

BACKPACK EMERGENCY

Go Kit!

A WILDFIRE COULD KNOCK OUT YOUR CELL PHONE!

*Make a plan, build your emergency “Go Kit”
and get back to normal faster!*

What would you do if there was a wildfire and you were stuck at school or home alone? It sounds scary, but if you plan ahead of time you'll have the things you need, making it easier to leave your house quickly, and in the case of an evacuation, to make your temporary housing situation more comfortable.

And when fire ignites trees, grass and shrubs and burns into neighborhoods, not only do houses burn, but power lines can get knocked down and there is no electricity to pump gas for the car, get money out of an ATM machine, or to let you recharge your cell phone. Wildfires can also destroy cell towers making it impossible for you to use your cell phone, tablet or laptop even if they are charged. Planning before a wildfire can help you get back to normal sooner.

So what can you do to prepare for a wildfire emergency?

A lot! Follow these key steps to help you get started:

- » Bring your parents and talk to school officials to learn about their plans in case of a wildfire or other emergency.
- » Create an emergency plan with your family, including knowing where to meet if you are separated
- » Build your own “Go Kit,” (a backpack works great) to keep at home—something as unique and awesome as you are! The kit will not only provide comfort during rough times but it will also allow you to be better prepared to help someone else if they need it.
- » Create a “secret password” with your parents—one that only you and they know. In case you are home alone and need a ride, your parents can provide the password to the family friend or neighbor who picks you up. That way, you will know this person can be trusted. Remember to change the password once it is used.
- » Create a second “Go Kit” to keep at school. **Before including any items in your backpack for school, make sure to check with the school about any items you may not be allowed to carry on school grounds.**



NATIONAL FIRE PROTECTION ASSOCIATION

The leading information and knowledge resource on fire, electrical and related hazards



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Continued



Suggested items and actions to take to complete your Go Kit (you can probably think of a few more!)

IMPORTANT CONTACTS

- » Fill a small notebook with information about your important contacts. Ask your parents or guardians to help get this information for you:
 - Work and cell phone numbers for your parent(s) or guardian(s), as well as their work address and an alternate contact at their work in case they are away from their phone.
- » Phone numbers of relative(s) who live out of state, in case local cell towers don't work.
- » Addresses and phone numbers of your closest friends.
- » Names/addresses of three safe locations to meet in case you are away from home and school, such as the local library, a friend or neighbor's home, local police station, hospital, or community center.
- » Information about any medical condition you have or medication that you are on and the name and phone number of your doctor.
- » If you wear glasses, the prescription information for them.
- » Phone numbers for neighbors. They may be able to check on your home or pets.



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