

Wildfire Preparation and Safety Tips for Business

1. Fast Facts

- On average, more than 100,000 wildfires clear 4 million to 5 million acres of land in the United States every year.
 - Source: National Interagency Fire Center
- An estimated **16% of the population** lives in wildfire-prone areas, which is estimated to **increase to 21%** over the next 30 years.
 - Source: The Washington Post

16%

21%

2. Before a Wildfire

- Develop a business continuity plan.
- Review your insurance to ensure your coverage is adequate.
- Protect your property to limit the chance of sustaining significant losses (e.g., create defensible space, install class A-rated roofing and reduce vegetative fuel around the building).
- Protect people with advanced planning and preparation (e.g., create an evacuation plan, distribute a communication plan and ensure emergency listings are current).



3. During a Wildfire

- Be prepared to put the business continuity plan into action.
- Close windows, vents, doors and blinds.
- Shut off gas, pilot lights and propane tanks.
- Turn on all lights.
- Shut off heating, ventilation and air conditioning (HVAC) systems.
- Move flammable items inside.
- Follow evacuation warnings.

4. After a Wildfire

- Maintain communication with corporate management, insurance professionals, displaced personnel, customers, vendors and local and federal agencies.
- Return when it's safe to do so and assess the damage.
- Check for other potential hazards such as broken glass, sharp metal and live electrical wires.
- Make sure protection and mechanical systems are operational.
- Secure the area from future damage.
- Initiate repairs and salvage.
- Contact your insurance agent/broker and carrier(s).