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# California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection

# CDF NEWS RELEASE



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## CDF Issues Fire Safety Warning

**Sacramento-** The California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CDF) reminds Californians that historically September and October are the busiest months of fire season. The department is urging residents to do their part to be fire safe during this critical time.

Here are some tips all citizen can use to prevent wildfires:

- **DON'T toss cigarettes out** your car window.
- Don't pull off into dry grass or brush. Hot exhaust pipes and mufflers can start fires that can't be seen.
- [Do your defensible space clearing before 10 a.m. and after 6 p.m., not in the heat of the day or when the wind is blowing. \(Remember, 100 feet of defensible space around homes and structures is the law.\)](#)
- [Remove any rocks in the area before you begin operating any equipment. A rock struck by a metal blade can be enough to spark a fire.](#)
- [In wildland areas, spark arresters are required on all portable gasoline powered equipment. This includes tractors, chainsaws, weed eaters, mowers, motorcycles and All Terrain Vehicles \(ATVs\)](#)
- [When camping, ensure that all campfires are completely extinguished and cold before you leave the area.](#)
- [Report any suspicious activity. Call the CDF Arson Hotline: 1-800-468-4408.](#)

Ninety-five percent of all wildland fires within CDF's jurisdiction are human-caused; please do your part to prevent wildfires. For more fire safety tips visit the CDF website at [www.fire.ca.gov](http://www.fire.ca.gov)