

Wildfire preparedness checklist



Owning a luxury residence in a picturesque, natural setting is a wonderful achievement, but with this beauty comes the ever-increasing risk of wildfires. Our guide will walk you through essential steps that help protect your homes and cherished possessions.

EMERGENCY PLANNING

No wildfire preparedness plan is complete without a comprehensive evacuation plan:

- Evacuation routes.** Identify multiple, accessible evacuation routes from your home.
- Emergency kit.** Prepare kits for every person with 3-7 days of water, food, medications, hygiene items, and power banks for mobile devices.
- Pet plan.** Ensure you have a way to transfer and care for your furry family members.
- Communication strategy.** Establish a process with family and neighbors to stay connected and informed during a wildfire.

ADVANCED PROTECTION SYSTEMS

Protecting luxury lifestyles is easier with systems that go beyond standard safety measures.

- Automatic sprinkler systems.** Install outdoor sprinklers that can be activated remotely or automatically when a fire is detected.
- Central alarms.** Select alarm systems that connect directly to fire stations and do not rely on WiFi.
- Backup power sources.** Ensure you have a reliable backup power source, such as a generator, to keep fire protection systems operational during power outages.
- Wildfire defense program.** This program is a collaboration with firefighting teams who will assess your property and recommend ideas and technology to mitigate your risk of loss. Read our short [blog](#) to learn more.

HOME HARDENING TECHNIQUES

Make structures more resistant to ignition from embers and radiant heat with these steps:

- Upgrade to fire-resistant roofing.
- Install ember-resistant vents or screens.
- Replace siding with fire-resistant materials.
- Install dual-pane windows to reduce heat-related breakage.
- Select fire-retardant materials for decks/patios.

CREATE A DEFENSIBLE SPACE

You don't have to make drastic landscaping changes to slow the potential spread of fire.

0-30 FEET

- Remove dead vegetation.** Clear dead plants, grass, and leaves.
- Prune trees and shrubs.** Keep tree branches at least 10 feet apart and trim those that overhang your roof.
- Maintain lawn and plants.** Keep grass short and select fire-resistant landscaping.

30-100+ FEET

- Create fuel breaks.** Use driveways and patios to create fire barriers.
- Manage vegetation.** Thin clusters of trees and shrubs to reduce fueling the fire.
- Maintain spacing.** Ensure trees and large shrubs are well-spaced to prevent fire from easily spreading.
- Manage forested areas.** Work with a professional to create a plan to thin trees and remove underbrush.

Contact Lockton today, and we can help you establish greater peace of mind when it comes to protecting your primary or vacation homes.