

PROTECT **Protect your property.** Take steps now to reduce the sources of fuel in and around your home or business and use fire-resistant construction materials when possible. The National Fire Protection Association recommends a defensible space of up to 200 feet from a structure.

DISCUSS **Discuss what you have done to prepare with your family, friends, neighbors, and colleagues.** Talking about preparedness with others will help you think through your plans, share information about alerts and warnings, and share tips for protecting property. Talking about disasters and helping others prepare makes everyone safer.

Discuss how your community can reduce risk. Work with others in your community to improve community resilience planning. Find out if your community has a Community Wildfire Protection Plan or is a Fire Adapted Community. Work with others to discuss ways to prevent fires and support community firefighters. For more information on mitigation options for reducing your community's risk, see *Mitigation Ideas: A Resource for Reducing Risk to Natural Hazards* at www.fema.gov/media-library/assets/documents/30627?id=6938.

PROTECT YOURSELF DURING A WILDFIRE

If you see a fire nearby or approaching, call 911 to report the fire. Do not assume that someone else has reported it. If the danger is significant, local authorities may issue an evacuation notice to alert residents that a fire is nearby and it is important to leave the area. Evacuation orders vary by state and may range from voluntary to mandatory.

EVACUATE

- If authorities advise or order you to evacuate, do so immediately. Be sure to remember the **Five Ps of Evacuation:** People, Prescriptions, Papers, Personal Needs, and Priceless Items.
- While your safety and your family's safety are most important, there are things you can do before evacuating that can help firefighters. If there is time before you need to evacuate, do the following:
 - ✓ Turn on lights outside and in every room to make the house more visible in heavy smoke.
 - ✓ Close all windows, vents, doors, and fireplace screens. This will help reduce drafts in the home and reduce radiant heat.
 - ✓ Disconnect automatic garage door openers so doors can be opened by hand if you lose power.
 - ✓ Move flammable furniture, including outdoor furniture, into the center of the home away from windows and sliding glass doors. Remove flammable curtains and window treatments.