

00:00:10:20 - 00:00:11:27

Hi there, welcome back

00:00:11:27 - 00:00:14:12

to "7 Saturdays to a Fire-Resistant Home".

00:00:14:12 - 00:00:16:11

I'm your host, Alicia Mason.

00:00:16:11 - 00:00:18:28

Each week we've been talking
about how to prepare your home

00:00:18:28 - 00:00:21:17

and family before wildfire season.

00:00:21:17 - 00:00:22:19

In previous episodes,

00:00:22:19 - 00:00:24:20

we've gone over creating defensible space

00:00:24:20 - 00:00:25:25

and hardening your home

00:00:25:25 - 00:00:27:29

to make your property more fire resilient.

00:00:27:29 - 00:00:31:02

Today, we're talking about
making an emergency plan.

00:00:31:02 - 00:00:34:07

First, we'll show you how
to build an evacuation plan

00:00:34:07 - 00:00:37:03

to leave your community
should a wildfire strike.

00:00:37:03 - 00:00:39:06

Next, we'll assemble emergency kits

00:00:39:06 - 00:00:41:05

to grab at a moment's notice.

00:00:41:05 - 00:00:43:17

And finally, we'll show you
how to sign up for alerts

00:00:43:17 - 00:00:46:17

to help you get the information
you need in an emergency.

00:00:46:17 - 00:00:47:16

To help us out today,

00:00:47:16 - 00:00:49:06

I'm happy to welcome back our expert,

00:00:49:06 - 00:00:51:11

former CAL FIRE Butte Unit Chief

00:00:51:11 - 00:00:55:01

and Senior Public Safety
Specialist at PG&E, David Hawks.

00:00:55:01 - 00:00:56:19

Thanks for having me back, Alicia.

00:01:00:17 - 00:01:02:19

Now, David, I'll be
totally honest with you.

00:01:02:19 - 00:01:04:08

The idea of creating an escape plan

00:01:04:08 - 00:01:05:29

makes me a little nervous.

00:01:05:29 - 00:01:08:25

It's intimidating to think
about evacuating with my family.

00:01:08:25 - 00:01:10:18

That's totally understandable, Alicia,

00:01:10:18 - 00:01:12:02

but going over these steps will take

00:01:12:02 - 00:01:14:06

some of the uncertainty
out of the equation.

00:01:14:06 - 00:01:15:21

Great, so what's the first step?

00:01:15:21 - 00:01:16:28

You should start by making sure

00:01:16:28 - 00:01:19:11

that you have an escape route
to get out of your house,

00:01:19:11 - 00:01:21:09

as well as get out of your community

00:01:21:09 - 00:01:23:15

as quickly and safely as possible.

00:01:23:15 - 00:01:25:11

We're familiar with our home exits,

00:01:25:11 - 00:01:28:13

but what do we need to know
about evacuating our community?

00:01:28:13 - 00:01:30:16

Making a detailed plan can
make all the difference

00:01:30:16 - 00:01:31:12

in an emergency.

00:01:31:12 - 00:01:33:17

Wildfires can spread very
quickly and it's possible

00:01:33:17 - 00:01:36:28

that you'll have little to
no warning of an evacuation.

00:01:36:28 - 00:01:38:26
That's why it's so
important to map out a plan

00:01:38:26 - 00:01:41:12
to exit your neighborhood
as well as your community.

00:01:41:12 - 00:01:44:00
Some communities have
designated evacuation plans

00:01:44:00 - 00:01:45:06
to help guide you.

00:01:45:06 - 00:01:46:28
Check with local public safety officials.

00:01:46:28 - 00:01:50:08
It's a good idea to practice
evacuating every few months

00:01:50:08 - 00:01:51:29
during both day and night.

00:01:51:29 - 00:01:54:15
Okay, well, I know my
roads in my community,

00:01:54:15 - 00:01:56:20
but what are the steps to
making sure my evacuation routes

00:01:56:20 - 00:01:59:02
are mapped out correctly?

00:01:59:02 - 00:02:00:00
I'm glad you asked.

00:02:00:00 - 00:02:02:13
Ideally, you should have
two evacuation routes

00:02:02:13 - 00:02:05:01

out of your neighborhood as
well as out of your community,

00:02:05:01 - 00:02:06:26
in case one is cut off by fire.

00:02:06:26 - 00:02:08:07
And check to see if your community

00:02:08:07 - 00:02:10:18
has any designated public assembly points.

00:02:10:18 - 00:02:13:06
What are some examples of
common public assembly points?

00:02:13:06 - 00:02:15:09
Churches, schools, other
spots that are large enough

00:02:15:09 - 00:02:17:16
to give people shelter during a wildfire.

00:02:17:16 - 00:02:20:00
These are often barriers,
like large parking lots,

00:02:20:00 - 00:02:21:15
which resist fires.

00:02:21:15 - 00:02:23:16
So now we know why it's so important

00:02:23:16 - 00:02:25:05
to create a plan in advance.

00:02:25:05 - 00:02:26:19
Yes, practice makes perfect.

00:02:26:19 - 00:02:28:23
This is especially important
for children and pets.

00:02:33:00 - 00:02:35:03

So we just learned about evacuating.

00:02:35:03 - 00:02:36:03

When it's time to go,

00:02:36:03 - 00:02:38:13

what do I need to make
sure we bring with us?

00:02:38:13 - 00:02:40:06

Every family should have an emergency kit

00:02:40:06 - 00:02:42:00

or go bag with critical items

00:02:42:00 - 00:02:45:04

for every member of your
household, including pets.

00:02:45:04 - 00:02:46:14

What are the essential items

00:02:46:14 - 00:02:48:20

every emergency kit should have?

00:02:48:20 - 00:02:49:27

Let's start with people.

00:02:49:27 - 00:02:52:15

You should pack sufficient
supplies for 72 hours.

00:02:52:15 - 00:02:54:20

That means water, non-perishable food,

00:02:54:20 - 00:02:57:06

flashlights with batteries, clothing,

00:02:57:06 - 00:03:00:20

critical medications,
important documents, and cash.

00:03:00:20 - 00:03:02:25

What about your furrier family/friends,

00:03:02:25 - 00:03:05:22

you know, our pets, what do they need?

00:03:05:22 - 00:03:07:02

Pet should have their own go bag

00:03:07:02 - 00:03:10:00

with 72 hours worth of
food, water, medicine,

00:03:10:00 - 00:03:13:09

medical records, leash with
sanitation wipes, pet toys,

00:03:13:09 - 00:03:15:02

and a picture of you with your pet

00:03:15:02 - 00:03:17:15

in the event that you are separated.

00:03:17:15 - 00:03:20:18

Keep pet carriers, leashes, and
emergency kits close to exits

00:03:20:18 - 00:03:23:14

so that you can easily
grab them on your way out.

00:03:23:14 - 00:03:27:06

You can go to safetyactioncenter.pge.com

00:03:27:06 - 00:03:29:07

and download your emergency kit checklist

00:03:29:07 - 00:03:31:09

and learn more preparedness tips.

00:03:31:09 - 00:03:34:14

Creating an emergency kit
sounds actually pretty easy.

00:03:34:14 - 00:03:35:17

Exactly, Alicia.

00:03:39:08 - 00:03:41:08

It feels good to have a plan, David,

00:03:41:08 - 00:03:44:14

so what's our third and
final task for this episode?

00:03:44:14 - 00:03:46:24

The last thing we are learning
today is how to sign up

00:03:46:24 - 00:03:48:20

for emergency alert and warnings.

00:03:48:20 - 00:03:51:15

Where should folks go to
sign up for emergency alerts?

00:03:51:15 - 00:03:54:01

Most local law enforcement
agencies utilize alerts

00:03:54:01 - 00:03:56:15

and warning software to
alert residents via phone,

00:03:56:15 - 00:03:58:26

cell phone, text, and/or email.

00:03:58:26 - 00:04:00:18

Check with your local
law enforcement agency

00:04:00:18 - 00:04:02:02

to learn how to sign up for alerts.

00:04:02:02 - 00:04:04:21

PG&E also has their own alert
system that lets you know

00:04:04:21 - 00:04:07:06

if there is a public safety
power shutoff in your area,

00:04:07:06 - 00:04:08:18

so make sure that you're signed up

00:04:08:18 - 00:04:13:13

to receive notifications at
pge.com/mywildfirealerts.

00:04:13:13 - 00:04:16:07

Now that I know exactly how
to prepare for an evacuation

00:04:16:07 - 00:04:19:14

to keep my family safe, I do
actually feel a lot better.

00:04:19:14 - 00:04:20:19

I thought you might, Alicia.

00:04:20:19 - 00:04:22:06

Next week, we're gonna talk about

00:04:22:06 - 00:04:25:21

how gardening can help make
your home more fire resilient.

00:04:25:21 - 00:04:27:16

That actually sounds like a lot of fun.

00:04:27:16 - 00:04:28:19

Well, thanks for joining us

00:04:28:19 - 00:04:30:25

for "7 Saturdays to a
Fire Resistant Home".

00:04:30:25 - 00:04:32:00

We'll see you next week.

00:04:32:00 - 00:04:33:09

Be sure to share what you learned today

00:04:33:09 - 00:04:34:19

with family, friends,

00:04:38:02 - 00:04:38:27
and other people you know
living in fire-prone areas.

00:04:38:27 - 00:04:39:22
If you wanna catch up on
our previous episodes,

00:04:39:22 - 00:04:42:15
go to safetyactioncenter.pge.com

00:04:42:15 - 00:04:44:03
to learn more preparedness tips.