# WILDFIRE AWARENESS

# **EVACUATION LEVELS**

## **LEVEL 1: BE READY**

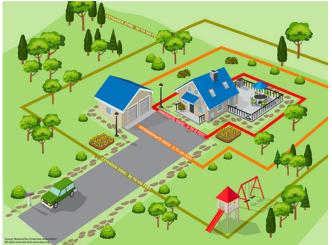
Be aware of the danger in your area and start preparing for possible evacuation. Monitor local media and check on neighbors. If you do not already have an evacuation plan or a Go Kit, assemble these now. Know how and where you will evacuate. Conditions can change suddenly, and you may not receive a Level 2 - (Be Set) warning before you are ordered to Level 3 - (Go Now). Prepare both the inside and outside of your home. Leave if you feel unsafe; do not wait for an official evacuation order.

## **LEVEL 2: BE SET**

Be prepared for sudden evacuation. People wheneed help or more time to evacuate — people with disabilities, people with small children, people with medical conditions, and people with large animals — should evacuate at this level. Have your Go Kit in your vehicle. Stay informed with local law enforcement and fire departments. Always remember to leave if you feel unsafe; do not wait for an official evacuation order.

## **LEVEL 3: GO NOW**

Danger in your area is current or imminent.
Follow directions from law enforcement or fire departments, and do not return home until officials have determined it is safe. Notification it is safe will be given as soon as possible.



# **DEFENDING YOUR HOME**

#### **Immediate Zone**

The home and the area 0-5' from the furthest attached exterior point of the home; defined as a non-combustible area. Science tells us this is the most important zone to take immediate action on as it is the most vulnerable to embers. Start with the house itself then move into the landscaping section of the Immediate Zone.

#### Intermediate Zone

5-30' from the furthest exterior point of the home. Landscaping/hardscaping-employing careful landscaping or creating breaks that can help influence and decrease fire behavior.

#### **Extended Zone**

30-100 feet, out to 200 feet. Landscaping – the goal here is not to eliminate fire but to interrupt fire's path and keep flames smaller and on the ground.

# **STAY WEATHER INFORMED**

#### **DOWNLOAD THE FEMA APP:**

Receive real-time alerts from the National Weather Service for up to five locations nationwide.

#### PIERCE COUNTY ALERTS (PC ALERT):

You can sign up one of three ways: Online, Call 253-798-6595, or Text "PCALERT" to 888-777

## **GUIDING QUESTIONS:**

Use the following questions as guides to help explain emergency preparedness to children.

WHO? Who is the emergency contact your family will call if you need to evacuate?

WHAT? What do you need to bring with you?

WHERE? Where do you go to stay safe?

WHEN? When do you need to evacuate? When is it safe to come back to your home?

WHY? Why do you need to leave your home during a wildfire?

**HOW?** How will you get to safety?

# **MAKE AN EMERGENCY KIT**

Pierce County Department of Emergency Management has created valuable information, checklists, and videos about Disaster Preparedness Kits. These resources are free and many have translated versions for better access across our communities.







This information is provided courtesy of your local fire departments. Additional information regarding fire and life safety for you and your family can be found by visiting our websites.