

## Executive Department

State of California

### PROCLAMATION

Last year, California experienced two of the most destructive wildfires in the state's history. Tens of thousands of acres burned and thousands of structures were destroyed. As drought conditions continue, the citizens of California must do their part to help protect lives, property and our state's natural resources.

Wildfires are a natural, periodic occurrence in California. Many native species depend on cyclical fires for survival. Unfortunately, this natural process often conflicts with human land use, and careless or malicious human activity causes many fires that would not have occurred naturally. In order to continue to enjoy the economic and recreational benefits of our wilderness lands, we must strive to achieve a balance between California's fire ecology and the need to protect human life and property.

Firefighting alone cannot protect us, and every citizen, especially those living in fire-prone areas, has an important role in preventing loss of life and property from wildfire events. This week, we should all do our part to raise public awareness of the fire season that is already upon us, and take steps to protect lives, homes and families in the event of a wildfire.

In conjunction with Wildfire Awareness Week, CAL FIRE has launched a campaign to educate homeowners on the steps they should take to prepare themselves for wildfire. This potentially lifesaving information can be found at [www.ReadyForWildfire.org](http://www.ReadyForWildfire.org).

**NOW THEREFORE I, EDMUND G. BROWN JR.**, Governor of the State of California, do hereby proclaim May 1-7, 2016 as "Wildfire Awareness Week."

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF** I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of California to be affixed this 29<sup>th</sup> day of April 2016.



  
EDMUND G. BROWN JR.  
Governor of California

**ATTEST:**

  
ALEX PADILLA  
Secretary of State

