WILDFIRE SAFETY





BEFORE A WILDFIRE

PREPARE AN EMERGENCY PLAN

Know your escape routes and have a plan with your family and employees for where to go and how to get there. Make sure to answer the questions:

- Where can you take your livestock?
- Who in your area can assist with livestock evacuation?

GATHER SUPPLIES

Have a go-kit with 3 days of supplies you can carry with you, and a stay-at-home-kit with 2 weeks of supplies. Also, have a one-month supply of medication in a child-proof container.

SIGN UP FOR ALERTS

Sign up for free emergency alerts from your local government. Learn more at ready.gov/alerts!

CREATE FIRE BREAKS

Create fire breaks around your home and barns, and eliminate brush and debris.

- Fire breaks should be created by removing vegetation and debris and exposing bare ground or mineral soil.
- The basic types of firebreaks are: natural, existing, constructed, and mowed line/wet line.

Find more resources for disaster planning with animals:



USDA: Disaster Planning with Animals

Find more resources for preparing for a natural disaster:



CDC: Take Action -Prepare Your Health

Learn more about creating firebreaks:



•• C. E. To:: OSU Extension: Firebreaks for Prescribed Burning

402-552-3394 go.unmc.edu/cs-cash/cs-cash-contact go.unmc.edu/cs-cash

UNMC College of Public Health 984388 Nebraska Medical Center Omaha, NE 68198-4388









DURING A WILDFIRE

LISTEN TO AUTHORITIES

Authorities will let you know when it is safe to leave.

STAY CONNECTED

Have a backup battery or way to charge your phone, and a battery powered radio.

AFTER A WILDFIRE

WAIT FOR AUTHORITIES

Don't return home until authorities say it is safe.

INSPECT BEFORE RETURNING ANIMALS

Carefully inspect barns and other animal housing before returning animals. There can be smoldering fires in bedding and hay.

BE CAREFUL

Avoid hot ash, charred trees, smoldering debris, and live embers. Buildings and trees affected by the fire may be unstable and pose a risk.

WEAR PROTECTIVE CLOTHING

When cleaning, wear a long-sleeved shirt, long pants, work gloves, and sturdy shoes. You can also use a respirator to limit your exposure.

CLEAN UP

Gently sweep and wet mop hard surfaces. Avoid washing ash into storm drains.

CHECK FOR HAZARDS

Check the roofs and exterior areas of buildings for sparks and embers.

DOCUMENT DAMAGE

Take photographs of property damage and contact your insurance company.

RESTORE UTILITIES

Make sure electricity, clean water, and emergency medical services are restored and reliable before moving back onto your farm or ranch.

REPLACE AIR FILTERS

Replace air conditioning filters with higher filtration rated filters for at least a few weeks.

DUCT CLEANING

If there is a visible layer of fire residue, you may need to clean or replace your ducts.

CHECK EQUIPMENT

If your equipment is damaged or exposed to smoke, do a thorough inspection prior to use and change all filters in your equipment prior to use.





AgriSafe: Agricultural Respirator Selection Guide