



# Wildfires

The Weather Channel

kids!

Wildfires ignite everything in their path and can start up with a spark, an ash, friction, heat or lightning. Very dangerous and volatile, winds are an accomplice to wildfires, helping them to spread quickly, change direction sporadically and gain unstoppable, raging momentum. Especially dangerous is how quickly it can surround and trap people who are unprepared and overwhelmed in its path.

There is currently no way to forecast wildfire outbreaks, so it is important to plan ahead and remove potential hazards.



## What to do

### Inside:

Stay near your television, radio or cell phone to get updates from The Weather Channel, your local TV or radio station, [weather.com](http://weather.com).

### Help or remind parents to:

Close all windows, vents, doors, window coverings and heavy drapes to prevent drafts.

Place waterproofed valuables in water (bathtub, pool or pond).

Move flammable furniture into the center of the home away from windows and glass doors.

### Outside:

Help or remind parents to:

Seal attic and ground vents with pre-cut plywood or commercial seals.

Turn off any propane tanks (heating, outdoor grills)

Place combustible patio furniture inside. connect garden hoses to outside taps. Use only if you have not been advised to leave and you have time to wet the roof and outdoor shrubs.

Place lawn sprinklers on the roof and near above-ground fuel tanks.

Gather fire tools (shovels, axes, extinguishers, buckets) in advance.

### Red-Flag Warnings

You cannot outrun a fire. If caught, crouch in a pond or river. Cover head and upper body with wet clothing. If water is not around, look for shelter in a cleared area or among a bed of rocks. Lie flat and cover body with wet clothing or soil. Breathe the air closest to the ground through a wet cloth to avoid scorching your lungs or inhaling smoke.

If Evacuation is advised, follow the instruction of local officials. The fastest escape route may be different from what you expect.

### Have a Disaster Plan.

