



The Carbon Canyon Fire Safe Council's mission is: to preserve our canyon's natural and man-made resources on public and private property by development and enforcement of ecologically sound and appropriate fire safety measures.

FALL 2023 NEWSLETTER



The Freeway Complex Fire (2008) as it burns in Yorba Linda and Chino Hills State Park.

Credit: Claire Schlotterbeck

## They Are Coming Again. Hot Dry Winds. Are You Ready?

As the 15th anniversary of the devastating Freeway Complex Fire approaches, we are reminded of the risks of living in our fire prone area. That tragedy burned 30,000 acres and destroyed 314 residences.

As residents who live in and near wildlands we carry a special responsibility to protect ourselves by being watchful, wary, and aware. Although many fires start in the summer, the biggest fires occur in October and November when the Santa Ana winds blow. Decision makers and fire officials now acknowledge there is no longer a specific "fire season." Instead, it is year round. Based on past experience, we know our streets were not designed to accommodate a lot of cars plus big fire trucks and bulldozers at the same time. With this in mind, in case of fire, the best advice is to leave and leave early. Many lives are lost due to people panicking and leaving too late, finding themselves stuck on clogged streets. Be smart. Stay safe.

The Fire Safe Council continues to prioritize proactive measures to lessen risk to our community. Some of the things we have accomplished in the past 15 years include:

- ✓ Cleared the creek of non-native *Arundo donax*, dead palm trees, and other vegetation which will encourage the creek to slow the spread of fire rather than fuel it.

- ✓ Developed the Community Wildfire Protection Plan and just got it renewed for another five years making us a "Firewise Community" eligible for insurance discounts.
- ✓ Sponsored twice yearly free brush drop off days.
- ✓ Published twice yearly newsletters, educating residents on appropriate fire safety measures
- ✓ Created and distributed laminated community specific evacuation maps.
- ✓ Developed preparedness checklist and distributed go bags.
- ✓ Generated and have maintained cross county cooperation with fire agencies through the Fire Safe Council.
- ✓ Hosted Halloween event where we gather as a community with our Fire Departments.

### Halloween Fun: Sunday, October 29th 4:30 - 6:30 PM

Western Hills  
Golf Country Club  
1800 Carbon Canyon Rd.,  
Chino Hills

For info or questions:  
Call Austin Ott  
(909) 315-8835



# EVACUATION CHECKLIST

There will be fierce winds, high heat, and a severe fire threat this fall. Now is the time to get ready for that inevitability. Below is a useful list of suggested actions from experienced evacuees.

## PRE-PLANNING

- Find or print your Carbon Canyon Evacuation Route Map. <https://bit.ly/Evac-Guide>
- Sign up for emergency notifications:
  - Orange County residents: [www.AlertOC.com](http://www.AlertOC.com)
  - San Bernardino County residents: [www.SBCounty.gov/SBCFire/TENS/TENSContact.aspx](http://www.SBCounty.gov/SBCFire/TENS/TENSContact.aspx)
- Clear plant debris off your roof and remove branches overhanging your roof and eaves.
- Remove wood piles, boxes or high-growing vegetation next to your house and under your windows.
- Prepare equipment/carriers for pet evacuation.
- Document or film your household possessions.
- Go room to room NOW, making a list of what to take—we don't think clearly in a crisis and time crunch:
  - Important papers including insurance documents, deeds, and estate plans
  - Family heirlooms and jewelry
  - Cell phone, the charger, and/or address book
  - Photos and videos
  - Computer tower/laptop/back-up drives (monitors/keyboards are easily replaced)
  - Personal items to get you through the first few days (medication, eyeglasses)
  - Comfort items for children (blanket, pillow, stuffed animal, etc.)
  - Pet(s) - medications/leashes

## PREPARING TO EVACUATE

- Secure house pets in a bathroom until you are ready to leave. (*Smoke and noises may cause them to hide.*)
- Park your cars in the driveway facing the street.
  - If you leave your car in the garage, be prepared to disengage and lift open the automatic garage door if the power fails. Be sure to close the garage door when you evacuate to keep embers out.
- Place valuables in the car for quick departure if necessary.
- Shut off the air conditioner and/or heater and close all windows and doors. (*This prevents embers from being sucked inside.*)
- Move propane tanks and combustible yard furniture away from the house or put it into a swimming pool.
- Turn on a light in each room, on the porch, and in the yard. (*This makes the house more visible in heavy smoke or darkness.*)
- Close all doors inside the house. (*This slows the spread of fire from room to room if your house does catch fire.*)
- Apply firefighting foam or put it out for the firefighters.
- Move furniture away from windows and open all curtains and drapes.
- Consider placing items in your pool that can withstand the water (like your silver and crystal). (*This saves space in your car for other important valuables.*)

## EVACUATING

- Close your garage door, but leave it unlocked.
- Close all doors and unlock outside gates.
- Turn off sprinklers and running water.  
(*This could affect water pressure of fire hydrants.*)
- Follow your pre-planned evacuation route and follow instructions of officials.





# Fuel Reduction Program

**Brush drop off and green waste dumpster  
available to Carbon Canyon residents**

**Date: Saturday,  
October 7th  
8 AM - 1 PM**

**Next to Fire Station 64 at  
16231 Canon Ln. in Chino Hills**



**Contents must be bundled and please  
be prepared to unload your own brush**

*Volunteers will be available on-site for those with special needs*

**FREE TO RESIDENTS ONLY**

*Please bring ID, Utility Bill or Canyon Resident Pass*

**BE PREPARED! AVOID FINES!**



Donations Accepted  
Federal Tax ID # 91-2166978

Learn more at:  
[www.CarbonCanyonFSC.org](http://www.CarbonCanyonFSC.org)  
or call 909-315-8835

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Carbon Canyon FSC

P.O. Box 1328

Chino Hills, CA 91709-0045

## Are You Ready?

Property owners and residents in areas most at risk are encouraged to take the steps in the CAL FIRE "Ready, Set, Go!" program to be ready for wildfire. Learn more on the CAL FIRE website: <https://www.ReadyForWildfire.org/>

- **Be Ready:** Create and maintain defensible space and harden your home against flying embers.
- **Get Set:** Prepare your family and home ahead of time for the possibility of having to evacuate. Ensure you have a plan of what to take and where to go. Ask friends or relatives outside your area if you would be able to stay with them, should the need arise.
- **Be Ready to Go!:** When wildfire strikes, go early for your safety. Take the evacuation steps necessary to give your family and home the best chance of surviving a wildfire.

View the newsletter on the Fire Safe Council's website. (Use your phone's camera to scan this image.)



## Red Flag Day



A Red Flag Warning means warm temperatures, very low humidities, and very strong winds are expected to combine to produce an increased risk of fire danger. Pay extra attention on red flag days.

## Like Us on Facebook



The Council's effectiveness depends on community support. You can help us build that by liking our Facebook page. And, once you've liked it, invite your friends to like it too!

<https://wwwFacebook.com/UniteCanyon/>

## Great Information

- The Fire Safe Council website has a lot of helpful tips and links. Visit: [www.CarbonCanyonFSC.org](http://www.CarbonCanyonFSC.org)
- Follow us on Facebook: <https://www.Facebook.com/UniteCanyon>
- Prepare your family and home ahead of time. Visit: [ReadyForWildfire.org](http://ReadyForWildfire.org)

## Quick Reference Guide

All Wildlife Rescue Line	562-434-0141
Brea's Carbon Canyon Road Hotline	714-990-7732
Brea Fire Department	714-990-7655
California Poison Control System	800-222-1222
Carbon Canyon Fire Safe Council	909-315-8835
Chino Hills' Road Condition Hotline	909-364-2828
Chino Valley Fire District	909-902-5280
City of Chino Hills	909-364-2600
City of Brea	714-990-7600
National Pesticide Info Center	800-858-7378