

## RESOURCES & HELP FOR LAWYERS AFFECTED BY WILDFIRES

1. **Remember: Personal safety first**
2. **Evacuation Preparedness**
  - a. Know your community's evacuation plan and location for your evacuation centers. Monitor your county's website for your wildfire evacuation check-in site.
  - b. Prepare a Go Now Kit to have at your door containing:
    - i. Current medication bottles, list of medications with dosage, pharmacy phone and prescription numbers, and prescribing doctors
    - ii. Phone numbers of doctors, family, and friends
    - iii. Pet supplies including collars, leashes, and carriers marked with your contact information, phone numbers for vets
    - iv. Original personal papers, government-issued identification such as drivers licenses, passports, social security cards, Medicare cards, and, if relevant, immigration cards.
  - c. Prepare safety of large animals and livestock by checking evacuation centers for your area.
3. **Helpful Government Websites**
  - a. State of Oregon Air Quality ([www.airnow.gov](http://www.airnow.gov))
  - b. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention ([www.cdc.gov/disasters/wildfires/](http://www.cdc.gov/disasters/wildfires/))
  - c. Maps of current fires ([www.maps.wcg.gov](http://www.maps.wcg.gov))
  - d. State of Oregon wildfire resources ([www.wildfire.oregon.gov](http://www.wildfire.oregon.gov))
4. **Distress Management**
  - a. Tips for managing your distress related to wildfires, provided by the American Psychological Association ([www.apa.org/topics/disasters-response/wildfires-tips](http://www.apa.org/topics/disasters-response/wildfires-tips))
5. **Professional Membership Organizations**
  - a. Professional Liability Fund ([www.osbplf.org](http://www.osbplf.org); 503-639-6911)
  - b. PLF Risk Management Assistance
    - i. Practice management assistance from Practice Management Attorneys ([www.osbplf.org](http://www.osbplf.org))
    - ii. Mental and emotional assistance from the Oregon Attorney Assistance Program (OAAP) Attorney Counselors ([www.oaap.org](http://www.oaap.org))
  - c. Oregon State Bar ([www.osbar.org](http://www.osbar.org); 503-620-0222)
6. **Oregon Judicial Department**
  - a. Listing of court closures for various counties ([www.courts.oregon.gov/Pages/default.aspx](http://www.courts.oregon.gov/Pages/default.aspx))
7. **Wildfire Evacuation Check-in Sites by County.** Please monitor your county's website for current wildfire evacuation check-in sites.
8. **Storage of Belongings.** Check your local storage facilities for any discounts available to evacuees of wildfires.
9. **Road Conditions.** Go to Trip Check for current road conditions across the state (<https://tripcheck.com/>)
10. **Parent Guidelines for Helping Children Impacted by Wildfires.**
  - a. <https://www.nasponline.org/resources-and-publications/resources-andpodcasts/school-climate-safety-and-crisis/natural-disaster-resources/helpingchildren-after-a-wildfire-tips-for-parents-and-teachers>.

Helpful tip sheets are included on the following pages as additional resources.

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### **IMPORTANT NOTICES**

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## Fire Evacuation Check List

Have at least 1/2 tank of fuel in your vehicle at all times. Flashlight, portable radio.

Round up your pets: get them secured and ready to go into the car with no way of escape before they are loaded into the car (this is especially important with cats).

Make a prior arrangement to contact a neighbor or friend who might be available to help you in an evacuation situation with loading or driving a second or third vehicle, or to help with large animals such as horses/ penned animals etc.

Have pet carriers, leashes, food bowls, food, litter boxes, litter, and other pet needs ready to go & ready for car (store in a secure place so these are easily loaded into the car).

Have very important files, back-up disks, plug-in USB virtual drive, small compact file box ready to go.

Include such things as homeowner's policy, auto policies, life & investment files, bank records, legal documents, licenses, etc. (or store in a fireproof safe or fireproof bunker).

Computer CPU (hard-drive most important) if you have no back-ups.

Photograph albums, photo CDs, etc, - Have these ready, packed, stored in a secure place to go immediately into car (or store in a fireproof safe).

Cameras & expensive jewelry or important electronic devices.

Suitcase filled with old but useable clothing, socks, underwear, jackets, sweatshirt, extra shoes, etc. Keep this packed ahead. Include a bag for him and for her of toiletry items, including: deodorant, disposable shavers, extra toothbrushes, shampoo & shaving cream, toothpaste, extra regular medications to last a few days.

If you have enough room, consider a few items from your camping or picnic supplies. Pillows & light blankets (in case you might have to sleep outside while evacuated).

If time, draft e-mail, send to friends and family about your intentions.

All household & car keys, wallet, handbag, cell phones & any credit cards you keep in a drawer that you might need.

Complete phone list or phone address book (snail and e-mail), including cell phones of neighbors, family.

Special or valuable items (make your own list).

Close all windows, close all interior doors, remove curtains from area of windows.

Turn off propane gas at tank, remove BBQ propane tank, take it with you or store in a secure place such as a bunker or away from your house.



## Wildfire Evacuation Protocol for People Quarantining or Isolating Due to Covid-19

**If you or a household member are quarantining or isolating to prevent the spread of COVID-19, please take the following precautions:**

- If ordered to evacuate, do so immediately. Follow all instructions from fire officials.
- If you have time, reach out to your local public health authority, who should have already been in contact with you about your isolation/quarantine. They may have solutions to help you continue to isolate/quarantine if you are evacuated.
- Should you be directed to a shelter or other evacuation space, please let officials know you are in isolation/quarantine so that they can take steps to keep you distanced from other evacuees.
- Wear a mask at all times when outside your home, or if you may come into contact with people who do not live with you.
- If you are an older adult or a person with disabilities, reach out to the Aging and Disabilities Resource Connection for information about resources 1-855-ORE-ADRC (1-855-673-2372).
- Practice physical distancing to the greatest extent possible if you must travel outside your home for any reason, including evacuation.
- More information about wildfire safety and your health is available on [healthoregon.org/wildfires](https://healthoregon.org/wildfires). Additional resources can be found by calling 2-1-1.

**Document Accessibility:** For individuals with disabilities or individuals who speak a language other than English, OHA can provide information in alternate formats such as translations, large print, or braille. Contact Mavel Morales at 1-844-882-7889, 711 TTY or [OHA.ADAModifications@dhsaha.state.or.us](mailto:OHA.ADAModifications@dhsaha.state.or.us).

## Wildfires: Tips for Parents on Media Coverage

While the media (television, radio, print and the internet) can help inform and educate you and your children during wildfires, media coverage unfortunately also has the potential to upset and confuse. As parents, you can protect your children by helping them understand media coverage while limiting their exposure to distressing images.

The impact of media coverage will be different depending upon whether you are:

- A family currently evacuated viewing for the first time your home or neighborhood destroyed
- A family viewing images from home of a wildfire nearby which could spread to your area
- A family who has been affected by fire in the past
- A family not directly threatened who is viewing news about the impact that wildfires are having on others (loss of their home, belongings, pets, school or church buildings)

Children and families who suffer loss in the wildfires are the most vulnerable to negative effects from excessive media viewing.

### Understanding Media Exposure

- Media coverage can produce increased fears and anxiety in children.
- The more time children spend watching coverage of the wildfires, the more likely they are to have negative reactions.
- Graphic images and news stories of loss may be particularly upsetting to children.
- Very young children may not understand that the coverage and repetition of images from an earlier or past event is a replay. They may think the event is continuing to happen or is happening again.
- Excessive exposure to the media coverage may interfere with children's recovery after an event.

### What Parents Can Do to Help

- Limit Your Children's Exposure to Media Coverage
  - The younger the child, the less exposure s/he should have.
  - You may choose to eliminate all exposure for very young children.
  - Play DVDs or videotapes of their favorite shows or movies instead.
  - Consider family activities away from television, radio, or internet.
- Watch and Discuss with Children
  - Watch what they watch.
  - Discuss the news stories with them, asking about their thoughts and feelings about what they saw, read, or heard.
  - Ask older children and teens about what they have seen on the internet, in order to get a better sense of their thoughts, fears, concerns, and point-of-view.

- Seize Opportunities for Communication
  - Use newsbreaks that interrupt family viewing or newspaper images as opportunities to open conversation. Be available to talk about their feelings, thoughts, and concerns, and reassure them of their safety and of plans to keep them safe, if needed, such as evacuation.
- Clear Up Any Misunderstandings
  - Don't presume you know what your children are thinking; ask if they are worried and discuss those worries with them, reassuring them as needed.
  - Ask questions to find out if your children are understanding the situation accurately; they may think they are at risk when they are not.
- Monitor Adult Conversations
  - Watch what you and other adults say about the wildfires or the media coverage in front of the children; children often listen when adults are unaware and may misconstrue what they hear.
- Let Your Children Know about Successful Community Efforts
  - You may want to share positive media images, such as reports that the fire has been contained in areas or news stories of people or animals brought to safety.
  - Reassure your children the firefighters are working very hard to put out the fire. This will give them a sense that adults are actively taking steps to protect them, their home, their pets, and their neighborhood.
- Educate Yourself
  - Learn about children's common reactions to wildfires or other natural disasters.
  - Know that many children are resilient and cope well, but some may have continuing difficulties. These reactions vary with age and exposure to the event.
  - For more information, see [Parent Guidelines for Helping Children Impacted by Wildfires](#).

### When Your Family is Part of the Story

- Know Your Limits
  - Decide if it's a good idea for you or your children to talk to the media. While it's natural to want to tell your story, the media may not be the best place to do so.
  - Think about what you are willing and not willing to discuss. You have the right to set limits with reporters.
  - Ask the reporter for the purpose of the story and its content.
- Protect Your Children
  - Make sure the reporter has had experience working with children in the past.
  - Talk it over with your children before they are interviewed. Assure them that there are no wrong answers.
  - Let them know they can say "no" to any question and they can stop the interview at any time.
  - Be present when your child is interviewed. Stop the interview if s/he becomes upset or distressed in any way.
  - After the interview, discuss the experience with your children. Praise them for doing a great job and listen carefully to any concerns they have.
  - Prepare your children that the final media story may be very short or may be edited in ways that do not reflect their experience.

Further information about children, families, and wildfires can be found at the website of the National Child Traumatic Stress Network, [www.NCTSN.org](http://www.NCTSN.org).