Wildfires are a year-round reality in Ventura County. This means that both firefighters and residents have to be prepared against a threat from brush fires at all times.

Steps you can take to protect your home and family:

Step 1: Create a defensible space between your home and natural vegetation. This space should be 30 feet out from buildings, structures and decks.

Step 2: Remove any dead plant material and remove excess vegetation. The minimum spacing between vegetation is three times the diameter of the plant.

Step 3: Prepare your family in advance of a wildfire by making sure you have a plan in place and you all know what to do and where to go.

Sign up yourself and your family for VC Alert, please visit readyventuracounty.org/vc-alert for details.

- Ensure your home has fire extinguishers and make sure all family members know how to use them.
- Make sure all family members know where the gas, electric and water main shut-off controls are located.
- Identify and discuss evacuation routes with your family and neighbors.
- Agree who can be your family out-of-area friend/relative to call if the local phone lines are jammed.
- Make sure you have an emergency supply kit in your home and in your vehicles.

Please visit: vcemergency.com, VCFD.org/ready-set-go or toaks.org to learn more.
What is a Red Flag Warning?

A Red Flag Warning is issued by the National Weather Service (weather.gov) when humidity is very low, temperatures elevated, and strong winds are present. This warning is intended to heighten public awareness about elevated conditions that may ignite a fire.

If an advisory or warning is issued by the National Weather Service (NWS), please take the precautionary steps:

- Review your Family Emergency Response Plan with your family. Download a copy of the Ready, Set, Go Brochure at vcfd.org. Have a contingency plan for power outages at your home or work.
- If you have an automatic garage door, consider parking your vehicles in the driveway.
- Residents that are reliant on Oxygen should make sure they have a back-up cylinder.
- Stop any activities that have the potential to start a fire (camp fires, mowing, chain-sawing).
- Comfort pets and pack their supplies, so that you can load them into your vehicle if you need to evacuate quickly.
- Make sure your vehicle is fueled and have your driver’s license for proof of residence available for possible road closures.
- Move vehicles parked on narrow roads off the street to improve access and use of public safety vehicles and to facilitate a possible evacuation.

A RED FLAG ADVISORY OR WARNING MEANS TO BE PREPARED, NOT TO PANIC.