

# PROTECTING YOUR FAMILY FROM WILDFIRES



Stay healthy in a wildfire with these simple steps!

## THE WILDFIRE AND HEALTH CONNECTION

Wildfires in Wisconsin usually occur in forests and grasslands.

Burns from wildfires can be life-threatening and affect Wisconsin's economy and air and water quality.

Take these important steps to protect your health and that of your family in a wildfire.

## WAYS TO PROTECT YOURSELF

- **Make a disaster emergency kit.** Important things to include in your kit: three-day supply of food and water, cell phone and charger, flashlight and batteries, first aid kit, extra cash, dust mask, and a change of clothes.
- **Create an emergency plan.** Plan and practice meeting places and evacuation routes out of your house.
- **Protect your home.** Regularly trim trees and grass and clean your gutters. Check the batteries in your smoke detectors monthly. Have your chimney inspected by a professional once a year.
- **Follow burn restrictions.** Contact the Department of Natural Resources at 1-888-WIS-BURN or visit [dnr.wi.gov/topic/forestfire/restrictions.html](http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/forestfire/restrictions.html) for burning restrictions, risk of fire danger, and burning permits.

## TIPS ON SAFE BURNING PRACTICES

Keep your distance.



Pro tip: Wood piles, grills, and barbeque and campfire pits should be at least 30 feet away from your home.

Don't leave a fire unattended.



Pro tip: Weather conditions can change rapidly. Stay nearby to be sure your campfire doesn't spread.

Watch the weather.



Pro tip: Be sure not to burn on a windy day, as embers and sparks may start a wildfire.

For more tips, view the full toolkit at:

[WWW.DHS.WISCONSIN.GOV/CLIMATE](http://WWW.DHS.WISCONSIN.GOV/CLIMATE)

WISCONSIN CLIMATE AND HEALTH PROGRAM  
Bureau of Environmental and Occupational Health

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