



# WILDFIRE ALERT!!!!

## Practice Wildfire Safety

Human carelessness is responsible for 80% of all wildfires, find out how you can promote and practice wildfire safety

Contact your local fire department, health department or forestry office for information on fire laws. Make sure that fire vehicles can get to your home. Clearly mark all driveway entrances and display your name and address. Report hazardous conditions that could cause a wildfire. Teach children about fire safety. Keep matches out of their reach. Post fire emergency telephone numbers. Plan several escape routes away from your home — by car and by foot. Talk to your neighbors about wildfire safety. Plan how the neighborhood could work together after a wildfire. Make a list of your neighbors' medical or technical skills. Consider how you could help neighbors who have special needs such as elderly or disabled persons. Make plans to take care of children who may be on their own if their parents can't get home.

## When Wildfire Threatens

If you are warned that a wildfire is threatening your area, listen to your battery-operated radio for reports and evacuation information. **Follow the instructions of local officials:** Back your car into the garage or park it in an open space facing the direction of escape. Shut doors and roll up windows. Leave the key in the ignition. Close garage windows and doors, but leave them unlocked. Disconnect automatic garage door openers. Confine pets to one room. Make plans to care for your pets in case you must evacuate. Arrange temporary housing at a friend or relative's home outside the threatened area.

## If advised to evacuate, do so immediately!

Wear protective clothing; sturdy shoes, cotton or woolen clothing, long pants, a long-sleeved shirt, gloves and a handkerchief to protect your face. Take your Disaster Supply Kit. Lock your home. Tell someone when you left and where you are going. Choose a route away from fire hazards. Watch for changes in the speed and direction of fire and smoke.

## If you're sure you have time, take steps to protect your home:

### Inside:

Close windows, vents, doors, venetian blinds or non-combustible window coverings and heavy drapes. Remove lightweight curtains. Shut off gas at the meter. Turn off pilot lights. Open fireplace damper. Close fireplace screens. Move flammable furniture into the center of the home away from windows and sliding-glass doors. Turn on a light in each room to increase the visibility of your home in heavy smoke.

### Outside:

Seal attic and ground vents with pre-cut plywood or commercial seals. Turn off propane tanks. Place combustible patio furniture inside. Connect garden hose to outside taps. Place lawn sprinklers on the roof and near above-ground fuel tanks. Wet the roof. Wet or remove shrubs within 15 feet of the home. Gather fire tools.

For further information, contact John Ward @ Clay County Emergency Management at 877-252-9362, or via email at [john.ward@co.clay.fl.us](mailto:john.ward@co.clay.fl.us). For further information on protecting your home visit [www.fl-dof.com](http://www.fl-dof.com), or view a video at— [www.youtube.com/watch?v=p0iR8o54hDU](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=p0iR8o54hDU)