

CAL FIRE NEWS RELEASE

California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection Amador-El Dorado Unit

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Wildfire Awareness Week - Get Prepared NOW!

Camino –Wildfire Awareness Week (WAW) will run from Sunday May 5th through Saturday May 11th and will highlight the importance of the homeowner's role in preparing their property ahead of time so that it has the best chance of surviving a wildfire. So far this year, California has experienced below average rainfall across the state leading to a drought condition, so as temperatures rise, fire danger will quickly and dramatically increase. "Fire season has begun a little earlier than it has in years past," says CAL FIRE's Amador-El Dorado-Sacramento Unit Chief Kelly Keenan, "that's why residents should take the time now, while they have the opportunity and the grass is still green, to make sure they are ready."

CAL FIRE's "**Ready, Set, Go!**" fire preparedness program begins with maintaining 100 feet of Defensible Space around each structure and "hardening your home" utilizing fire resistant building materials. It continues by encouraging everyone to create a Wildfire Action Plan and closes with an Evacuation guide. "This week is the perfect time for residents to begin now getting themselves ready for a wildfire" said Chief Keenan, "if you implement our Ready, Set, Go program, you will have given you and your family the best chance of surviving a wildfire."

For more information, please visit our website, www.ReadyForWildfire.org. This site offers steps residents should take to make their home more resistant to wildfires and to ensure that their family is ready to evacuate.

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