

[All-Hazard Evacuation](#) | [5 P's Evacuation](#) | [Notification Systems](#) | [Flood Risk](#) | [Resources](#)

This year, the risk of COVID-19 exposure can make it difficult for wildland firefighters to stay healthy, safe and do their job. As Arizona moves into an average to above average fire season, we need everyone's help to reduce the potential risk of COVID-19 infection that a large wildfire response can have.

When wildland firefighters respond to wildfires, large camps that house fire crews and fire support personnel are established. By preventing wildland fires, firefighters and the response community can stay healthy. Less wildfires means more physical distancing.

Whether recreating or at home, you can play a part in keeping safe those who help us. Have their backs. Protect wildland firefighters by preventing human-caused fires, preparing for emergencies and practicing the most up-to-date public health recommendations.

How to Do Your Part:

Follow Ready, Set, Go!, Arizona's statewide evacuation program, to keep you, your family, wildland firefighters and the whole response community safe from exposure to illness and from the threats of a disaster.

Ready, Set, Go!, is a nationwide program adopted by the [15 Arizona Sheriffs](#) that educates residents about proactive measures to take before an emergency and actions to follow when communities are threatened.

The Ready, Set, Go! program's three tenets encourage Arizonans to get READY by preparing now for what threatens their community, be SET by maintaining awareness of significant danger and to GO, evacuate immediately when the danger is current and life-threatening.

All-Hazard Evacuation Steps

READY – Prepare Now

Be aware of the hazards that can threaten your community.

- Take steps now to prepare for seasonal threats.
- Create defensible space around your home by clearing 30 to 100 feet of vegetation
- Register with your county/tribal emergency notification system.
- Connect with your local emergency management, sheriff's office and public health department on social media.
- Make a family evacuation and communication plan that includes family phone numbers, out-of-town contacts and family meeting locations. Keep in mind physical distancing recommendations, wearing face coverings or other public health recommendations.

- Build an emergency go kit with enough food, water, health supplies and other necessary items for at least 72 hours. Include supplies to help keep you and your family healthy, such as face coverings, hand sanitizer and sanitizing wipes. Start with the five P's; people and pet supplies, prescriptions, papers, personal needs and priceless items.
- Check with your neighbors, family, friends and elders through video chats or phone calls to ensure they are READY.
- Keep up to date on local news, weather watches, weather warnings and public health recommendations.

SET – Be Alert

Know there is significant danger in your area.

- Residents should consider voluntarily relocating to a shelter or with family/friends outside the affected area. Residents should avoid close contact with those who are sick and should practice public health recommendations when relocating.
- Grab your emergency go kit.
- Keep in mind unique needs for your family or special equipment for pets and livestock.
- Stay aware of the latest news and information from public safety and public health officials.
- This might be the only notice you receive. Emergency services cannot guarantee they will be able to notify everyone if conditions rapidly deteriorate. Be SET to GO.

GO! – Evacuate

Danger in your area is imminent and life threatening.

- Residents should evacuate immediately to a shelter or with family/friends outside of the affected area. Residents should avoid close contact with those who are sick and should practice public health recommendations when relocating.
- Follow instructions from emergency personnel, stay on designated evacuation routes and avoid closed areas.
- If you choose not to evacuate, you must understand emergency services may not be able to assist you further.

5 P's of Evacuation

People and Pets and other animals/livestock and supplies.

Prescriptions with dosages, medicines, medical equipment, vision and hearing aids, batteries and power cords, face coverings, hand sanitizer and sanitizing wipes

Papers including important documents (hard copies and/or electronic copies saved on external hard drives or thumb drives), insurance papers, contacts.

Personal Needs including clothing, water, baby supplies, food, cash, credit cards, first aid kits, phones, and chargers. Items for people with access and/or functional needs, such as older adults and children.

Priceless items including photos, irreplaceable mementos and other valuables.

County/Tribal Emergency Notification Systems

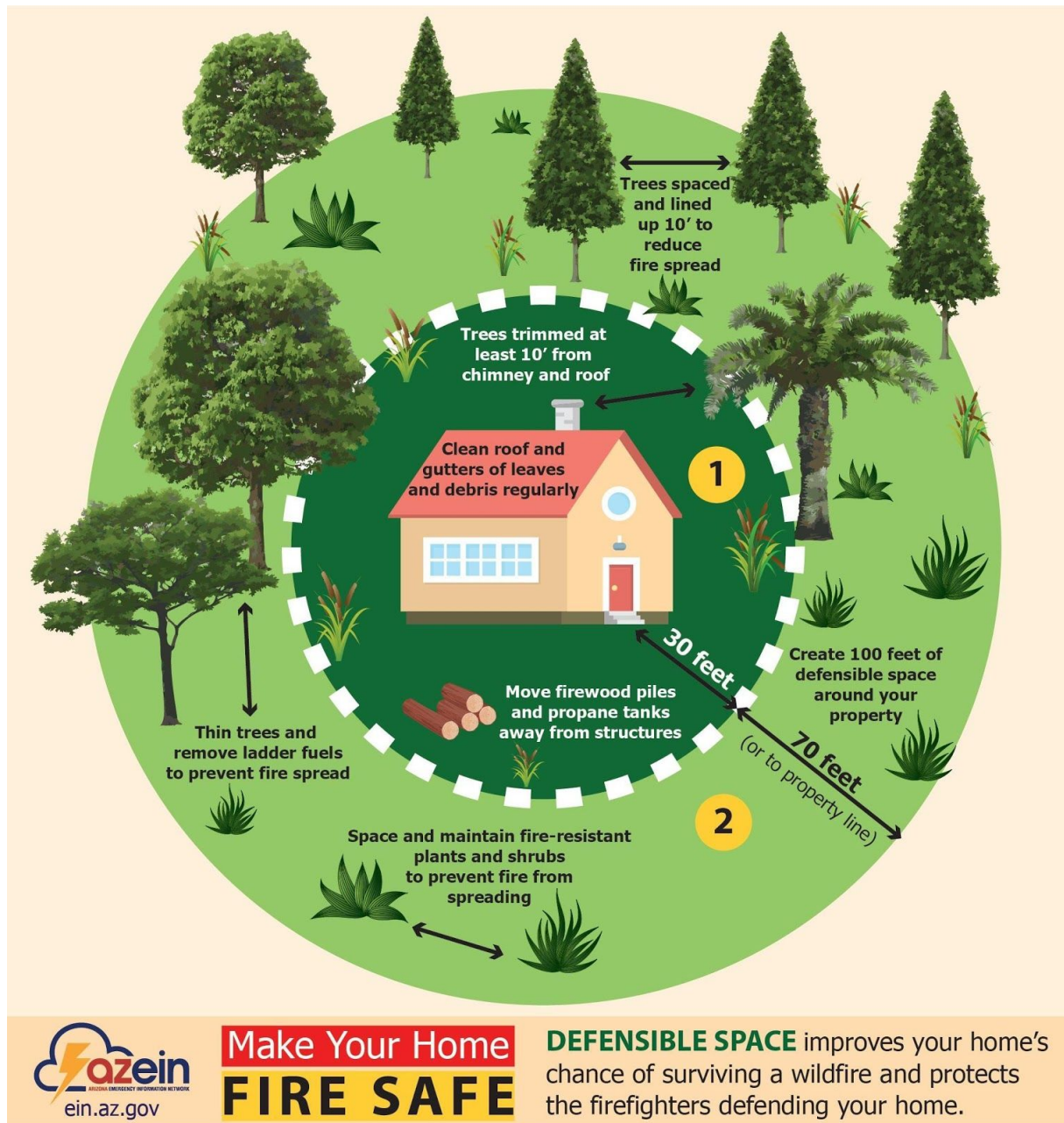
Many Arizona counties and tribes have a system in place designed to quickly notify an affected area of an emergency by sending a voice or text message to you. Click a link below to sign up for emergency alerts in your area.

Counties:

[Apache](#) | [Cochise](#) | [Coconino](#) | [Gila](#) | [Graham](#) | [Greenlee](#) | [La Paz](#) | [Maricopa](#) | [Mohave](#) | [Navajo](#) | [Pima](#) | [Pinal](#) | [Santa Cruz](#) | [Yavapai](#) | [Yuma](#)

Clearing Defensible Space

Wildfires are never out of season. Create a [defensible space](#) to improve your home's chance of surviving a wildfire and to help protect the firefighters defending your home.



ZONE 1: 0 - 30 feet from buildings

Trim or prune shrubs/vegetation to a height of 2 feet and provide clear space around each plant of at least 4 feet.

Remove all flammable material from the ground, under decks and around propane tanks. Keep roofs and gutters clear of debris.

ZONE 2: 30 - 100 feet from buildings

Remove all vegetation that would allow flames to climb up vegetation or buildings. Trim limbs a minimum of 6 feet from ground. Create islands of shrubs, thinning them enough to walk between them.

On slopes greater than 20% gradient, treatment should be extended an additional 100 feet from structures. Stack wood piles at least 30 feet from structures. Never prune near power lines, call your local utility company first.

Flooding Preparedness – Know your risk

While some floods develop over time, flash floods can occur within minutes after the onset of a rainstorm. Even areas that are not traditionally flood-prone are at risk after a wildfire, due to changes to the landscape caused by fire.

- At home
 - Know the [flood risk](#) potential for your home.
- Around Arizona
 - Use your cell phone and NOAA weather radio to receive weather warnings. Ensure you have NOAA weather radio coverage before hiking or swimming in remote locations.
 - Know the differences between a weather watch and a weather warning
 - Flash flood watch - be prepared to move to higher ground.
 - Flash flood warning – immediately move to higher ground if near waterways.
 - Steep terrain and mountainous areas are especially prone to rapid runoff during monsoon storms and may result in flash flooding miles downstream from where rain is falling.
 - Avoid streams and slot canyons during and after storms.

Additional Resources

[Arizona Department of Health Services](#)

[Centers for Disease Control](#)

[Floodsmart](#)

[Before, During](#) and [After a Flood](#) (ASL Videos)

[Before, During](#) and [After a Wildfire](#) (ASL Videos)

Defensible Space Graphic ([English](#), [Spanish](#))

[Ready, Set, Go! Program](#)

Ready, Set, Go! Fact Sheet ([English](#), [Spanish](#))

[County/Tribal Emergency Management](#)

Follow #ReadySetGoAz on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).

[Firewise USA - Reducing Wildfire Risk](#)

[Ready, Set, Go! Social Media Toolkit](#)