

CAL FIRE NEWS RELEASE

California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection



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CAL FIRE Staffs Up as Fire Danger Increases Homeowners asked to prepare for Wildfires

Sacramento – Following the recent warmer temperatures and drying conditions, CAL FIRE will increase its staffing in northern California for fire season. Starting Monday, June 13 CAL FIRE will be transitioning into fire season in most parts of northern California, including the counties of Amador, El Dorado, Nevada, Yuba, Placer, Tuolumne, Calaveras, Alameda, Contra Costa, Santa Clara, Stanislaus, San Joaquin, Butte, Tehama, Glenn, Shasta, Trinity, & Siskiyou. Over the past month, CAL FIRE has been hiring and training seasonals to augment its full-time firefighters and will now staff most of the department's seasonal fire stations around the clock.

While the above average rainfall has led to a lower fire risk the past month, it has also led to an abundance of grass and brush. Despite the unusually wet and extended spring, temperatures have already begun to increase and all the grass and brush has begun to dry out enough to raise the risk for wildfires.

With fire season now officially underway, CAL FIRE is asking homeowners to ensure that they are prepared for wildfires and that every home have 100 feet of Defensible Space.

Here are some tips to help prepare your home:

- Maintain 100 feet of Defensible Space
- Clear all needles and leaves from roofs, eaves and rain gutters.
- Trim branches six feet from the ground.
- Use trimming, mowing and power equipment before 10 a.m. and after 6 p.m.
- Landscape with fire resistant plants.
- Use fire resistant building materials on your home.

For more information on preparing for wildfires and defensible space www.readyforwildfire.org.