

# WILDFIRES CAN STRIKE SUDDENLY AND WITHOUT WARNING

Every effort will be made to notify residents when an evacuation is necessary, but this is not always possible. Advanced preparation and situational awareness is required. Take personal responsibility and prepare today.



## LEVEL 1—BE READY

Residents should be aware of the danger that exists in their area, monitor emergency services websites and local media outlets for information. This is the time for preparation and precautionary movement of persons with special needs, mobile property and (under certain circumstances) pets and livestock. If conditions worsen, emergency services personnel may contact you via an emergency notification system.



## LEVEL 2 —BE SET

### YOU MUST PREPARE TO LEAVE AT A MOMENT'S NOTICE.

This level indicates there is significant danger to your area, and residents should either voluntarily relocate to a shelter or with family/friends outside of the affected area, or if choosing to remain, be ready to evacuate at a moment's notice. Residents MAY have time to gather necessary items, but doing so is at their own risk.

### THIS MAY BE THE ONLY NOTICE THAT YOU RECEIVE.

Emergency services cannot guarantee they will be able to notify you if conditions rapidly deteriorate. Area media services will be asked to broadcast periodic updates.



## LEVEL 3—GO!

### LEAVE IMMEDIATELY!

Danger to your area is current or imminent, and you should evacuate immediately. If you choose to ignore this advisement, you must understand emergency services may not be available to assist you further. DO NOT delay leaving to gather any belongings or make efforts to protect your home.

### THIS WILL BE THE LAST NOTICE THAT YOU RECEIVE.

Entry to evacuated areas may be denied until conditions are safe. Area radio and TV stations have been asked to broadcast periodic updates.

## ✓ BE PREPARED

### PREP YOUR COMMUNICATIONS:

- **Keep** your cell phone fully charged.
- **Notify** an out-of-area contact of your phone number, location and status. Update regularly.
- **Check** on or call neighbors to alert.
- **Be aware** that electricity, cell service, and internet services may go down during an emergency. Be prepared for any possibility.

### PETS AND ANIMALS:

- **Locate** your pets and place in carriers NOW. You won't be able to catch them when the fire approaches.
- **Place** carriers (with your pets in them) near the front door, with fresh water and extra food.
- **Be sure** your pets wear tags and are registered with microchips.
- **Prepare** horses and large animals for transport and consider moving them to a safe location early, before evacuation is ordered.

### KEEP ON YOUR PERSON:

- **Dress** all family members in long sleeves and long pants; heavy cotton or wool is best, no matter how hot it is.
- **Wear** full coverage goggles, leather gloves, head protection.
- **Cover** faces with a dry cotton or wool bandana or scarf over an N95 respirator.
- **Tie** long hair back.
- **Take** a headlamp and flashlight (even during the day).
- **Carry** car keys, wallet, ID, cell phone, and spare battery.
- **Drink** plenty of water, stay hydrated.
- **Put** "Go Kits" (seeback) in your vehicle.

### WEBSITES FOR NEWS AND UPDATES

**Wildcad.net** – Choose Northeast Washington Interagency Communications Center (NEWICC) and select **Recent Incidents**

**inciweb.nwcg.gov** – Locate wildfire on map and select

Check local Facebook groups for updated information

# EVACUATION CHECKLIST



## Consider signing up for the Okanogan County Alert System

This will ensure that you receive time-sensitive notifications for hazards affecting your home address or workplace. Click on the QR Code to sign up!



## EVACUATING:

- Leave immediately if ordered.
- **Don't wait** — if you feel unsafe or conditions worsen, leave early.
- **Assist** elderly or disabled neighbors.
- **Carpool** with neighbors to reduce traffic.
- **Take** only essential vehicles with adequate fuel.
- **In your car**, turn on headlights, close windows, turn on inside air and AC, and tune to local radio.
- **Drive slowly** and be observant. Obey the rules of the road and any posted signs.
- **Proceed downhill**, away from the fire if possible. Know at least two routes, if possible.
- **Take the fastest paved route** to a valley floor.
- **Don't panic** in traffic.



## IF YOU ARE TRAPPED:

- **Try to take shelter** in a building, car, or an open area; you are better protected inside a building or vehicle.
- **Don't** abandon your car in the road. If you must leave your car, park it off the road and consider options for shelter.
- **Park** in an outside turn if trapped on a hillside in your car.
- **Stay far from unburned** vegetation (30' or more); look for wide roads, parking lots, playing fields, etc.
- **Evacuate on foot or bicycle only as a last resort.** A car provides better protection!
- **Don't evacuate by** fire road, uphill, or into open-spaces near unburned vegetation.
- **Remain calm** — panic is deadly.



## WILDFIRE & EMERGENCY GO KIT:

- A copy of this flier & map
- Sturdy shoes or boots
- Long sleeve shirt, long pants (cotton or wool, bright colors are best)
- Floppy cotton hat (to keep embers out of hair)
- Leather work gloves
- Full coverage goggles & N95
- Cotton bandana for face protection
- Prescription medications (ask your doctor for emergency 30 day supply)
- Battery & charger for cell phone
- Extra eyeglasses or contact lenses
- Extra set of car keys
- Credit cards and/or cash
- First aid kit (compact)
- Headlamp & Flashlight (handheld)
- Battery-powered AM/FM radio
- Spare batteries
- Sanitation supplies
- Copies of important documents (birth certificates, passports, insurance, etc.)
- Water bottles & food
- Change of clothing



## PET SUPPLIES:

- Carriers for each pet
- Leashes
- Pet food & water



## ITEMS TO TAKE IF TIME ALLOWS:

- Easily carried valuables
- Family photos & other small, irreplaceable items
- PC data backups on hard drives and/or disks (offsite or "cloud" backup is best)
- Laptop/tablet & spare chargers

