

# INSURANCE *Wildfire Preparedness*

## Remember the "Six Ps of Evacuation:

People, Pets, Prescriptions, Papers,  
Personal Needs and Priceless Items



## BEFORE

### ➤ Reduce Risk of Wild Fires to Rural Property.

1. Install nonflammable ground cover such as stone or rock and plant nothing within 5' of a house, cabin, or structure.
2. Prevent excessive vegetation by regular mowing and trimming; remove pine needles and debris.
3. Keep firewood at least 30' away from structures.

Annual FIRE SEASON is now **TWO MONTHS** longer than it was 30 YEARS AGO and **drought conditions** are more common.

4. Enclose or screen decks with metal mesh screening. Do not store anything under the deck.

5. Remove all trees within 15-30' of structures.
  6. Make sure that an on-site water source is readily available for fire suppression.
  7. Propane tanks should be a safe distance from the home based on universal building codes and the size and type of the propane tank.
- **Use caution.** Know potential fire hazards associated with campfires, grills, and burning yard

debris. Make sure your fire extinguisher is accessible and each family member knows how to use it.

- **Have a plan.** Know your evacuation route. Have a designated place to stay in case you cannot return immediately.
- **Store insurance information safely.** Make regular updates to your homeowners or renters insurance policy and home inventory. Store both in a secure place, such as a fireproof safe, a safe deposit box or online. Keep information for your insurance agent and insurance company on hand.

**Western states** including Wyoming, can experience **WILDFIRES**, but they can occur in any **AREA**.

## DURING

- **Stay up-to-date.** Monitor news and if possible, subscribe to text or email alerts in your community.
- **Evacuate quickly.** Wildfires can move rapidly. Be especially cautious during hot and windy weather conditions. If ordered to evacuate during a wildfire, do so immediately.
- **Call 911.** Provide the location of the fire and a description of the situation.

- **Do not return** to an evacuated area until authorities allow re-entry.

## AFTER

- **Proceed with caution.** Hazards, including hot spots, may exist in burned areas. Wear leather gloves, protective clothing, and thick-soled shoes. Use local alerts, radios and other sources such as apps from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) or the American Red Cross to get timely information.

**Wildfires can ignite at any time.**

Individual communities often have **Designated Wildfire Seasons**. Know area **fire restrictions**.

- **Photograph property damage.** Call your insurance agent or insurer's claims hotline as soon as it is safe. Your policy might require that you

make the notification within a certain time frame.

- **Avoid fraud.** Home repair fraud is common after disasters. Be wary of aggressive contractors or demands for up-front repair payment. If you have concerns, contact the Wyoming Department of Insurance.



Wyoming Department of Insurance  
<http://doi.wyo.gov> / 1 (800) 438-5768

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