

Wildfires: Lessons Learned

A large, intense wildfire with bright orange and yellow flames rising into the air. In the foreground, two firefighters in dark gear are silhouetted against the fire, one appearing to be working on a structure or equipment. The background is a dense wall of fire.

Service Learning Project: Final Lab Project
By: Charity Hastings

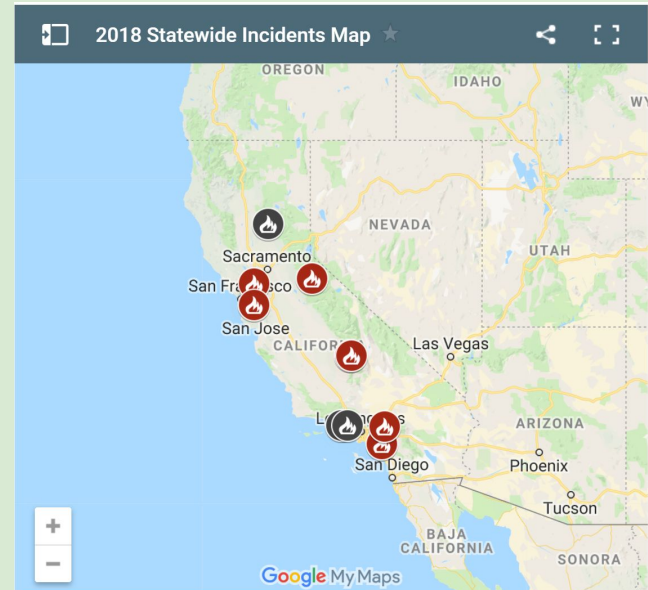
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Paradise Lost - - The wildfires of Paradise in November 2018 had devastating effects.



What can we learn?

- Is it possible to prevent wildfires?
 - If yes, what can we do?
- How can we prepare?
- What to do if this happens in your neighborhood?



Prevention is Possible

According to CalFire, **one less spark = one less wildfire**

Use caution when using equipment, burning debris, using vehicles, and having open campfires.

Check out CALFIRE's "One Less Spark"

Campaign [HERE](#)



No fire is 100% Preventable

No, not even a good rake job can do the trick.

The key to mitigating damage and saving lives is preparation.

Create a **disaster supply kit** and have a **family emergency plan**.

Do not hesitate when asked to evacuate. Prepare for the worst, hope for the best.

Family Emergency Plan

The best way to ease worry is to have a plan. Make a plan and make sure your whole family is aware of the plan. Ready.gov provides several templates for creating your family plan that consider all types of family situations. Get your template [HERE](#) and get started today!



The Aftermath

1. Seek Medical Attention for Injuries
2. Stay Calm and Level headed
3. Check in with the Fire Department before re-entering your home
4. Wear proper attire if re-entering your home (long pants, work boots, gloves, safety goggles).

The [American Red Cross](#) provides a ton of information on how to check your home after a fire and start the clean up.



Take Action

- Be prepared
 - The best way to reduce the fear of the unknown is to be prepared
 - Have a disaster kit
 - Have a family emergency plan
- Be informed
 - I learned some lessons first hand from evacuees, simple things like keep your gas tank full so you can get out quick and have enough leashes and pet carriers for all your pets
- Help others
 - The Red Cross is an amazing resource to victims of disasters and you can help in many ways. Financial aid is always welcome.
 - Donate [HERE](#) to help support victims of home fires.

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