

HIGH DESERT ESTATES WILDFIRE SAFETY GUIDELINES 2024

JULY 2024

In lieu of a Newsletter for July, we are sharing this vital wildfire preparedness information. Keep it handy in the event of emergency. — HDE Board of Directors

We are entering an acute wildfire season typically 3 - 4 months duration. The Association is highly concerned regarding wildfire possibilities on our grounds. It's entirely reasonable to believe it's a matter of when not if we will face wildfire on our grounds. Personal safety is the highest priority. We can't stop lighting fires or other accidental fires but we can prepare.

A) Prepare for a LEAVE NOW order: (typically you are told to leave in 5 minutes)

- Make a list of your 5 P's (People, Pets, Pills, Photo's & important Papers)
- Move with purpose and precision; not panic.
- Plan a container for the small items; make a plan to insure people and pets get out immediately.
- Prepare a standby 72 hr emergency kit, (water, dry packaged food, first aid kit, blankets, cell phone charger, extra clothing) stored in an easily accessible place.
- Be sure all family members are familiar with what to do.
- Closing windows reduces chances of combustion inside your home.
- Be sure your vehicle has sufficient fuel.

B) Evacuation Routes

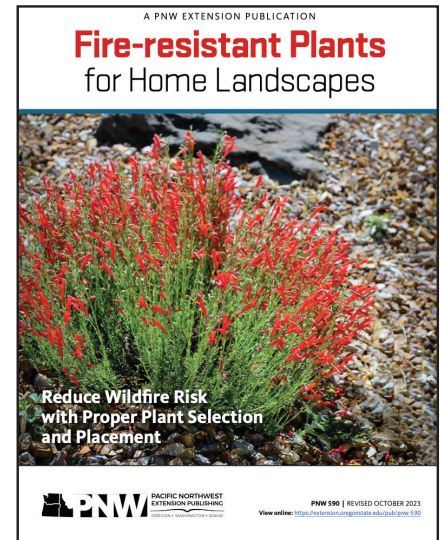
- From your location head toward the nearest exit.
- An exit exists at the south end of Jerry drive should the emergency require it. County fire safety officials hold the key to the lock box and would have that open in advance.
- Expect severe congestion on Juniper Canyon and Lower Davis roadways.
- Follow all directions from traffic control personnel.

C) Maximize your lot for wildfire prevention.

- HDE will provide recommended guidelines from fire prevention experts.
- Fire prevention experts, at minimum, recommend a fire free barrier around your home of 30 feet. Due to wind that always accompanies wildfire, 50 -100 feet is far superior.
- Removing wildfire "ground fuel" is also recommended.
- Following recommended fire prevention guidelines minimizes fires starting and spreading and potential property owner liabilities.
- HDE stands ready to assist homeowners who may have difficulty fulfilling recommended prevention procedures.
- HDE expresses its gratitude to those who have significantly reduced fire hazards on their properties.

Crook County Fire and Rescue is here to help residents with wildfire risk assessments of their home and/or property. Along with the guidelines in CCFR's Fire Ready program, staff will help property owners better understand how to protect their homes from wildfire. If you would like to schedule a voluntary Wildland Risk Assessment, please contact CROOK COUNTY FIRE & RESCUE Phone: 541-447-5011.

More Resources



Fire-resistant plants online copy:
<https://extension.oregonstate.edu/pub/pnw-590>

Below is a link to a digital copy of the Crook County Fire Ready guide:
https://co.crook.or.us/sites/default/files/fileattachments/sheriff/page/8709/crook_county_fire_ready_booklet.pdf

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***We have four drop off sites here in our HOA for your water bill payments or any correspondence, and they are as follows:
The office at 5980 SE Jerry Drive, black postal box on the home at 4830 SE Jerry Drive, the cistern at the top of the hill on McKenzie Place off of David Way, and at the black postal box on the home at 5060 SE Davis Loop.***