

Fire Safety Checklist

Ventura County Fire Department

READY - Prepare all members of your household well in advance of a wildfire

- Create an Action Plan that includes creating defensible space around your home, home hardening, evacuation routes, post evacuation meet up locations and communication plans - rehearse it regularly. Include the evacuation of all pets and large animals, which may include horses and livestock, in your plan.
- Assemble your “Go Kit” including food, water, first aid kit, prescriptions for people and pets, important papers, personal electronic devices and chargers, athletic shoes, flashlight, battery powered radio and extra batteries, an extra set of car keys, credit cards and cash.
- Register your phone number(s) at www.vcalert.org so you can receive emergency messages.

SET - Prepare and be aware

- Alert the household and neighbors to monitor fire weather conditions and fire status. Check your local fire department or emergency management websites and social media accounts for wildland fire information. Stay tuned to your TV or local radio stations for updates, including Red Flag Warnings in your area.
- Leave doors unlocked, turn on lights for firefighters to see, turn off sprinkles to preserve water pressure and patrol your property and extinguish small fires, if you can do so safely, until you leave.
- Dress in natural fiber clothing, work boots or athletic shoes, account for all household members and pets, load your “Go Kit” into the car and back your car into the driveway to facilitate a quick departure.

GO - Act early

- Do not wait to be advised to leave if there is a possible threat to your home or evacuation route. Leave early enough to avoid being caught in fire, smoke, or road congestion. If you are advised to leave by local authorities, do not hesitate!
- Go to a predetermined, low-risk area such as a relative’s house, a Red Cross shelter or evacuation center, hotel, etc. and choose the safest route away from the fire to get there.
- Be sure to follow the direction of your local authorities.

Ventura County Animal Services Disaster Preparedness Tips

Build an Emergency Pet Go-Bag:

Prepare a dedicated emergency kit for each of your pets.

Include the following items:

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| • Pet medications | • A recent photograph of each pet | • Extra leashes and collars |
| • Vaccination records | • A copy of each pet's license | • Familiar toys and blankets |
| • Microchip information | • Collapsible food and water bowls | |

Complete a Pet Emergency Card:

Fill out a Pet Emergency card with your name, your pets’ names, and the name and contact information of an emergency caregiver. Keep this card in your wallet. In the event of an emergency, this lets responders know that pets are at home and need care.

Post a “Please Save Our Pets!” Window Card:

Place this card in a visible window of your home listing the number and names of pets inside. This helps first responders locate and rescue your animals if evacuation orders are issued and you're not home.

Resources:

Visit www.AnimalServices.VenturaCounty.gov/Disaster to download the materials listed above and learn more about preparing for emergencies with pets.

Ventura County Sheriff's Office of Emergency Services

Stay Informed

- Learn about the potential hazards where you live and how they might impact you.
- Learn how to prepare and respond to keep your loved ones safe.
- Scan the QR to the right to map your way to preparedness with our ArcGIS Hazard StoryMap.
- Register for emergency notifications at VCAalert.org.
- Don't forget to visit VCEmergency.com for incident information impacting Ventura County.



Make a Plan

- Keep a list of contact phone numbers in your emergency kit, vehicle, school or work.
- Establish a familiar and accessible meeting place for family members.
- Find out about emergency plans where you and your family spend time.
- Scan the QR to the right to download a family planning template.



Build a Kit

- Build an emergency kit to sustain your family for at least THREE days.
- Stock up on low-cost items at dollar stores and use an old backpack for your kit.
- Kits make great gifts! Make one as a gift for your kids, neighbors, friends and yourself.
- Scan the QR to the right to download an emergency kit checklist.



Get Involved

- Build a personal network of helpers to meet your specific needs.
- Become an influencer. Spread the word about preparedness in your circles.
- Volunteer! There are lots of ways to serve your community. Visit readyventuracounty.org/get-involved for ideas.

Ventura County Amateur Radio Society (VCARS)

- During an emergency, members of the "Ventura County Amateur Radio Society" (VCARS) monitor radio frequencies, and (URL) web-sites to stay up to date on the current status of the emergency (e.g., "situation awareness").
- We (and many other Amateur Radio Operators from other organizations) in this region (and around the U.S.) also prepare our portable radio equipment, in case we get "activated" to man shelters, or support the emergency in some other way.
- In many cases, we also keep our local neighbors informed, and help them be ready for potential evacuation, if appropriate.

Red Cross

- Understand the Risks: Southern California is prone to various natural disasters such as earthquakes, wildfires, floods, and landslides. Knowing the specific risks in your area helps you prepare effectively.
- Create a Disaster Plan: Develop a comprehensive plan that includes evacuation routes, communication strategies, and emergency contacts. Make sure all family members are familiar with the plan and practice it regularly.
- Build an Emergency Kit: Assemble a kit with essential supplies like water, non-perishable food, first aid items, flashlights, batteries, and important documents. Ensure you have enough supplies to last at least three days.
- Stay Informed and Ready: Keep updated on local emergency alerts and weather forecasts. Have a plan for post-disaster recovery, including how to file insurance claims and access community resources.

Simi Valley Office of Emergency Services

- Make a Plan: create your family emergency contact list, choose family meeting place, create emergency support network, and plan where you will stay.
- Build a Kit: food supplies, tools & safety items, medical needs, personal & comfort items, extra cash, important documents, and pet items.
- Stay Informed: sign up for VC Alert at readyventuracounty.org/vc-alert, 805-648-9283 or vc.alert@ventura.org, an emergency notification system for Ventura County that is used to alert residents during an emergency.