

Wild Land Fires

Before a wildfire

To prepare for wildfires, you should:

- Mark the entrance to your property with address signs that are clearly visible from the road.
- Keep lawns trimmed, leaves raked, and the roof and rain gutters free from debris such as dead limbs and leaves.
- Stack firewood at least 30 feet away from your residence.
- Store flammable materials, liquids, and solvents in metal containers outside your residence at least 30 feet away from structures and wooden fences.
- Create defensible space by thinning trees and brush within 30 feet around your residence. Beyond 30 feet, remove dead wood, debris, and low tree branches.
- Landscape your property with fire resistant plants and vegetation to prevent fire from spreading quickly. For example, hardwood trees are more fire-resistant than pine, evergreen, eucalyptus, or fir trees.
- Make sure water sources, such as hydrants, ponds, swimming pools, and wells, are accessible to the fire department.
- Use fire resistant, protective roofing and materials like stone, brick, and metal to protect your residence. Avoid using wood materials- they offer the least fire protection.
- Cover all exterior vents, attics, and eaves with metal mesh screens no larger than 6 millimeters or 1/4 inch to prevent debris from collecting and to help keep sparks out.
- Install multi-pane windows, tempered safety glass, or fireproof shutters to protect large windows from radiant heat.
- Use fire-resistant draperies for added window protection.
- Have chimneys, wood stoves, and all home heating systems inspected and cleaned annually by a certified specialist.
- Insulate chimneys and place spark arresters on top. The chimney should be at least 3 feet above the roof.
- Remove branches hanging above and around the chimney.

Follow local burning laws

Before burning debris in a wooded area, make sure you notify local authorities, obtain a burning permit, and follow these guidelines:

- Use an approved incinerator with a safety lid or covering with holes no larger than 3/4 inch.
- Create at least a 10-foot clearing around the incinerator before burning debris.
- Have a fire extinguisher or garden hose on hand when burning debris.

During a wildfire

If a wildfire threatens your home and time permits, take the following precautions:

- Shut off gas at the meter. Only qualified professional can safely turn the gas back on.
- Seal attic and ground vents with pre-cut plywood or commercial seals.
- Turn off propane tanks.
- Place combustible patio furniture inside.

- Connect garden hose to outside taps. Place lawn sprinklers on the roof and near above-ground fuel tanks. Wet the roof.
- Wet or remove shrubs within 15 feet of your residence.
- Gather fire tools such as a rake, axe, handsaw or chainsaw, bucket, and shovel.
- Back your car into the garage or park it in an open space facing the direction of escape. Shut doors and roll up windows. Leave the key in the ignition and the car doors unlocked. Close garage windows and doors, but leave them unlocked. Disconnect automatic garage door openers.
- Open fireplace damper. Close fireplace screens.
- Close windows, vents, doors, blinds or noncombustible window coverings, and heavy drapes. Remove flammable drapes and curtains.
- Move flammable furniture into the center of the residence away from windows and sliding-glass doors.
- Close all interior doors and windows to prevent drafts.
- Place valuables that will not be damaged by water in a pool or pond.

If advised to evacuate, do so immediately. Choose a route away from the fire hazard. Watch for changes in the speed and direction of the fire and smoke.

Gas Leaks

Emergency control of gas

- Check house piping, appliances and vents for damage.
- Check for fires or fire hazards.
- Do not use matches, lighters or other open flames.
- Do not operate electrical switches, appliances or battery-operated devices if you suspect natural gas leaks. This could create sparks that could ignite gas from broken lines.
- If gas line breakage is suspected, shut off the gas at the meter.
- Wear heavy shoes in all areas near broken glass or debris. Keep your head and face protected from falling debris.
- Turn on a battery-operated radio if no gas leaks are found or a car radio to receive disaster instructions.
- Do not use your telephone except in extreme emergency situations.

Power Outage

Home electrical circuits

- Familiarize yourself with the location of the electrical breaker panel.
- Turn off breakers for areas of concern.
- If in doubt, shut off main breaker. Check your house electrical meter. If it is on your home, there may be a main disconnect breaker next to it. If the meter is on an underground service, it may be in front of your home; but there should be a main breaker where the line enters the home.
- Be sure and show others in the family where the breakers are located in case of emergency.
- In case of basement flooding:
 - Think before stepping in any water.
 - A shock hazard may exist even in an inch of water.
 - If the electrical panel is upstairs, shut off all circuits.
 - If the electrical panel is in the basement, determine whether it can be reached on DRY ground. If not, shut off the main breaker.

Before a power outage

- Learn location of fuse box or circuit breaker.
- Store candles, flashlights and extra batteries in convenient places.
- Have food and water supplies on hand.
- Know the locations of all camping equipment: stove, lantern, sleeping bags. Make sure equipment is operational and that you know how to use it. Use camping equipment requiring gasoline, propane, white fuel, Coleman fuel or charcoal briquettes outside only.
- Keep the refrigerator well defrosted.

During the power outage

- Unplug all your appliances and electronic equipment. A power surge could ruin appliances when power is restored.
- Turn off all but one light switch.
- Open refrigerator door only to take food out, close as quickly as possible.
- Use camping equipment outside, six feet away from everything. Use only a fireplace, properly installed wood stove or a new-style kerosene heater in a safe area with fresh outside air coming into area.
- Report any downed lines.
- Do not allow children to carry lanterns, candles or fuel.

After the power outage

- When power is restored, plug in appliances one by one, waiting a few minutes between each one. This will prevent overloading the system.
- Be patient. Energy may first be restored to police and fire departments and hospitals.
- Examine your frozen food. If it still contains ice crystal, it may be refrozen. If meat is off-color or has an odd odor, throw it away.

Explosions

If there is an explosion

- Take shelter against your desk or a sturdy table.
- Exit the building ASAP.
- Do not use elevators.
- Check for fire and other hazards.
- Take your emergency supply kit if time allows.

If there is a fire

- Exit the building ASAP.
- Crawl low if there is smoke.
- Use a wet cloth, if possible, to cover your nose and mouth.
- Use the back of your hand to feel the upper, lower, and middle parts of closed doors.
- If the door is not hot, brace yourself against it and open slowly.
- If the door is hot, do not open it. Look for another way out.
- Do not use elevators.
- If you catch fire, do not run. Stop-drop-and-roll to put out the fire.
- If you are at home, go to a previously designated meeting place.
- Account for your family members and carefully supervise small children.
- Never go back into a burning building.

If you are trapped in debris

- If possible, use a flashlight to signal your location to rescuers.
- Avoid unnecessary movement so that you don't kick up dust.
- Cover your nose and mouth with anything you have on hand. (Dense-weave cotton material can act as a good filter. Try to breathe through the material.)
- Tap on a pipe or wall so that rescuers can hear where you are.
- If possible, use a whistle to signal rescuers.
- Shout only as a last resort. Shouting can cause a person to inhale dangerous amounts of dust.

Hazardous Materials Incidents

Before an incident

- Be prepared to evacuate. An evacuation could last for a few hours or several days.
- Be prepared to shelter-in-place.

During an incident

- Stay away from the incident to minimize the risk of contamination.
- Remain uphill and upwind from the source of the hazardous materials.
- If asked to evacuate your home, do so immediately.
- Shelter-in-place if requested to stay indoors.
- Schools may institute shelter-in-place procedures if there is a hazardous materials incident. If so, you will probably not be able to drive to the school to pick up your children. Follow the directions of your local emergency officials.

- Avoid contact with spilled liquids, air-borne mists or condensed solid chemical deposits.

After an incident

- Do not return home until you are told it is safe.
- When you get home, open windows, vents and turn on fans to ventilate your house.
- Find out from local authorities how to clean up your land and property.
- Report any lingering vapors or hazards.

Household Chemical Emergencies

Before a Household Chemical Emergency

- Buy only as much of a chemical as you think you will use.
- Keep products, containing hazardous materials, in their original containers and never remove the labels unless the container is corroding.
- Never store hazardous products in food containers.
- Never mix household hazardous chemicals or waste with other products.

Take the following precautions to prevent and respond to accidents:

- Follow the manufacturer's instructions for the proper use of the household chemical.
- Never smoke while using household chemicals.
- Never use hair spray, cleaning solutions, paint products, or pesticides near an open flame.
- Clean up any chemical spill immediately. Use rags to clean up the spill. Wear gloves and eye protection. Allow the fumes in the rags to evaporate outdoors, then dispose of the rags by wrapping them in a newspaper and placing them in a sealed plastic bag in your trash can.
- Dispose of hazardous materials correctly. Take household hazardous waste to a local collection program.

During a household chemical emergency, be prepared to seek medical assistance:

- Call Poison Control at 1-800-222-1222 and follow directions.

If there is a danger of fire or explosion:

- Get out of the residence immediately. Do not waste time collecting items or calling the fire department when you are in danger. Call the fire department from outside (a cellular phone or a neighbor's phone) once you are safely away from danger.
- Stay upwind and away from the residence to avoid breathing toxic fumes.

If someone has been exposed to a household chemical:

- Find any containers of the substance that are readily available in order to provide requested information. Call emergency medical services.
- Follow the emergency operator or dispatcher's first aid instructions carefully. The first aid advice found on containers may be out of date or inappropriate. Do not give anything by mouth unless advised to do so by a medical professional.
- Discard clothing that may have been contaminated. Some chemicals may not wash out completely.

Nuclear Emergency

During a nuclear emergency

- If you have advanced warning, take your 72-Hour kit and go to an approved shelter or your basement. Huddle close to the floor and as near to a wall as possible. Get under a table for protection from falling objects.
- DO NOT attempt to evacuate your shelter until advised.
- If you see a nuclear flash and feel sudden heat, take cover INSTANTLY, within one to two seconds. Drop to the ground and curl up tightly, covering as many parts of your body as possible. Go to a shelter once the heat and blast effects have cleared.
- Never look at the light of a nuclear explosion.

After a nuclear emergency

- Take cover in an underground shelter, basement, etc.
- Remove contaminated clothing.
- Wash yourself thoroughly with soap and water. Wash your head and nose hairs especially well.
- If source of radiation is known and travel advisable, travel in the opposite direction and go up wind from radiation.
- Remain in protective shelter for three days. Limit your exposure to contaminated areas.
- If someone needs radiation sickness treatment, keep the victim calm, give emotional support and plenty of fluids.
- Wipe food and water containers with a clean cloth to remove particles of fallout, which resemble sand or salt.

Terrorism

Preparing for terrorism

- Wherever you are, be aware of your surroundings. The very nature of terrorism suggests there may be little or no warning.
- Take precautions when traveling. Be aware of suspicious or unusual behavior. Do not accept packages from strangers. Do not leave luggage unattended. Unusual behavior, suspicious packages and strange devices should be promptly reported to the police or security personnel.
- Do not be afraid to move or leave if you feel uncomfortable or if something does not seem right.
- Learn where emergency exits are located in buildings you frequent. Notice where exits are when you enter unfamiliar buildings. Note where staircases are located.
- Assemble a disaster supply kit at home and learn first aid.

Chemical attack

Signs of a chemical attack would include many people suffering from watery eyes, choking and having trouble breathing and many sick or dead birds, fish or small animals. If you suspect a chemical attack has occurred:

- Avoid the contaminated area. Either get away from the area or shelter in place, using the option that minimizes your exposure to the chemical.
- Wash with soap and water immediately if you were exposed to a chemical.
- Seek medical attention.
- Notify local law enforcement or health authorities.

Biological attack

A biological attack may not be immediately obvious. Patterns of unusual illnesses or a surge of sick people seeking medical treatment may be the first sign of an attack. If you believe there has been a suspicious release of biological substances:

- Quickly get away from the area.
- Cover your mouth and nose with layers of fabric, such as a t-shirt or towel.
- Wash with soap and water.
- Contact local law enforcement or health authorities.

The CDC has listed the following agents as Category A agents, meaning they pose the greatest potential public health threat: anthrax, botulism, plague, smallpox, tularemia and viral hemorrhagic fevers.

Pandemic Influenza

A pandemic is a worldwide disease outbreak. An influenza pandemic occurs when a new "Influenza A" virus emerges and there is little or no immunity in humans. A pandemic influenza virus causes serious illness and then spreads easily from person-to-person. It could be mild, moderate or very severe, even leading to death. The Federal Government, State of Utah and the Southwest Department of Health are taking steps to prepare for and respond to an influenza pandemic.

If a pandemic occurs, it is likely to last several months or possibly even longer. A widespread outbreak of influenza could require temporary changes in many areas of society, such as schools, work, transportation and other public services. Social distancing measures could be implemented where public gatherings such as sporting events, church meetings and others would be closed to prevent further spread of the disease. An informed and prepared public can take appropriate actions to decrease their risk during a pandemic. To be prepared for such an emergency, the Southwest Department of Health encourages individuals and families to:

- Adopt work/school procedures that encourage sick employees/students to stay home. Anticipate how to function with a significant portion of the workforce/school population absent due to illness or caring for ill family members.
- Practice good health habits, including eating a balanced diet, exercising daily, and getting sufficient rest. In addition, take common-sense steps to stop the spread of germs including frequent hand washing, covering coughs and sneezes. Staying away from others as much as possible when you are sick.
- Stay informed about pandemic influenza and be prepared to respond. Consult www.pandemicflu.gov frequently for updates on national and international information on pandemic influenza.

Have a plan:

- Stock up on supplies for an emergency (see the list in this booklet).
- Make a list for every member of your family of the following items: Current medical problems, prescriptions (include dosages) and allergies.

If the disease is severe and widespread:

- You may be asked to stay home from work/school if you are sick.
- Schools, churches and public gatherings such as sporting events may be cancelled.
- Stores may be closed and food and water may be hard to find.

Healthcare will be different than it is now. Doctors and hospitals may be overwhelmed and *you may be on your own* to take care of family members.

Additional Resources

Are You Ready? A Guide to Citizen Preparedness

www.fema.gov/areyouready

Federal Emergency Management Agency

www.fema.gov

U.S. Department of Homeland Security

www.ready.gov

American Red Cross

www.redcross.org

National Organization on Disability

www.nod.org

U.S. Department of Education

www.ed.gov

U.S. Fire Administration

www.usfa.fema.gov

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

www.cdc.gov

National Disaster Education Coalition

www.disastereducation.org

Southwest Department of Health

www.swuhealth.org

State of Utah Department of Emergency Services

www.des.utah.gov

Utah Department of Health

www.health.utah.gov

Emergency Phone Numbers

Life or Death Situations _____	911
Washington County Fire/Police/Medical Dispatch _____	911
St. George Fire Department _____	(435) 627-4150
Fire / EMS Dispatch (Non-Emergency) _____	(435) 627-4949
St. George City Police Department _____	(435) 627-4300
Poison Control _____	(800) 222-1222
St George Animal Control Shelter _____	(435) 627-4350

Public Utilities

Washington County Public Works _____	(435) 634-5780
Washington County Water Conservatory District _____	(435) 673-3617
Blue Stakes (Call before you dig) _____	811 or (800) 662-4111
Qwest Communications (Century Link) _____	(800) 244-1111
Dixie Power and Light (Outages & emergencies) _____	(435) 673-3297
Questar Gas (Gas line breaks, leaks & odors) _____	(800) 767-1689
Washington County Solid Waste Services _____	(435) 673-2813
Waste Disposal _____	(435) 673-2813

Other Numbers

Southwest Utah Health Department _____	(435) 673-3528
State-Wide Road Conditions (UHP) _____	511 or (866) 511-UTAH (8824)
Dixie Regional Medical Center _____	(435) 251-1000

You can Remove or copy the “Family Emergency Information” sheets from the guide and keep with your emergency kit for quick reference and information.

Family Emergency Information

Local Emergency Numbers

Police Emergency _____ Police Non-Emergency _____
Fire Department _____ Ambulance _____
County Health Dept. _____ County Emergency Mgmt. _____
Local Red Cross _____ Local Shelters _____

Family Members

Name _____ Date of Birth _____ Blood Type _____
Name _____ Date of Birth _____ Blood Type _____
Name _____ Date of Birth _____ Blood Type _____
Name _____ Date of Birth _____ Blood Type _____
Name _____ Date of Birth _____ Blood Type _____
Name _____ Date of Birth _____ Blood Type _____
Name _____ Date of Birth _____ Blood Type _____
Name _____ Date of Birth _____ Blood Type _____
Name _____ Date of Birth _____ Blood Type _____

Family Telephone Numbers

Name _____ Work _____ Phone _____
Name _____ Work _____ Phone _____
Name _____ Work _____ Phone _____
Child/Adult Care _____ Phone _____
Child's School _____ Phone _____
Child's School _____ Phone _____

Friend's & Neighbor's Numbers

Name _____ Phone _____
Name _____ Phone _____
Name _____ Phone _____
Name _____ Phone _____

Out-of-Town Contacts

Name _____ Phone _____
Name _____ Phone _____
Name _____ Phone _____

Rally Points

In-Town Address _____ Phone _____
In-Town Address Out- _____ Phone _____
of-Town Address Out- _____ Phone _____
of-Town Address _____ Phone _____

Medical Information

Doctor _____ Phone _____
 Doctor _____ Phone _____
 Doctor _____ Phone _____
 Doctor _____ Phone _____
 Dentist _____ Phone _____
 Pharmacy _____ Phone _____
 Medication Name _____
 Medication Name _____
 Medication Name _____
 Medication Name _____
 Medication Name _____
 Medication Name _____
 Veterinarian _____ Phone _____

Insurance Records

Company Name	Coverage Policy #	Date Issued	Expiration Date	Agent Name	Phone #
		/ /	/ /		
		/ /	/ /		
		/ /	/ /		

Department Name _____

Work Location address _____

Phone number _____

Supervisor name _____

Office Numbers _____

Utah Tech University Human Resources _____

Utah Tech University Police Security _____

Utah Tech University Risk Management & Safety _____

Utah Tech niversity Website _____

In the event of an emergency or disaster Utah Tech University employees first priority is ensuring the health and welfare of their own families. After ensuring your family is safe and cared for, please call your supervisor for instructions and/or return to work as soon as possible.

Family's trying to reach employees immediately after a disaster should try to contact their work number first, then their supervisor and finally the Human Resource Department.