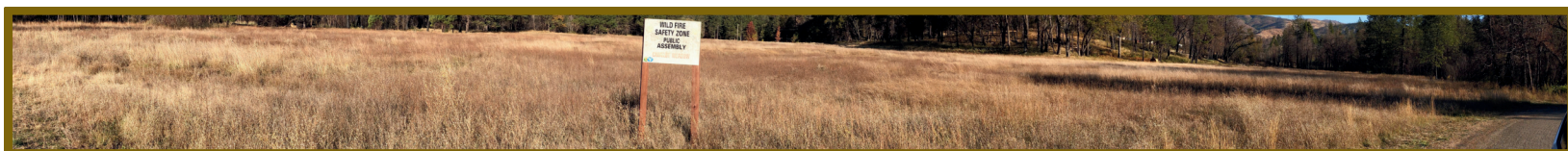


# ESCAPE

## WILDFIRE EVACUATION PLANNING

Get Started and Explore **ESCAPE** Modules

Learn how ESCAPE (WUI Fire **E**vacuation and **S**heltering **C**onsiderations — **A**ssessment, **P**lanning, and **E**xecution) provides crucial guidance for wildfire evacuation planning, enhancing life safety for civilians and first responders.



## THE FIVE **ESCAPE** MODULES



### Why are **WUI Fires** so **Dangerous**?

Discover how wildfires behave in the wildland-urban interface (WUI), why they move so quickly through neighborhoods, and what makes them more dangerous than many other disasters.



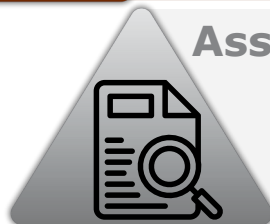
### What are the **Evacuation Options**?

Learn why traditional evacuation plans often fall short during wildfires, and explore life-saving alternatives like sheltering in place, Temporary Fire Refuge Areas (TFRAs), and other innovative strategies.



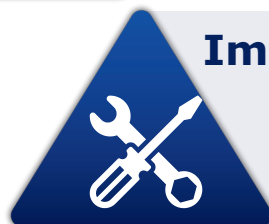
### An **Implemental Path Forward**.

Understand how to use fire modeling, timelines, and decision zones to develop responsive, community-specific evacuation strategies that adapt as fire conditions evolve.



### **Assessment, Planning, and Execution.**

Get practical guidance on assessing risks, creating evacuation plans, and making informed decisions before and during a wildfire.



### **Implementation Tools.**

Access downloadable checklists, templates, and tools to help put your wildfire evacuation plans into action.



**USE  
TOWARDS  
CONTINUED  
EDUCATION  
EFFORTS**

# NIST ESCAPE WILDFIRE EVACUATION PLANNING

Get Started and Explore **ESCAPE** Modules



## Why WUI Fires are so Dangerous

Participants will learn about:

- How wildfires behave in WUI areas
- Why WUI fires move faster and are less predictable
- The concept of “no-notice” fire events
- Risks from embers, radiant heat, and structure-to-structure ignition
- Why traditional evacuation timelines may not apply
- The consequences of delayed evacuation



## What are the Evacuation Options?

Participants will explore:

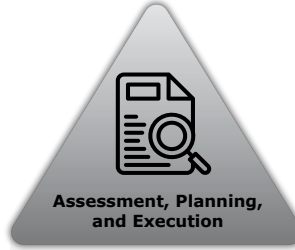
- Common causes of evacuation failure
- The difference between evacuation, shelter-in-place, and stay-and-defend strategies
- How and when to use Temporary Fire Refuge Areas (TFRAs)
- The range of potential fire exposures during evacuation
- Tools and tactics to reduce life safety risks
- Flexible solutions when evacuation isn't possible



## An Implemental Path Forward.

Participants will understand:

- How to interpret and plan around fire behavior timelines
- Scenario-based evacuation planning (e.g. with or without time to act)
- The value of integrating fire spread modeling into evacuation strategies
- How to create and use evacuation decision zones
- The Evacuation Triangle and how time, fire, and decisions interact
- Action triggers based on fire conditions



## Assessment, Planning, and Execution

Participants will gain insight into:

- Assessing risks using terrain, population, and infrastructure data
- Choosing between full and partial evacuations
- Inclusive planning with agencies, responders, and the public
- Creating adaptable evacuation protocols
- Executing strategies before, during, and after ignition
- Preparing for high-risk days with drills and pre-positioned resources



## Implementation Tools

Participants will access:

- Evacuation planning checklists
- TFRA mapping templates and signage examples
- Community drill guides and communication flowcharts
- Downloadable ESCAPE reports and case studies
- NIST and FEMA contact directories
- A searchable FAQ with wildfire evacuation essentials

Together, these five modules will give you a clear understanding of WUI fire behavior, practical evacuation strategies, decision-making tools, and real-world planning resources you can use to strengthen community wildfire readiness.

## View the Full Course at

# [HTTPS://ESCAPE.NIST.GOV](https://escape.nist.gov)

*For the best experience, we recommend **using a desktop or laptop.** Mobile devices may not support all interactive features.*