

# Neighborhood Wildfire Action Plan



**SGVCOG**

San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments



**SAN GABRIEL & LOWER LOS ANGELES**

**RIVERS & MOUNTAINS**

**CONSERVANCY**

Fill in your Wildfire Action Plan with your neighbors and distribute copies.

**Date Plan Was Created:** \_\_\_\_\_

During High Fire Danger days in your area, monitor your local media for information on wildfires and be ready to implement your plan. Hot, dry, and windy conditions create the perfect environment for a wildfire.



## Step 1: Find Your Neighborhood Area

Identify the area that you can coordinate with, for example, your apartment building or your street.



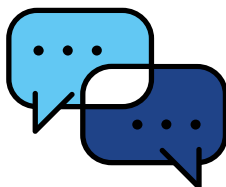
## Step 2: Establish A Team of Leaders

Establish a team of leaders that will coordinate communication and begin the planning and preparation for the neighborhood.



## Step 3: Explore the Area

Get to know the area that you live in by identifying what resources are around, what the landscape is, and any unique local features.



## Step 4: Get to Know Your Neighbors

Reach out to neighbors to meet who is in your area, find out who needs extra help, and share how you can help each other.



## Step 5: Create Your Neighborhood Wildfire Action Plan

Begin work on your plan! Collaborate with your neighbors and fill out the information below.











# Neighborhood Wildfire Action Plan

## Inventory of Skills and Tools

Use this section to identify who has specific skills (e.g. CPR) or items (e.g. ladders, first aid kits) that could be useful in the event of a wildfire and/or evacuation.

Neighbor's Name	Skills and/or Tools

# Neighborhood Wildfire Action Plan

## Checklist:

### Evacuation Preparation:

- Host an initial meeting with your neighbors
- Create phone trees or other communication plans
- Hold a drill to practice the neighborhood response to a wildfire
- Establish ways to help care for children, the elderly, and people with mobility challenges
- Make a plan for checking-in with neighbors during a wildfire
- Ask your neighbors if they've created their own Wildfire Action Plan
- Attach any additional documents to this plan as necessary (neighborhood maps, phone tree diagram, etc.)
- Distribute copies of this plan to residents in the neighborhood.
- Reassess the plan every six months, update the plan as needed

### Defensible Space & Home Hardening

- Plan with your neighbors to create and maintain defensible space
  - Create Zone 1 in the space 0-30 ft from your home
  - Create Zone 1 in the space 30-100 ft from your home
  - Create Zone 2 in the space 100-200ft from your home
  - Work with your neighbors to maintain your defensible space
- Ensure all street addresses in the neighborhood are visible
- Work with your neighbors to harden all structures in the neighborhood



# Neighborhood Wildfire Action Plan

## Sign Up for Safety Alerts:

- County Alerts - sign up at [ready.lacounty.gov/alerts/](https://ready.lacounty.gov/alerts/)
- City Alerts - visit your city's website or visit <https://lacounty.gov/emergency/alert-la/find-your-emergency-notification-system-2/> to sign up

## Helpful Resources:

- LA County Defensible Space Guide - [tinyurl.com/defensiblespaceLACounty](https://tinyurl.com/defensiblespaceLACounty)
- Cal Fire Defensible Space information - <https://tinyurl.com/CalFireDefensibleSpaceInfo>
- Home Hardening Guide - <https://tinyurl.com/homehardeningguide>
- Low-cost Retrofits - <https://tinyurl.com/low-costretrofits>
- Community Wildfire Risk Assessment Tutorial - [tinyurl.com/wildfire-risk-tutorial](https://tinyurl.com/wildfire-risk-tutorial)
- Understanding Wildfire Risk - <https://wildfirerisk.org/>

# Neighborhood Wildfire Action Plan

## Sample Plan

### Neighborhood Response Plan

Assess the neighborhood risks and best ways to respond. Describe the geographic area covered by your plan, and identify the most vulnerable structures or areas. Describe how your neighborhood will respond to wildfires, including how you will communicate with neighbors. Consider assigning specific responsibilities to individuals and/or households.

*The area covered by this plan includes all residences on Oak Street that are south of Maple Road and north of Cedar Lane. There are 10 homes in this area. The most vulnerable homes are located at the top of Oak Street due to their proximity to less-maintained wilderness areas. 1234 & 5678 Oak Street are also particularly vulnerable due to their wood shake roofs.*

# Neighborhood Wildfire Action Plan

## Sample Plan

### Work Together to Reduce Risk

Consider what steps can be taken as a community to prevent wildfires in your area. Create a clear plan for removing brush, maintaining defensible space, and hardening your homes. If possible, specify who will be responsible for which actions.

*Each household will maintain a defensible space buffer of 200ft (or to the property line) according to city ordinance 1234.5. Households are also responsible for their own home hardening upgrades. It is recommended that every home in the neighborhood upgrade to a Class A roof by 2030. In cases of shared property (e.g. fences or individual plants on the property line), involved households can come to their own agreements regarding responsibility. The general rule is to equally divide costs. In cases of a dispute, Joe Miller will act as a neutral conflict mediator.*

*If needed, the Garcia household can loan equipment to help maintain defensible space on your property (ladders, saws, shears, and tree pruners). Please refer to the table on Page 10 for contact information.*

*Joe Miller will act as our Risk Reduction Leader. As such, he will perform an annual defensible space inspection and home hardening assessment on all consenting residences in the neighborhood. He is also available for assessments and inspections by request (see Page 10 for contact information).*

# Neighborhood Wildfire Action Plan

## Sample Plan

### Neighborhood Communication and Response Plan

Describe how your neighborhood will initially respond to wildfires, including how you will communicate with neighbors during a wildfire event. Consider assigning specific responsibilities to individuals and/or households.

*In a wildfire event, John Anderson will be our Neighborhood Response Leader. Jane Wilson will act as the secondary Neighborhood Response Leader if John cannot be reached. John will be responsible for sending group emails and texts to residents with all wildfire updates. If any residents have important information regarding a wildfire, please contact John immediately. John will also be responsible for communication with Emergency Services. He will report damages and pinpoint the most urgent needs in the neighborhood, and as well as distribute important information to residents from Wildfire Personnel. All residents should also sign up for county and city alerts.*

*All households should place their "Help" or "Ok" signs in their windows during wildfire events (unless urgent and immediate evacuation is underway)*

# Neighborhood Wildfire Action Plan

## Sample Plan

### Evacuation Preparation

Coordinate with your neighbors to determine the best evacuation route(s) and procedures. This might include choosing a safe meeting place and providing directions, creating an efficient carpool plan to reduce evacuation traffic, or noting the evacuation plan of each household. Also note what steps should be taken (and by whom) if there is extra time prior to evacuation (e.g. packing certain shared supplies or patrolling the area).

*In the event of evacuation, the neighborhood meeting location is the Spruce City Community Center, located at 100 Beech Avenue, Spruce City, CA 12345. Residents who would like to meet there should follow their individual Household Action Plans to ensure they have all the items they need and have communicated with their emergency contacts. The Lopez family will pack extra particulate respirators to distribute at the meeting location.*

*To get to the Spruce City Community Center, drive South on Oak Street, then turn left onto Palm Boulevard. Drive approximately 3 miles down Palm Boulevard, then turn right onto Beech Road. Continue straight for 2 miles, then enter the Community Center parking lot on the right. An alternate route is to drive North on Oak Boulevard, turn left on Maple Road, turn left onto Sycamore Boulevard and continue straight for 4 miles. Turn left on Magnolia Street, then turn right onto Fir Avenue and enter the Community Center parking lot on the left.*

*At the Community Center, residents can check-in with each other and, if necessary, continue to different individual evacuation locations.*

*The Smith household will assist the Jones household during evacuation by helping them pack and driving them to the meeting location. Either Jane or Rob will carpool with Lisa, depending on their location at the time of the emergency.*

# Neighborhood Wildfire Action Plan

## Sample Plan

### Contact Information

Reach out to your neighbors and take note of their names and contact information. Include any additional information that may be important in the event of evacuation, for example if they have any children or pets, if they need translation services, or if they require additional assistance.

<b>Neighbor's Name</b>	<b>Phone Number</b>	<b>Important Information</b>
<i>Joe &amp; Susie Miller</i>	<i>Joe: (111) 111-1111 Susie: (222) 222-2222</i>	<i>have 1 dog &amp; 1 cat</i>
<i>John Anderson</i>	<i>(333) 333-3333</i>	<i>has 2 children</i>
<i>Paul &amp; Amy Garcia</i>	<i>Paul: (444) 444-4444 Amy: (555) 555-5555</i>	
<i>Jane Wilson</i>	<i>(666) 666-6666</i>	
<i>Mary &amp; William Jones</i>	<i>(777) 777-7777</i>	<i>require evacuation assistance</i>
<i>Chris &amp; Lucy Smith</i>	<i>(888) 888-8888</i>	<i>3 dogs</i>
<i>Oliver &amp; Natalie Lopez</i>	<i>(999) 999-9999</i>	<i>have 1 child</i>
<i>Rob Hernandez</i>	<i>(123) 456-7891</i>	
<i>Lisa Allen</i>	<i>(987) 654-3210</i>	<i>does not have a car - needs carpool</i>
<i>Michael Roberts</i>	<i>(135) 792-4680</i>	

# Neighborhood Wildfire Action Plan

## Sample Plan

### Inventory of Skills and Tools

Use this section to identify who has specific skills (e.g. CPR) or items (e.g. ladders, first aid kits) that could be useful in the event of a wildfire and/or evacuation.

<b>Neighbor's Name</b>	<b>Skills and/or Tools</b>
<i>Garcia Household</i>	<i>Landscaping tools (ladders, saws, and pruning shears)</i>
<i>Joe Miller</i>	<i>Construction expert (contact for assistance with home hardening)</i>
<i>Rob Hernandez</i>	<i>CPR and First Aid Certified</i>
<i>Jones Household</i>	<i>Owns an 8 ft ladder and a 16ft ladder</i>

# Neighborhood Wildfire Action Plan



## **Create Your Neighborhood Wildfire Action Plan Today!**

Help your family and neighbors be prepared in the event of a wildfire and evacuation.