

Ember Attack

Embers and sparks cause fires, and an ember attack causes a wildfire!

Hence, an important step in preventing a wildfire is hardening our homes in this community, i.e., making our homes ember resistant.

This short 2 minute video explains **how ember attacks cause wildfires**:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xyoYlz995k0>

Home Hardening

Here you can learn about home hardening:

<https://www.readyforwildfire.org/prepare-for-wildfire/get-ready/hardening-your-home/>

Also, the table below lists all home hardening items you could do around your house:

<https://ucanr.edu/sites/fire/Prepare/Building/>

Home hardening is a **MUST** for becoming FireWise

We are planning to become a **FireWise** community, and it involves home hardening. Read more about becoming home hardening here:

<https://www.readyforwildfire.org/prepare-for-wildfire/firewise-communities>

Note: Measure X pays 50% of the cost of home hardening, up to \$2000, per house.

You could apply for it directly for any home hardening project. You are urged to do it while the budget is still available!

Red Flag Day

A Red Flag Warning is issued for weather events which may result in **extreme fire behavior that will occur within 24 hours**. A Fire Weather Watch is issued when weather conditions could exist in the next 12-72 hours. A Red Flag Warning is the highest alert. During these times extreme caution is urged by all residents, because **a simple spark can cause a major wildfire**. A Fire Weather Watch is one level below a warning, but fire danger is still high. (source: <https://www.fire.ca.gov/programs/communications/red-flag-warnings-fire-weather-watches/>)

-Do not BBQ.

-Do not throw cigarettes or matches out of a moving vehicle. They may ignite dry grass on the side of the road and become a wildfire.

-Never leave a fire unattended. Sparks or embers can blow into leaves or grass, ignite a fire, and quickly spread.

As you see in the table below, a combination of low humidity and strong wind could lead to a **Red Flag Warning (RFW)**. In a **Particularly Dangerous Situation (PDS)**, you are urged to leave home and evacuate even without any evacuation orders.

Red Flag Weather Matrix		Sustained Winds				
		<6 mph	6--11 mph	12-20 mph	21-29 mph	30+ mph
Humidity	Daytime Min <29-42% and/or Night Max 60-80%	Low	Medium	High	Very High	RFW
	Daytime Min <19-28% and/or Night Max 46-60%	Low	Medium	High	RFW	RFW
	Daytime Min <9-18% and/or Night Max 31-45%	Medium	High	RFW	RFW	RFW
	Daytime Min <9% and/or Night Max <31%	High	RFW	RFW	RFW	PDS RFW
		Low	Medium	High	Very High	Extreme

Sign Up to Receive Warnings

Please register for CWS and Nixle here to receive Red Flag Warnings, as well as evacuation orders and other public emergency announcements.

Know Your Evacuation Zone

Zonehaven is a company that provides the technology to manage an evacuation process in "zone" divisions of a wildfire area. All fire departments in Contra Costa County, as well as Alameda, use this technology. Hence, you need to know your "zone" to be able to understand evacuation orders. Please go to community.zonehaven.com and type your address to see your evacuation zone.