



WILDFIRE CHECKLIST

Protect your property and business during wildfire season.

Wildfires are common throughout the United States. Over the past 10 years, there was an average of 67,000 wildfires annually and an average of 7 million acres burned per year. With statistics like this, it's important for your short-term rental business to be proactive when it comes to fire protection.

Before a Fire

- Place fire extinguishers in strategic, convenient locations. Inspect these fire extinguishers on a regular basis.
- Create a buffer between your short-term rental property and potential fire hazards. Remove dead plants and trees. For living vegetation, trim and space out trees and shrubs. Regularly clean roofs and gutters, removing any debris that may catch fire.
- Consider installing noncombustible roof coverings, double glazing your windows, swapping out doors for ones with metal cores, and placing metal hoods on plastic plumbing vents where they penetrate your roof.



Before a Fire (Continued)

- Inspect all chimneys at least twice a year, and clean them at least once a year. Keep the dampers in good working order. Equip chimneys and stovepipes with a spark arrester that meets the requirements of the National Fire Protection Association Standard 211. Contact your local fire department for exact specifications.
- Keep an eye on your local news and official fire announcements to help keep track of wildfires.
- Develop and implement a plan for how you will communicate with guests during a fire. Keep a well-stocked emergency kit on hand, including flashlights, extra batteries, first-aid kits, nonperishable foods, bottled water, and an easily accessible ladder if guests need to be rescued from the roof.
- Develop a business contingency plan and a financial crisis strategy.
- Review your insurance policy and ensure you have adequate coverage.
- Ensure important documents for your property are placed in fire-safe lock boxes and/or electronically stored.



Be Prepared:

Nearly 85% of wildfires in the U.S. are caused by humans. Often, these fires are the result of unattended campfires, the burning of debris, equipment use and malfunctions, negligently discarded cigarettes and intentional acts of arson. You never know when a wildfire could strike. Make sure if one does, you and your guests are prepared.

When a Fire Starts Near Your Property

- Immediately notify guests staying at the property.
- Adhere to all wildfire announcements and evacuation orders.
- Ask guests to close all doors and windows, but do not lock them. Ask that they also leave the lights on in the property to aid firefighters.
- Continually check for embers on the roof or attic.
- Have guests go to predetermined shelter area if there is no time to evacuate.



After a Fire

- Check with local fire officials before visiting your rental property.
- Assess the damage, taking photos and videos as needed.
- Contact your insurance provider.
- Work with contractors to evaluate the costs of repairs.

The CBIZ Advantage:

You property is one of your largest assets. Set yourself up for a successful recovery after a disaster. Ensure that you have adequate insurance coverage to prepare for disasters like wildfires. Federal catastrophe grants are usually not enough to rebuild a property.

**CONTACT AN EXPERT FOR A FREE CONSULTATION,
COVERAGE COMPARISON AND RISK ASSESSMENT TODAY.**

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Like all insurance policies, all coverages are subject to the terms, provisions, exclusions, and conditions in the policy and its endorsements. In an actual claim situation, coverage is subject to the terms, conditions, and exclusions of the policy issued. The reader is advised to contact a professional prior to taking any action based upon this information.

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