



Region II Individual Preparedness Activities

Scenario Three: Wildfire

Welcome to PrepareAthon! A key element to successfully responding to and recovering from a major disaster is the overall preparedness of individual citizens and their families. With that in mind, we invite you to participate in a series of ‘What would you do?’ scenarios with your loved ones in order to assess your level of preparedness. These tabletop activities are intended to be low-stress conversation starters to be discussed, as the name implies, around your dinner table. We do not want to know your results; only that you participated. Following the situation we have included some discussion questions for your tabletop activity, as well as some helpful links to enhance your individual preparedness. Good luck and thank you for participating in America’s PrepareAthon!

Scenario: You are relaxing on a beautiful Saturday morning. The wind is blowing but the temperatures are mild and pleasant. You step outside to enjoy the sun, but a faint odor catches your attention. At first you think it is a neighbor burning a fire in a fireplace or outdoor fire pit. However, a haze begins to build over the area and you realize that it is a large fire in a nearby wooded area. The fire appears to be growing quickly, feeding off the vegetation and being carried towards your home by the wind.

Discussion Questions:

1. Do you know what the wildfire threat is to the area you live in? Do you know how to tell when the threat of a wildfire is elevated?
2. What steps have you taken to reduce the potential for a wildfire impacting your home? Discuss with your family other steps you can take to reduce the potential for fire.
3. What actions should you take to reduce the possibility of causing a wildfire?
4. What actions should you take if your home is threatened by a fire?
5. How will you be alerted if you need to evacuate?
6. Does anyone in your family have any special needs (such as medical, emotional or physical needs, or limited English proficiency) that might present challenges if you had to stay at a shelter? If so, have you prepared a special plan for them?
7. Do you know your evacuation route? Do you have a plan to stay with family or friends if you need to evacuate your home?
8. Wildfires can travel quickly. Do you know what you should have ready in case you have to evacuate?

Time to see how you did!

To learn more about this scenario and to check your plan, go to <https://community.fema.gov/take-action/hazards>. Discuss with your loved ones what steps you think you should do in order to improve your safety in the event such a tragedy occurs.

Helpful Links

To learn more about wildfire preparedness, please visit <https://www.fema.gov/wildfires>
But first, please don’t forget to register that you participated in the activity on America’s PrepareAthon website: http://www.community.fema.gov/AP_Register