



UC ANR Wildfire Preparedness Resources for Residents

There are many actions residents can take to prepare for wildfire and mitigate wildfire-related risks to their homes and property. Check out these resources from the UC ANR Fire Network to learn more!

Defensible Space

Defensible space is a term used to describe actions in zones around a home involving careful selection, location, and maintenance of vegetation and other combustible materials on a property.

- **Know how to implement a successful defensible space strategy.**

Valachovic et al. 2021. Reducing the vulnerability of buildings to wildfire: vegetation and landscaping guidance. UC ANR Publication #8695: <https://escholarship.org/uc/item/5z80w412>.

- **Learn about the combustion characteristics of mulch and how to integrate mulch into defensible space landscaping.**

Zahra et al. 2026. Defensible space landscaping: mulches. <https://ucanr.edu/program/uc-anr-fire-network/mulch>.

- **Understand how to plan fuel reduction projects on your property.**

Valachovic et al. 2022. Planning and permitting forest fuel-reduction projects on private lands in California. UC ANR Publication #8716: <https://doi.org/10.3733/ucanr.8695>.

Evacuation Preparation and Safety

It is important to follow all verified local emergency instructions for evacuations to protect our firefighters, first responders, and communities.

- **Review what actions you can take based on evacuation order status** using UC ANR's Household Pre-Evacuation Order Checklist (available in English and Spanish): <https://ucanr.edu/program/uc-anr-fire-network/prepare-evacuation>.
- **Prepare an emergency go-bag** using UC ANR's Evacuation Bag Checklist (available in English and Spanish): <https://ucanr.edu/program/uc-anr-fire-network/prepare-evacuation>.
- **Review what to do when trapped by an approaching wildfire** near your home, in a vehicle, or outside (available in English and Spanish): <https://ucanr.edu/program/uc-anr-fire-network/what-do-when-trapped-wildfire>.
- **Be prepared to deal with wildfire smoke and reduce potential health impacts** (available in English and Spanish): <https://ucanr.edu/program/uc-anr-fire-network/prepare-wildfire-smoke>.

Home Hardening

Home hardening involves addressing potential vulnerabilities to wildfires in order to make the house more fire-resistant.

- **New to home hardening? Learn about which building components are most likely to ignite during a wildfire and why:** <https://ucanr.edu/program/uc-anr-fire-network/prepare-your-home>.
- **Refresh your knowledge of fundamental home hardening concepts:** <https://youtube.com/playlist?list=PLmNV7tkNsy17PMf02lb9qCnyP8Buis7Rt&feature=shared>.
- **Learn about fire safe solutions for design, building, and upkeep for new and existing construction:** <https://youtu.be/9TQDP3v2eiI?feature=shared>.
- **Understand how to prepare your farm and ranch for wildfires:** <https://ucanr.edu/program/uc-anr-fire-network/prepare-your-farm-or-ranch>.
- **Deep dive into how to retrofit your home for wildfires with:**

Quarles et al. 2010. Home survival in wildfire-prone areas: building materials and design considerations. UC ANR Publication #8393: <https://escholarship.org/uc/item/4vt8w5qk>.

Restaino et al. 2020. Wildfire home retrofit guide. University of Nevada Reno Extension: <https://extension.unr.edu/publication.aspx?PubID=3810>.

Want to connect with the UC ANR Fire Network?

Contact **Lenya Quinn-Davidson, Fire Network Director** (lquinndavidson@ucanr.edu) or **Katie Low, Fire Network Coordinator** (katlow@ucanr.edu) to be connected with your local Network expert. You can also visit our website (<https://ucanr.edu/statewide-program/uc-anr-fire-network>) or follow us on [BlueSky](#) (@ucanrfirenetwork), [Facebook](#) (UC ANR Fire Network), [Instagram](#) (@ucanrfirenetwork), [LinkedIn](#), [X](#), (@anrfirenetwork), and [YouTube](#) (@ucanrfirenetwork)!