






NW Bend Wildfire Forum Resources

Ways you can TAKE ACTION to better prepare for fire!

1. **Sign up!**
 - a. www.deschutesalerts.org to receive emergency alerts via phone, text, email, and more for locations you care about.
 - b. www.centraloregonfire.org to receive prescribed burn & wildfire alerts
 - c. www.watchduty.org to stay up-to-date on local fire information.
2. **Bookmark deschutes.org/emergency** to monitor incidents and find evacuation routes.
3. **Understand evacuation levels and GO EARLY**, whenever possible. During evacuation, roads become congested with dust and smoke, making travel slow.
 - a. Level 1 READY: There's an emergency nearby. Prepare to evacuate!
 - b. Level 2 SET: Danger is significant. Be set to go at a moment's notice!
 - c. Level 3 GO: Your life is threatened. Evacuate immediately!
4. **Say hello!** Knowing your neighbors has been shown to significantly improve emergency preparedness, resilience, response, and recovery.
5. **Create a customized emergency plan for your family and home.** Include emergency contacts, evacuation plans, designated meeting places, a communications plan, family roles and responsibilities, and special accommodations for kids, pets, etc.
6. **Pack a "Go Bag".** Assemble essential supplies, gear, documents, and keepsakes in advance that you can easily grab in the event of an evacuation.
7. **Request a FREE wildfire home assessment with Bend Fire or Summit West Neighborhood District.** Volunteers will visit your home and suggest ways you can make your property more wildfire resilient.
8. **Harden your home and create sufficient defensible space** around your home this spring. Clean out your gutters and install ember-resistant 1/8" metal wire mesh, such as Kwikmesh™, on your vents.
9. **Talk with your neighbors and HOA Board and/or ARC Committee, if applicable.** Encourage them to: a) become a Firewise Community, and b) align their CC&Rs and policies with home hardening and defensible space best practices.

Wildfire Preparedness Resources

Ways you can TAKE ACTION to better prepare for insurance risks!

1. **Talk with your insurance agent.** Make sure you understand your coverage levels, discuss potential gaps, and make changes as needed to ensure appropriate coverage types and limits. If your rates have increased, ask if there are actions you can take to make it less expensive. If you're not being renewed, ask for specific reasons why. Visit <https://dfr.oregon.gov/insure/home/Documents/homeowner-insurance-companies-OR.pdf> if you need help finding insurance.
2. **Build a home inventory.** Create a visual and/or written record of your possessions to assess if you have enough coverage and help maximize claim payments after an incident. Visit <https://dfr.oregon.gov/insure/home/Pages/home-inventory.aspx>.
3. **Build a financial first aid kit.** Gather and securely store copies of financial and identifying records. Set aside cash for emergencies.
4. **Know what to do after a disaster strikes.** Check out NAIC's [Post-Disaster Claims Guide](#) for tips on what you should do to report a claim, estimate damage, maximize your benefits, and more.
5. **Feeling overwhelmed or confused?** Reach out to consumer advocates at the Oregon Department of Financial Regulation at 888-877-4894.



Additional Resources:

- [Own Your Zone: Wildfire Preparedness](#) (Bend Fire Department)
- [Wildfire-Ready Home Disaster Guide](#) (IBHS)
- [Ignition-Resistant Homes](#) (USDA)
- [Preparing Homes for Wildfire](#) (NFPA)
- [Fire-resistant Plants for Home Landscapes](#) (OSU Extension)
- [IBHS Wildfire Prepared Home](#) (IBHS certificate program)
- [Firewise USA](#)
- [Fire Adapted Communities Learning Network](#)
- [Community Planning Assistance for Wildfire](#)
- [Wildland Fire Embers and Flames: Home Mitigations That Matter](#) (IBHS)
- [Report: New Wildfire-Resistant Homes Cost Roughly Same as a Typical Home](#) (IBHS)
- [Must-see demo shows how to protect your home from wildfires](#) (Good Morning America)
- [The California town that kept a record-breaking wildfire at bay](#) (BBC)
- [Fire in Paradise: An American Tragedy](#) by Alastair Gee and Dani Anguiano
- [Rebuilding Paradise](#) (National Geographic)
- [Weathered: Inside the LA Firestorm](#) (PBS)
- [Maui's Deadly Firestorm](#) (PBS Frontline)
- www.summitwestbend.org/wildfire