

Firewise e-mail 4 April 9, 2019

Have you prepared your family?

Evacuation plans for families with young children should include helping toddlers understand how to quickly respond in case of fire, and how adults can escape with babies. Prepare ahead of time by practicing your family's fire escape plan, and what to do to be safe when there is a wildfire nearby.

It is important to talk to toddlers and small children at a level that they understand and that does not frighten. Here are a few resources that offer guides and tips for families with young children about fire safety and preparing for a disaster:

- [A Parent's Guide to Fire Safety for Babies and Toddlers](#) : The U.S. Fire Administration's information site for parents and caregivers to help prevent fire death of young children.
- [Let's Get Ready! Planning Together for Emergencies](#) : Sesame Workshop campaign with tips, activities, and other easy tools to help the whole family prepare for emergencies.
- [Ready.gov Kids](#) : FEMA's site for older kids to prepare and plan for a disaster. Includes safety steps, tips, and games to help children learn about and be ready for an emergency.
- [Smokey Kids](#) : U.S. Forest Service's interactive Smokey Bear site with games, information and resources on how to prevent forest fires.

Preparing Seniors and Disabled Family Members

Seniors and people with disabilities also need special consideration when preparing for a disaster. Below are several resources that help individuals and families with special needs plan and prepare for an event such as a wildfire.

- [Special Populations Fire-Safe Checklist](#) : U.S. Fire Administration's fire safety guide for individuals with special needs to help them protect themselves and their home from fire.
- [Disaster Preparedness for Senior by Seniors](#) : The American Red Cross booklet designed by and for older adults to prepare them for a sudden emergency.
- [Disaster Preparedness for People with Disabilities](#) : American Red Cross Disaster Services booklet with information and resources to help people with physical, visual, auditory, or cognitive disabilities design a personal disaster plan.
- [Emergency Preparedness for People with Disabilities and Other Vulnerable Populations](#) : Inclusive Preparedness Center website with information and resources for emergency planning.
- [Disability.gov Personal Preparedness Guide](#) : Resource site for people with disabilities that gives information on necessary supplies, evacuation procedures and how to assist pets and service animals in the event of a disaster.