



Santa Clara County FireSafe Council

*Mobilizing the people of
Santa Clara County to protect
their homes, communities and
environment from wildfires*

FireSafe Tips for Older Adults Living in the Wildland Urban Interface

- Have an exit strategy! **Remember: taxis, buses and other forms of transportation may not be available in an emergency.** If you don't drive, or are not comfortable driving alone, you should select at least one person you trust whom you can call on to help you evacuate if your community is evacuated in a wildfire.
- Have at least one back-up driver ready to help if your primary driver is not available. Your driver should live or work nearby and be able to reach you quickly. The two of you should develop a clear plan in case a wildfire or other disaster strikes.
- Keep a flashlight, fresh batteries and a portable battery-operated radio handy.
- Keep important telephone numbers where you can find them easily.
- Get to know your neighbors – avoid isolation.
- If you have pets, make sure that you have a way to evacuate them. Consider purchasing a small kennel to easily transport your dog or cat. Contact your local animal shelter or humane society for additional suggestions.
- Contact your local fire department and ask for a free home safety inspection – if you live in a wildland urban interface area, make sure that you have created “Defensible Space” around your home.
- Contact the Santa Clara County FireSafe Council for Defensible Space information: (408) 975-9591.
- This is not an all inclusive list. Please contact the Santa Clara County Office of Emergency Services for additional information about preparing for emergencies and disasters. Phone: (408) 808-7800, Email: oes@oes.sccgov.org.
- To learn more about other services for older adults, please contact the Council on Aging at (408) 296-8290 or visit their Website at www.scccoa.org.