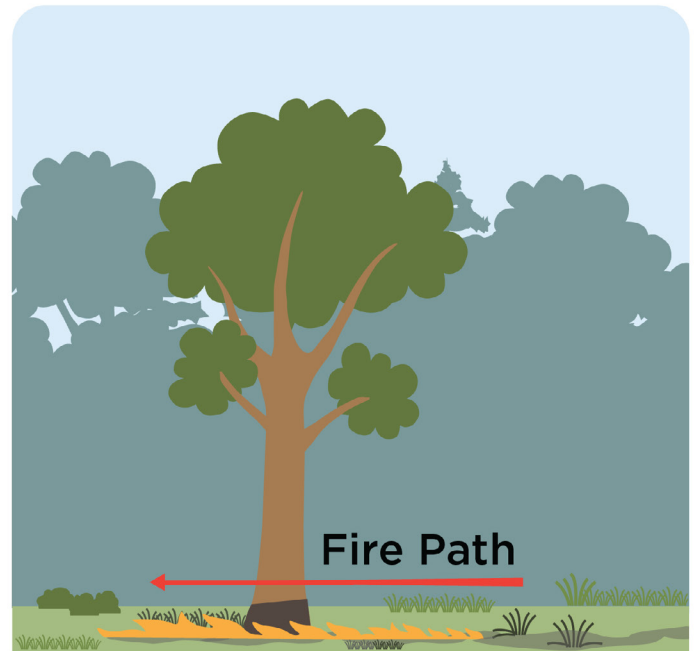
What are ladder fuels?

Any material, usually vegetation, that a fire can “climb” from the ground into the canopy of the tree or forest is considered a ladder fuel. Ladder fuels might be the lower hanging branches of a tree or a shrub or smaller tree under the larger tree’s drip-line, and it might be living or dead.

The Forest Service and other organizations work hard to reduce and remove ladder fuels in the forest landscape, leaving the forest safer and healthier. You can use this same approach with your own home or property.



Fire behavior with thick undergrowth



Fire behavior with low undergrowth

Fire Resilience At Home



Fire resilience is a crucial element in keeping your home and community prepared for wildfire.

In this section we will show you three steps for Fire Resilience At Home:



1. Create Defensible Space

Maintain a buffer between your home (or other structures) and the surrounding vegetation and flammable materials.



2. Harden Your Home

Physical and material changes to the structure of the home to increase fire resilience.



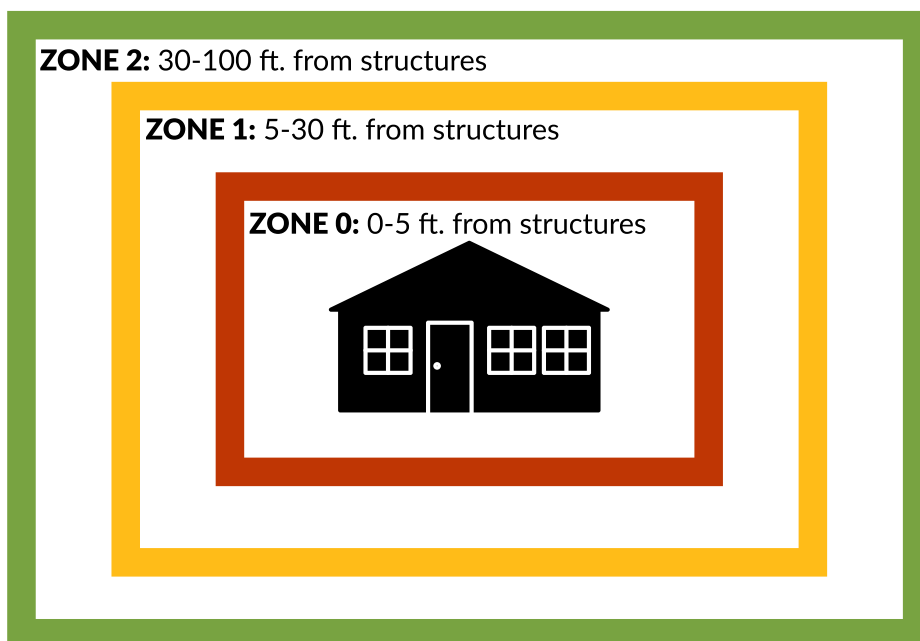
3. Manage Vegetation

Science-backed yard maintenance strategies proven to prevent the spread of wildfire.

1. Create Defensible Space

How do you create defensible space?

Creating defensible space is the first step in making your home resilient against wildfire. Adequate defensible space acts as a barrier to slow or halt a fire that would otherwise engulf the property.



This diagram illustrates different zones to address. Find a checklist of ways to create defensible space in each of these zones on the following pages.

DID YOU KNOW?

California law mandates that residents maintain defensible space of **100 feet** around the home.



1. Create Defensible Space



Zone 0: 0-5 ft. from structures

The zone immediately around your home/structure should be ember resistant, free from excess potential fuels.

Download CAL FIRE's Zone 0 Checklist, available in Spanish. Download Lista de Control de la Zona 0 de CAL FIRE.



- ☐ Use non-combustible materials where possible such as gravel, pavers, or concrete, instead of flammable mulch
- ☐ Keep your roof, gutters, deck, porch, stairways, and under any areas of your home free of dead and dying plants, weeds, and debris
- ☐ Remove all branches within 10 feet of chimneys and stovepipes
- ☐ Minimize combustible items like furniture and planters on decks
- ☐ Move firewood and lumber materials to Zone 2
- ☐ Replace combustible fencing and gates with fire-resistant materials
- ☐ Consider relocating boats, RVs, vehicles, and garbage containers outside of Zone 0



Zone 1: 5-30 ft. from structures

Regularly clear dead or dry vegetation and create space between trees. During times of drought when watering is limited, pay special attention to clearing dead or dying material.

- ☐ Remove dead plants, grass, and weeds
- ☐ Remove dry leaves and pine needles
- ☐ Regularly trim trees to maintain a 10-foot gap from others

1. Create Defensible Space



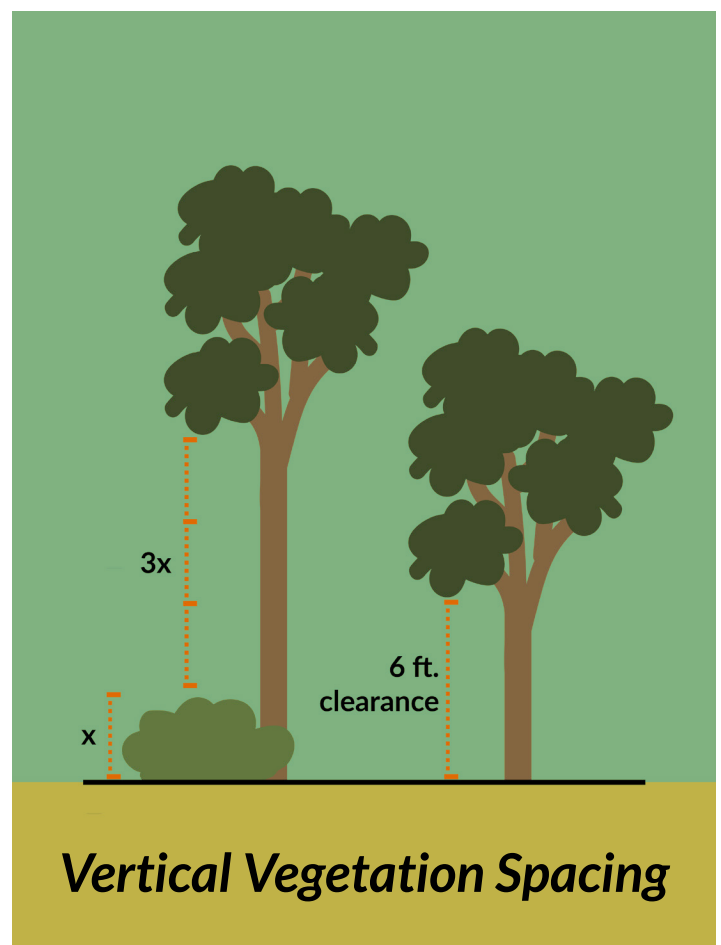
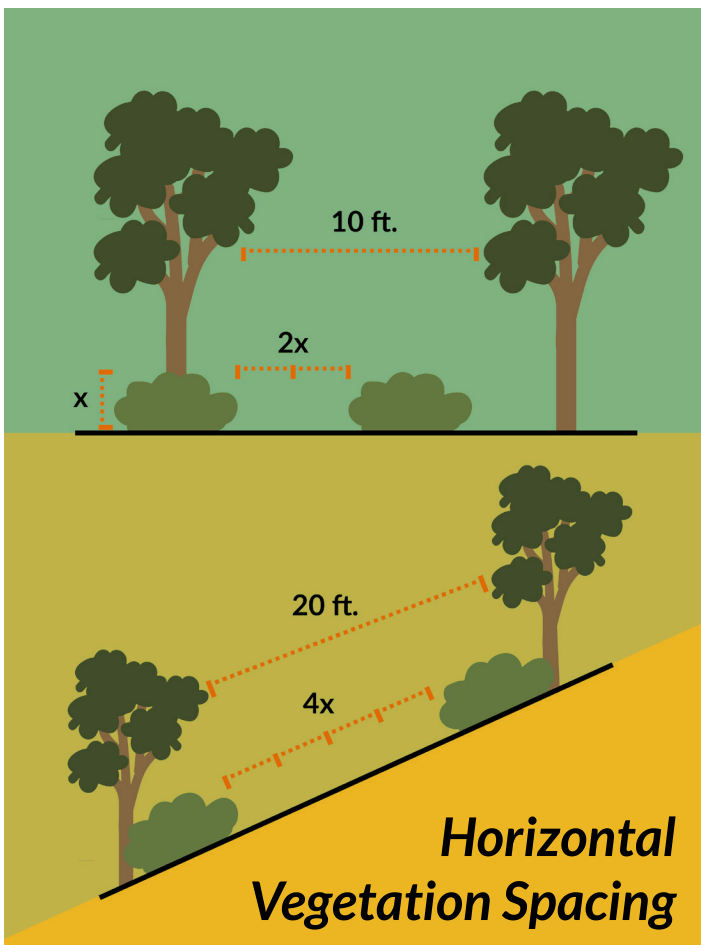
Zone 2: 30-100 ft. from structures

Continue to reduce fuel and maintain defensible space within 100 feet of your structure/home or property line.

- ❑ Mow annual grass to a maximum height of 4 inches
- ❑ Space out shrubs and trees horizontally (See diagram)
- ❑ Ensure vertical spacing between grass, shrubs, and trees (See diagram)
- ❑ Remove fallen leaves, needles, and small branches, leaving no more than 3 inches in depth of debris
- ❑ Keep exposed wood piles at least 10 feet clear from surroundings, down to the soil
- ❑ Ensure outbuildings and LPG tanks have 10 feet of clear space to bare soil and no flammable vegetation within an additional 10 feet around them

MAINTAIN YOUR EVACUATION ROUTE

Clear ladder fuels within 10 feet of driveway edge, up to a height of at least 15 feet



2. Harden Your Home

What is Home Hardening?

The second step in fire resilience at home is hardening your home.

Replacing combustible building and landscaping materials with non-combustible ones will increase your home's resilience to wildfire—this is the process of Home Hardening.

Often during wildfires, homes ignite through ember cast, not direct flame contact. Wind can carry embers a mile ahead of the fire, peppering homes with flaming flecks.

Common home ignition points caused by ember cast:

- Leaf litter in gutters
- Leaf litter in roof valleys
- Exterior vents to attic
- Exterior vents in eaves
- Chimney and stovepipe outlets
- Woodpile, mulch, vegetation against home
- Debris on or under open decks
- Loose, missing shingles
- Open gables, exposed eaves
- Weather stripping, mesh around doors, windows



Tip: Some insurances may provide discounts after completing home hardening activities.

Home Hardening Recommendations:

- Close off gaps under roof tiles and shingles to block wind-blown embers.
- Add noncombustible metal drip edge to protect roof's edge from ember exposure.
- Repair all gaps, holes, or rot in siding, especially near foundation.
- Use noncombustible gutter covers to keep out debris and reduce maintenance.
- Cover chimney and stove pipe outlets with a non-flammable $\frac{1}{8}$ " metal screen.
- Install $\frac{1}{8}$ " metal mesh over all vents. (Avoid fiberglass or plastic meshes.)
- Apply weather stripping around and under garage doors to block ember entry.
- If your deck is over a slope, establish defensible space below to deter flame ascent.
- Opt for composite, asphalt, metal, clay, or tile roofing to resist fires.
- Add screens to all operable windows to catch embers and reduce heat.
- Screen or close in area below decks to prevent combustibles from accumulating.
- Replace some or all flammable siding with noncombustible material.
- Box in eaves using ignition-resistant or noncombustible materials.
- Use noncombustible materials for the portion of the fence that connects to the house to prevent fire from spreading.

3. Manage Vegetation

How to manage vegetation?

The third step in fire resilience at home is managing the vegetation around it.

One of the most common and efficient ways to create defensible space is to fight fire with fire. In Zones 1 and 2, residents can cut, pile, and burn fuels like brush and branches.

Follow these steps for safety:

1. Cut

- ☐ Keep grasses within 100 feet of structures mowed to less than 4 inches.
- ☐ Create vertical and horizontal space between shrubs and trees.

2. Pile

- ☐ Residential piles are required to be 4x4 feet or smaller. Fuels can be added to the piles throughout the burn, provided the pile size does not exceed 4x4 feet.
- ☐ Ensure piles are at least 100 feet from all structures and 10 feet from other vegetation.
- ☐ Pile on flattest ground possible. If piling on slope, pile logs perpendicular to slope and dig a roll out trench below the pile to catch any materials that roll out of the pile.



Drown



Stir



Feel

**Is your fire
Dead Out?**
Only you can
prevent wildfires.



**Check the current CAL FIRE
burn status before you burn!**



3. Burn

- ☐ Ensure it is a CAL FIRE Burn Day in your county (check the link above).
- ☐ Before you burn, call to report and get clearance from the Colusa County Air Pollution Control District: (530) 458-0581.
- ☐ Learn which entity has burn jurisdiction in your area (see: next page for more info and link)
- ☐ Ensure you have all the proper personal protective equipment and tools you need to safely conduct the burn (sturdy boots and pants, gloves, hand tools, water).
- ☐ Keep a 10 foot ring of bare soil around all piles to ensure containment.
- ☐ Remember dry or cured materials burn more cleanly than green or wet materials.
- ☐ Never leave the fire unattended. Fully extinguish the fire with water by dark.

3. Manage Vegetation

Know Before You Burn:

It is important to know your burn jurisdiction area before you burn, so that you may get the proper clearance.

If you are within a **State Responsibility Area** (or, SRA), CAL FIRE has jurisdiction over your burn. Outside of an SRA, another agency like a **city, Colusa County, or Mendocino National Forest** may have jurisdiction over the burn.

If you are within the SRA, your burn is under CAL FIRE jurisdiction and you must follow their season status decrees (see below). If you are outside the SRA, check with your most local fire authority for clearance (for example: Williams Fire Protection Authority, Colusa Fire Department, etc.).



Check
your burn
jurisdiction
area



Understanding CAL FIRE Burn Season Status

BURNING SUSPENDED:

No burning of any kind is allowed.

PERMIT REQUIRED:

Burning is permissible **only** for those who have previously obtained a permit.

BURNING ALLOWED:

Burning permissible without permit for residential piles 4'x4' or smaller.

Obtaining a Burn Permit

Visit burnpermit.fire.ca.gov to instantly apply for or renew a permit online:



*Before burning, all residents are
required
to call and report to:*

**Colusa County
Air Pollution Control District
1 (530) 458-0581**

Call for more permit information:

**Colusa County
CAL FIRE Unit
1 (707) 967-1431**

Air Quality Index

Why is it important?

The Air Quality Index (AQI) is a tool used since 1976 by various agencies to communicate daily air quality. The AQI uses color-coded categories and provides statements for each color or category regarding local air quality, which groups of people may be affected, and steps to take to reduce exposure to air pollution.

As a wildfire grows so does the amount of smoke it emits. Smoke is affected by weather conditions, and is often toxic. The AQI can change dramatically and repeatedly throughout the day. It is important, especially for vulnerable individuals (elderly, those with lung or heart disease, etc.) to monitor AQI and take precautions to reduce exposure to toxic air.

In addition to limiting exposure, a KN95 mask is the most accessible, effective defense against breathing unhealthy air.

AQI BASICS FOR OZONE AND PARTICLE POLLUTION			
Daily AQI Color	Levels of Concern	Values of Index	Description of Air Quality
Green	Good	0 - 50	Air quality is satisfactory, and air pollution poses little or no risk.
Yellow	Moderate	51 - 100	Air quality is acceptable. However, there may be a risk for some people, particularly those who are unusually sensitive to air pollution.
Orange	Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups	101 - 150	Members of sensitive groups may experience health effects. The general public is less likely to be affected.
Red	Unhealthy	151 - 200	Some members of the general public may experience health effects; members of sensitive groups may experience more serious health effects.
Purple	Very Unhealthy	201 - 300	Health alert: The risk of health effects is increased for everyone.
Maroon	Hazardous	301 and higher	Health warning of emergency conditions: everyone is more likely to be affected.

Public Safety Power Shutoffs

What is a PSPS?

A Public Safety Power Shutoff (PSPS) is an event in which a utility company cuts power to power-lines in response to severe weather, fire, or other threats to public safety.



Sign up for PSPS alerts, visit pgealerts.alerts.pge.com/outage-tools/get-psps-alerts. Numbers in this system will receive a text message or phone call alerting residents of a PSPS. Residents need to re-enroll every year to stay active.



Visit pgealerts.alerts.pge.com/psps-updates to view an outage map and get more information about a PSPS. If support is available for additional resources during an outage (ice, Wi-Fi, etc.). Learn at the link to the left or by calling 2-1-1.

How might a PSPS impact me?

Most people depend heavily on electricity in their homes, so there might be some unexpected measures to take ahead of or during a PSPS to preserve health and goods.

If you are on an electric well, you could lose water if the power is shut off. To prepare for an interruption in water service, fill storage containers, sinks, or tubs with water.

If a PSPS is expected in your neighborhood, you can prevent food loss by freezing some of the food in your refrigerator before the outage to extend its life. Limit the number of times you open your refrigerator and freezer and the time it stays open to keep food cool.

A fridge keeps food cold for about 4 hours, and a freezer stays frozen for about 48 hours.



Generator Safety

If you plan to use a generator during a power outage, it is important to do so safely.

Read the instructions and follow the manufacturers guidelines.

Do not exceed the generator's capacity with excessive demand.

Always run the generator outdoors and direct exhaust away from the home.

Ensure extension cords are rated for the load you are demanding, and take precautions to prevent trips and falls while cords are in use.

When refueling, first turn the generator off and allow it to cool, then refuel.

Together, we can make Colusa County safer and more resilient.

You can take steps now to become more informed and prepared so that when wildfire comes, you and your loved ones are ready.

You can take some steps today to be ready:

- Sign up for free emergency alerts
- Know your zone
- Make a plan
- Pack a go bag

Share these steps to preparedness with your friends and family, and work together to make an evacuation plan and pack a go bag.

Visit fire.ca.gov/prepare for more information.

