

**WILDFIRE IS COMING.  
ARE YOU...**

**READY?**

**Wildfires are a year-round reality** in Thousand Oaks, which means that both residents and firefighters have to prepare in advance. Use the following checklist to begin preparations to keep your family and property safe.

- Create a **defensible space** between your home and natural vegetation that is 30 feet out from buildings, structures, and decks.
- Prepare a **Family Wildfire Plan** and make sure all family members know what to do and where to go if an Evacuation Order is issued for your area.
- Confirm all family member information is correct at **[www.vcalert.org](http://www.vcalert.org)**.
- 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 or relative to call** if the local phone lines are down.
- Make sure you have an **emergency supply kit** in your home and in your vehicles.



**[www.toaks.org/emergency](http://www.toaks.org/emergency)**

## Important Emergency Terminology

In an emergency, there will be many terms and phrases used by officials to indicate the severity of the emergency and how impacted residents should prepare. Familiarize yourself with these key terms before an incident begins.

### **"Shelter in Place"**

- Conditions exist that may endanger the lives of those in a defined area.
- Access to the area under a shelter in place order may be restricted.
- Take shelter in an interior room with few windows and lock doors or other openings.
- Wait for an "all clear" notification from news radio, social media, or as posted on **www.vcemergency.com**.

### **"Evacuation Warning"**

- Prepare for a potential evacuation. Access to the area under an evacuation warning may be restricted by a closure.
- The threat to lives is not yet imminent, but conditions could change rapidly.
- Gather personal belongings, including pets and livestock.
- Take measures to prevent harm to those with mobility, access, and/or functional needs.

### **"Evacuation Order"**

- An imminent threat has been determined by public safety officials. Non-essential persons will be asked to leave the area immediately.
- Conditions exist that SERIOUSLY IMPERIL or ENDANGER the lives of those in the defined area. The danger is IMMINENT!
- The general public will not be permitted to return until emergency conditions are cleared.

## **REMEMBER THE SIX "P's"**

### **KEEP THESE SIX "P's" READY IN CASE IMMEDIATE EVACUATION IS REQUIRED**

- People and pets
- Papers, phone numbers, & important documents
- Prescriptions, vitamins, and eyeglasses
- Pictures and irreplaceable memorabilia
- Personal computer hard drive and disks
- "Plastic" (credit cards, ATM cards) and cash



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