

# Sun Mountain Ranch Club Firewise Committee



## Start Planning Now

### Time for planning

Spring is right around the corner! Now is a great time to start planning your spring Firewise activities.

### Get an assessment

If you haven't already had a Firewise home assessment, now is the best time to sign up for one. Contact the Okanogan Conservation Department to get your assessment scheduled. Their website is <https://www.okanogancd.org>

### Pace yourself

If you have already had your property assessed you likely have a list of tasks to accomplish. Some are simple and some are more complicated. Some are inexpensive and others may require you to spend a bit of money. Start now by prioritizing what you'd like to accomplish this year. Pace yourself. As they say "this is a marathon not a sprint." Start with recommendations from your foundation out and work towards your property line.



## 7 Ways Residents Can Reduce the Risk that their Homes & Property Will Become Fuel for a Wildfire

**#1 Clear**

*Clear off pine needles, dead leaves & anything that can burn from your rooflines, gutters, decks, porches, patios & along fence lines. Falling embers will have nothing to burn.*

**#3 Screen & Seal**

*Wind-borne embers can get into homes easily through vents & other openings and burn the home from the inside out. Walk around your house to see what openings you can screen or temporarily seal up.*

**#5 Trim**

*Trim back any shrubs or tree branches that come closer than 5 feet to the house and attachments, and any overhanging branches.*

**#7 Close**

*If ordered to evacuate, make sure all windows & doors are closed tightly, and seal up any pet doors. Many homes are destroyed by embers entering these openings and burning the house from the inside out.*

**#2 Store Away**

*Store away furniture cushions, rattan mats, potted plants & other decorations from decks, porches & patios. These items catch embers and help ignite your home if you leave them outside.*

**#4 Rake**

*Embers landing in mulch that touches your house, deck or fence is a big fire hazard. Rake out any landscaping mulch to at least five feet away.*

**#6 Remove**

*Walk around your house and remove anything within 30 feet that could burn, such as woodpiles, spare lumber, vehicles and boats - anything that can act as a large fuel source.*



NFPA has many more tips and safety recommendations on its websites, including [www.firewise.org](http://www.firewise.org).

# PREPARE FOR WILDFIRE

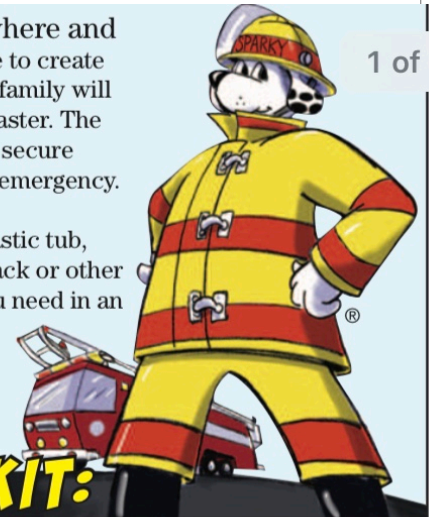




# GET READY!

Disasters can happen anywhere and at any time. By taking the time to create an emergency supplies kit, your family will be prepared in the event of a disaster. The kit also helps children feel more secure knowing it is there in case of an emergency.

The supplies can be kept in a plastic tub, small suitcase, trash can, backpack or other container. To learn what else you need in an emergency supplies kit, go to [www.ready.gov](http://www.ready.gov).



1 of 1

## EMERGENCY SUPPLIES KIT:

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- Water – one gallon per person per day for drinking and sanitation — store 3-day supply
- Ready-to-eat food, canned juices, comfort/stress foods — at least a 3-day supply
- Battery-powered or hand-cranked radio and a NOAA weather radio, and extra batteries for both
- Flashlights and extra batteries
- First aid kit
- Non-prescription drugs such as pain reliever, anti-diarrhea medication, antacid, laxative
- Prescription medications, contact lenses and supplies, denture needs
- Whistle to signal for help
- Infant formula and diapers, if you have an infant
- Water and pet food if you have pets
- Moist towelettes, garbage bags and plastic ties for personal sanitation
- Dust mask or cotton t-shirt to filter the air
- Plastic sheeting and duct tape to shelter-in-place
- Wrench or pliers to turn off utilities
- Can opener for food
- Aluminum foil
- A jacket or coat, hat and gloves
- A complete change of clothing including long pants, long sleeve shirt, and sturdy shoes stored in a waterproof container.
- Sleeping bag or warm blanket for each person
- Rain gear
- Mess kits, paper cups, plates and plastic utensils
- Cash or traveler's checks, change
- Paper towels
- Tent
- Compass
- Matches in a waterproof container
- Signal flare
- Paper, pencil
- Personal hygiene items
- Soap
- Disinfectant and household chlorine bleach
- Important family documents such as copies of insurance policies, identification and bank account records in a waterproof, portable container. Remember to include emergency contact numbers.
- Passport, bank account numbers, credit card account numbers and companies
- Books, games puzzles, portable music device

**NOTE:** Replace food every six months. Re-think your kit and family needs once a year. Replace batteries and update clothes, etc.

### My Personal Pack Checklist

Have children create their personal pack. Have them include things like their favorite book or stuffed animal. These familiar things will help keep them comfortable during an emergency.

- ✓ Change of clothes
- ✓ Blanket
- ✓ Books
- ✓ Favorite toy
- ✓ Paper, pencils and crayons

