



PREVENT, GET INFORMED, GET PREPARED

What is a wildfire?

A wildfire or forest fire is an uncontrolled fire that spreads through rural or urban vegetation endangering people, property and the environment. Wildfires are the number one cause of woodland destruction in the world. In Chile approximately 50,000 hectares are affected by wildfires every year. Wildfires not only destroy forests and grassland, they also destroy homes, livestock, sources of employment and even human lives. They affect and alter entire ecosystems. 99% of wildfires are human-caused, through negligence, the mishandling of bonfires or arson. Note that during the spring and summer months in Chile (September to March), the high temperatures, wind and dry conditions increase the risk of wildfire outbreaks that spread more easily.

SENAPRED

Av. Beaucheff 1671, Santiago, Chile.

Integral Information and Citizen Assistance System (SIAC)

Citizen Service Office
600 586 7700

www.senapred.cl

With the support of



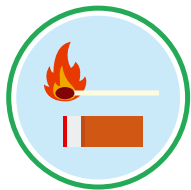
PREVENT

get informed, get prepared



Wildfires





HOW TO PREVENT WILDFIRES?

Never drop cigarette ends or lit matches on the ground in rural areas. You could start a wildfire.



If you live near grassland or forests, keep the area around your home clear of vegetation and debris.



Do not light bonfires in areas close to grassland and forests.



If you need to light a fire, always take the following precautions:

- Clear away any grass, leaves, branches or other fire hazards from the area.
- Demarcate the fire area (using sand, bricks or gullies) to prevent the fire from spreading.
- Always have fire extinguishing elements nearby (dirt/water).



IN THE EVENT OF A WILDFIRE:

Report the wildfire to CONAF (130), the Fire Service (132) and the police (133).



Evacuate the area immediately.



Cover your nose and mouth with a handkerchief or cloth to avoid smoke inhalation.



When evacuating, keep monitoring the behaviour of the wildfire.



If you are ordered to evacuate, follow the instructions given by officials.



If you are near shallow open water (rivers, lakes or lagoons), this could serve as an evacuation route.



Do not return to a burned area. Hotspots can reactivate at any time.



Stay informed and follow instructions given by officials.

GENERAL CONSIDERATIONS FOR EMERGENCY SCENARIOS

- Get familiarized with your surroundings. Find out the hazard potential of where you live or where you are visiting and learn about the emergency plan of the respective local government.
- An emergency does not only affect people- keep in mind that animals and pets are also affected.
- Elaborate and put into practice your Ready-to-Act Family Plan. Visit www.senapred.cl
- Always have an Emergency Kit on hand. Visit www.senapred.cl
- Disasters, whether of natural or social origin, do NOT affect us all equally. Disasters have different impacts on the life quality of women, children and men, the elderly, people with disabilities and ethnic groups, among others. Therefore, the vulnerabilities, needs and capabilities of each of these groups must be considered.