

WILDFIRES IN SOUTH CAROLINA

Humans cause 98% of SC Wildfires.

PREVENTION

- Follow any red flag warnings and burn bans.
- Never leave a fire unattended.
- Have proper and sufficient tools and water on hand to prevent the fire from spreading.
- Extinguish outdoor fires completely using dirt and water.
- Avoid throwing cigarettes into vegetation, potted plants, leaves, or other flammable items.
- Keep fire pits, wood piles, and propane tanks at least 10 feet away from your home.
- Make sure your vehicle's tailpipe or towing chain does not drag or cause sparks.
- Avoid using lawn equipment on hot, dry, and windy days.

PREPARATION

- Create and practice an evacuation plan.
- Complete a home inventory to help with any insurance claims.
- Prepare a plan for caring for pets and animals in case of evacuation.

DEBRIS BURNING

More than 35% of SC wildfires are caused by **debris burning**. This includes wildfires originating from burning trash, yard debris, construction waste, land clearing piles, crop stubble, and from prescribed burning.

State law requires citizens to notify the South Carolina Forestry Commission before burning yard debris.



Red Flag Warnings: Fire conditions are high and outdoor burning is strongly discouraged.



Burn Ban: Emergency measure from State Forestry or Government officials that legally prohibits outdoor burning.



Call the non-emergency phone number for your local fire department to determine if one of these warnings is in place.



FOREST FIRE DANGER IS USUALLY HIGHEST FROM JANUARY THROUGH MID-APRIL.