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## 4. Quik-Ref

The Quik-Refs in these BoonieLiving pamphlets are designed to provide both fast retrieval of specific data and mid-level depth and comparisons. There are four sections:

- Acronyms:** Abbreviations spelled out in columns, to save space  
**Glossary:** Definitions, comparisons, statistical data, etc.  
**Resources:** More complete than the basic references given in the final FAQ. All items listed are annotated concerning scope and/or quality.  
**Directory:** Names, addresses, and places of companies and government agencies with products or information relevant to this topic.

### *Acronyms & Other Abbreviations*

The following abbreviations are either used in this pamphlet or might be encountered in your other reading. Locations in this pamphlet where more information can be found are indicated in parentheses.

<b>BLM</b>	Bureau of Land Management	<b>NIFC</b>	National Interagency Fire Center
<b>BOCC</b>	Board of County Commissioners	<b>NPS</b>	National Park Service
<b>CCFA</b>	Clear Creek Fire Authority	<b>PDF</b>	Portable Document Format
<b>CDW</b>	Colorado Division of Wildlife	<b>USDA</b>	US Dept. of Agriculture
<b>CO</b>	certificate of occupancy	<b>USFS</b>	US Forest Service
<b>CSFS</b>	Colorado State Forest Service	<b>WUI</b>	wildland-urban interface
<b>EPN</b>	Emergency Preparedness Network		
<b>NASF</b>	National Association of State Foresters		

### *Glossary*

#### Term

xxx. *See also:* xxx

#### access

One of the most critical factors to whether a house can be saved. Length and width of driveway, number and tightness of the curves, overhanging branches, closeness to the house – all are considered in decision whether the house can be saved. If you are used to off-road recreation, you would be surprised at the width, slope, overhead, and switchback criteria that a fire truck requires; check with your local fire department.

#### batteries

If you're using photovoltaic (solar) energy, you should make the local fire department aware of that fact – and of the location of the batteries.

#### broadcast burn

Burning of ground cover and low shrubs in order to remove ladder fuel.

## "Chipper" Program

"Chippers" are machines that grind up **slash** and other **ladder fuel**, which can then be used in gardens and for ground covering. The material is also accepted by the County Transfer Station. Clear Creek rents a chipper for \$50/day, but there is a long waiting list; see the "Directory" under "Clear Creek County". They can also be rented commercially, or purchased.

## cistern

An external tank, normally 500-1500 gallons, and usually (but not necessarily) buried that firefighters can use as a water source – although it may also have other uses. In many Western locales (including Colorado), regulations prohibit well water being used to fill a residential unless it is for emergency or household use ("emergency" being defined as something so imminent that there's not time to fill the cistern!); but in many areas, runoff and snow melt can be diverted to keep the tank full. Having a cistern may or may not earn fire **mitigation** points, but it will generally get you a discount on your fire insurance. Compare **holding tank**.

## class "C"

A designation for roofing materials. Class "C" is highly fire resistant and includes: xxxx.

## crown fire

A fire that jumps from the top of one tree to the top of the next. It does this very rapidly, so crown fires spread quickly and threaten homes suddenly. Keeping a forest fire out of the crowns is the main reason for clearing **ladder fuel** (including pruning lower branches) and for thinning in accordance with standard **forest management practices**.

## defensible space

A standard concept (only slightly modified by local governments to meet local conditions) which establishes three encircling zones around a residence:

**Zone 1:** Closest to the house (normally about 15 feet from **everything**. (This means from the outer eaves, the farthest extremity of the deck, and from a tree inside the 15-foot border.)

**Zone 2:** Outside of Zone 1. Keep trees xx feet apart (measured from the widest branches, not from trunks); prune lower branches to a height of at least 10 feet; clean up and remove all ladder fuel (use the **loop and scatter** technique if disposal is impossible). Depth of the zone extends from 75 to 125 feet; use the larger distance on the downhill and/or upwind side of the house. Be careful that trees left in Zone 2 are unlikely to fall and block access to house. Keep firewood stored in Zone 2 at least 30 feet from the house **and in no case, place any wood under the deck**.

**Zone 3:** From Zone 2 to the property line. Use normal forest management practices, particularly **thinning**, (see \_\_\_\_\_ in the "Resources", below).

Fig. 1 in §3 ("Aspects of Fire Mitigation") shows zones 1 & 2 in a typical configuration.

## duff

The densely packed, decomposing pine needles (as contrasted to the loose ones on top). The loose ones should be removed in creating defensible space, but the duff should not.

## Emergency Preparedness Network

The automatic notification system used by Clear Creek County, similar to Reverse-911. There are limitations that you should know about:

- It is not yet equipped to transmit to cell phones.
- Phones that block unidentified or computer-generated calls cannot receive it.
- It works on phones within a radius, and fires are rarely circular; therefore, to get all phones in the longest direction of the fire, the circle normally includes phones in other directions that are not affected.
- The recording is triggered by a 3-second silence – so don't pause in the middle of your greeting, and don't hang up if the party on the other end doesn't start talking immediately.
- It is extremely expensive (c. \$1 per call!!), so it will not be used for status updates.

## fire extinguishers

An excellent idea where fire support is miles away over rough roads. Many groups recommend one in the kitchen and wherever else burning occurs. If you install them, get the kind with a pressure gauge check it quarterly.

## fire rating

The resistance of building materials to heat. The rating is by letter ("A" being the highest); the measurement is in time. xxx.

**Class A:** slate, rock, metal. *[at least for roofs]*

xxx. xxx

For more information, see the **Exterior** pamphlet. *[How about "roofs" and "walls" here?]*

## FireWise

A widely accepted set of standards for construction, xxxx

## firewood

Do not store within 30 feet, and preferably uphill, of the house. ***In all cases, keep it away from the side of the house, particularly under the deck!!!*** Keep flammable material away from the woodpile.

## forest management

*[summarize here, or keep distributed?]*

## fuel cells

A new technology which will become more prevalent in coming years. It uses hydrogen, so it is important that your fire department know their existence and location.

## Fuels Reduction

(Sometimes called Hazardous Fuels Treatment). A group of fairly well coordinated plans between USFS, NPS, state forestry organizations, and other agencies to reduce wildfire threats, particularly along a WUI. Techniques include thinning, ladder fuel removal, broadcast burning, and clear cutting.. Action is normally lead by the Forest service and almost always includes an EA and period of public comment. In August 2001, announcement of a program to reduce fuels around the Columbine Campground in Gilpin County resulted in action in xxxx.

## heat traps

Corners and crevices (particularly eaves and other overhangs) where heat collects. These are normally the places where the outer shell will ignite first, and where the fire will enter the building.

## holding tank

The large (normally 300-600-gallon) internal tank filled by the well pump. In most houses that do not have a **cistern**, the water in a full holding tank can be extremely valuable to fire fighters. The "Evacuation Checklist" (Appendix C) includes a step to fill the holding tank before leaving.

## Home Rule

Roughly equivalent to "incorporated towns" in other states. A major difference (implied by the name) is that these towns have particular authority – often more authority than the county itself.

## insurance

Mortgages require insurance – but often just enough to service the unpaid balance. You probably want to be sure it stays in pace with replacement costs. Shop around; some companies provide better service, and some companies give more of a reduction for fire prevention measures you take.

## ladder fuel

Grass, pine needles, pine cones, twigs, and branches on the ground; shrubs; and branches below 10 feet on the trunk of trees. Dead lower branches on pine trees are particularly dangerous: they are dry, resin-filled, surrounded by air, and high enough off the ground to transmit fire directly to the **crown**. Collect and discard all ladder fuel in Zone 2. (Exceptions are the **lop and scatter** technique when disposal is impossible, and leaving a very few mounds of twigs and underbrush at the outer edge of the zone for use of small animals.

## lop-and-scatter

Cutting and scattering widely all **ladder fuel** in Zone 2. Because you can almost always either remove or burn it, lop-and-scatter should be the last (and rarely necessary) resort.

## propane tank

Should be at least 30 feet from the house and approximately level to it. (If above the house, a leak would flow downhill; if below the house, a fire would spread more easily uphill.)

## pruning

Prune all trees in Zone 2 below 10 feet from the ground. Dispose by removal, burning if permitted, or (as a last resort) by **lop and scatter**. *See also: thinning.*

## retardant

A mixture of (non-nitrate) fertilizer and water, colored red for visibility. It is spread ahead of (not onto) the fire in order to slow its spread. Retardant is slippery (extremely dangerous on steep slopes), and can damage some materials. Clean any of it off your buildings when you are allowed to return home.

## "Reverse-911"

A trademarked term (like "Xerox", "Kleenex", "Coke", and "aspirin") that is often used in a generic sense to mean any notification by a government of an emergency situation. Unlike "aspirin" (for which trademark rights have expired and has therefore entered the public domain), "Reverse-911" is still protected. Strictly speaking, Clear Creek County's notification system is **Emergency Preparedness Network**.

## roofs

xxx

**Class A:** Slate, rock, metal, tile, etc.

**Class B:** xxx

**Class C:** xxx. The absolute minimum required for wildfire protection.

Anyone who has any doubts concerning the vital importance of avoiding shake or shingle roofs should view *any* aerial footage of *any* Los Angeles wildfire during *any* year: the houses you can still see did not have wood roofs; most of the black rectangles once did.

## slash

The branches resulting from **pruning**. Dispose by removal, burning, (as a last resort) by **lop and scatter**.

## snags

Standing dead trees. They are a good news/bad news situation for forest management: they provide refuge, dens, and perches for a wide variety of wildlife, but (particularly on slopes) they are a threat to spread fire because when they burn enough to fall, they can roll downhill, igniting unburned vegetation as they go. Extremely dry living trees torch more spectacularly than snags, because they still have oils in them, but their root structure is likely to be strong enough to leave them standing after the fire passes.

## thinning

Thin trees in both Zone 2 and Zone 3. In Zone 2, keep trees 20 feet apart (measured from outermost branches, not from trunks); in Zone 3, use standard forest management procedures (which vary according to tree type, terrain, and forest use; see pamphlet \_\_\_\_). The thinning in Zone 2 is primarily for fire mitigation; the rationale in Zone 3 is primarily to create healthy forests, but fire mitigation is an important benefit.

## wildfire

Includes fires in forest, brush, or grasslands. The broader term is needed, because people are finding "boonies" in almost any rural area.

## wildland-urban interface (WUI)

A broad term to indicate where civilization meets the wilderness; it *might* occasionally be urban, more likely rural or semi-wild. The bureaucrat that coined the term probably couldn't picture what the interface really looks like.

## "WUI grants"

Matching (50/50) grants administered by the Colorado Forest Service for upgrade of *existing* residences to meet *approved* fire resistance standards. In Clear Creek County, the Site Development Coordinator (see "Directory" in §4.)

## Resources

*[Do we want to classify this? Cisterns, and others might be separate]*

*[Colorado resources are over-represented here for two reasons: the authors live there, and it's been a haven for boonie living for a long time. Equivalent resources for other states can be found in the **Book of the States**.]*

## Printed Materials

**BoonieLiving** \_\_\_\_ pamphlet

[annotation]

**Clear Creek Curreant. 22-May-02 (special fire edition)**

[Eight page special edition. Slightly heavy on interesting historical background; also covers construction, landscaping & defensible space, evacuation, etc.]

**Creating Wildfire Defensible Zones. Ft. Collins, CO: Colorado State University Cooperative Extension Publication 6.302.**

["Natural Resources Series", by F. C. Dennis, Wildfire Hazard Mitigation Coordinator (contact information, in "Directory", below).]

**Fire-Resistant Landscaping. Ft. Collins, CO: Colorado State University Cooperative Extension Publication 6.303.**

["Natural Resources Series", by F. C. Dennis, Wildfire Hazard Mitigation Coordinator (contact information, in "Directory", below).]

**FireWise Construction. Colorado State Forest Service.**

[annot]

**Firewise Plant Materials. Ft. Collins, CO: Colorado State University Cooperative Extension Publication 6.305.**

["Natural Resources Series", by F. C. Dennis, Wildfire Hazard Mitigation Coordinator (contact information, in "Directory", below).]

**Forest Home Fire Safety. Ft. Collins, CO: Colorado State University Cooperative Extension Publication 6.304.**

["Natural Resources Series", by F. C. Dennis, Wildfire Hazard Mitigation Coordinator (contact information, in "Directory", below). Also available online: [www.ext.colostate.edu/pubs/natres/06304](http://www.ext.colostate.edu/pubs/natres/06304)]

**Home Fire Protection in the Wildland Urban Interface. Colorado State Forest Service.**

[annot]

**Landowner Guide to Thinning. Colorado State Forest Service.**

[annot]

***Living with Fire: A Guide for the Homeowner.*** Reno, Nevada: Univ. Nevada, 1999.

[annotation]

**"Natural Resources Series".** By F. C. Dennis. Colorado State University Cooperative Extension.

[More than 30 pamphlets. Also available online: [www.ext.colostate.edu/pubs/natres/](http://www.ext.colostate.edu/pubs/natres/)]

***Prunning Deciduous Trees.*** Colorado State University Cooperative Extension Publication 7.207.

[annot]

***Pruning Evergreens.*** Colorado State University Cooperative Extension Publication 7.205.

[annot]

***Pruning Shrubs.*** Colorado State University Cooperative Extension Publication 7.206.

[annot]

**Slack, Peter.** *Firewise Construction: Design and Materials.* N.p.: Colo. State Forest Service, n.d.

[annotation]

***Wildfire Protection in the Wildland Urban Interface.*** Colorado State Forest Service.

[annot]

## Online Materials

**Colorado State Forest Service Website.** xxxx

[Popular "Firewise"]

**Firewise Website.** [Http://www.firewise.org](http://www.firewise.org)

[Best source of basic and intermediate information for homeowners: print, videos, events, teachers' materials. Many groups support it, link to it, or provide content. The URL for the Colorado subsection is .../co/] ]

**National Fire Plan Website.** [www.fireplan.gov](http://www.fireplan.gov)

[Collaboration between USDA, USFS, Dept. Interior, & NASF. A wealth of bureaucratic data (news, government projects, dozens of links)—but only if you have a good connection; the pages load very slowly. For basic/intermediate information]

**National Interagency Fire Center Website.** [Http://www.nifc.gov](http://www.nifc.gov)

[Good source of basic information and 24-hour-old news. Main weakness is PR emphasis.]

**"Natural Resources Series".** By F. C. Dennis. Colorado State University Cooperative Extension.

[Http://www.ext.colostate.edu/pubs/natres/](http://www.ext.colostate.edu/pubs/natres/)

[More than 30 pamphlets, each available in PDF or HTML. Also available in print; see directory (below).]

**Smokey Bear Website.** [Http://www.smokeybear.com](http://www.smokeybear.com)

[Excellent for kids.]

## **Directory**

### **Clear Creek County**

405 Argentine St., Georgetown, CO 80444  
303/679-2300

#### **Site Development Coordinator** (xt. 421)

[Source of Firewise and defensible space information. Will conduct pre- and post-modification inspections to ensure compliance with county regulations and good practices. Source of information concerning "WUI grants".]

#### **Office of Emergency Management** (303/567-4577)

[The most important county office during fire operations. Also runs the county's "chipper" program.]

#### **Sheriff's Office.** (303/567-3232)

[Receives notification of misuse on public or private lands. Will pursue within its jurisdiction, or forward to appropriate agency.]

### **Colorado State Forest Service**

Colorado State University, xxx, Fort Collins, CO 80523-5060  
970/491-6303 | Golden Office: 303/279-9757  
[annot]

#### **Wildfire Hazard Mitigation Coordinator**

F. C. Dennis

address

[Author of several of the pamphlets listed under "Printed Materials" above.]

### **Colorado State Univ. Cooperative Ext.**

115 General Services Bldg., Fort Collins, CO 80523-4061  
970/491-6198 | Fax: 970/491-2961 | cerc@vines.colostate.edu

[Issuer of many of the publications cited under "Printed Materials" above.]

### **US Forest Service, Chicago Creek Ranger Station**

address

[annot]

## 5. Appendixes

### App. A: Wildfire-Resistant Vegetation

Defensible Space Zones 1 and 2 need not look bare and denuded in order to provide effective fire breaks. Table A lists 40 ground covers, shrubs, and trees that will both grow in the Colorado Rockies and provide resistance to wildfires. Decorative rock works even better, but xxxx.

**Table A: Wildfire-Resistant Vegetation**

Name	Water Need	Sun or Shade	Mature Height	Max Elev.
<b>Flowers &amp; Ground Covers</b>				
Columbian monkshood	M-H	S	2 ft	9000 ft
Sea thrift	L-M	S-PS	1-2 ft	7000 ft
Mouse ear chickweed	M	S-PS	1 ft	8000 ft
Delphinium	M-H	S-PS	6 in – 3 ft	9000 ft
Western wallflower	M	S-PS	1 ft	8000 ft
Rock rose	M-H	S	< 1 ft	7000 ft
Coral bells	M-H	PS-Sh	1-2 ft	9000 ft
Wild blue flax	L-H	S-PS	1-2 ft	9000 ft
Moss phlox	M	S	< 6 in	9000 ft
Spring potentilla	M-H	PS-Sh	< 6 in	9000 ft
Black-eyed Susan	M-H	S	2-3 ft	9000 ft
Yellow stonecrop	M	S-PS	6 in	9000 ft
Fendler meadowrue	H	S-PS	2-3 ft	9000 ft
<b>Shrubs</b>				
Bog birch	H	S-PS	6-8 ft	9000 ft
Redtwig dogwood	H	S-PS	4-6 ft	9000 ft
Spreading cotoneaster	M	S-PS	2-3 ft	8000 ft
Burning bush eunonymus	M	S-Sh	1-6 ft	7000 ft
Oregon grape holly	M-H	S-Sh	4-6 ft	7000 ft
Creeping grape holly	L-H	S-Sh	1-2 ft	9000 ft
Little-leaf mockorange	M	S-Sh	2-3 ft	8000 ft
Shubby cinquefoil	M	S-PS	2-3 ft	9000 ft
Western sand cherry	L-M	S	1-3 ft	8000 ft
Golden currant	M	S-PS	2-3 ft	9000 ft
Wood's (or native) wildrose	M	S-PS	2-3 ft	9000 ft
Snowberry / coralberry	M	S-PS	2-3 ft	9000 ft
Highbush cranberry	H	S	6-8 ft	9000 ft
Spanish bayonet / Great Plains Yucca	L	S-PS	2-3 ft	8000 ft

Trees & Other Large Plants				
Rocky Mountain maple	M-H	S-Sh	6-10 ft	9000 ft
Thinleaf alder	H	S-PS	6-8 ft	9000 ft
Utah serviceberry	L	S	4-6 ft	6000 ft
River birch	H	S-PS	6-8 ft	9000 ft
Hawthorn	M	S	6-8 ft	9000 ft
Green ash	M-H	S	20-25 ft	8000 ft
Honeylocust	M-H	S	60-70 ft	6000 ft
Crabapple	M	S	1-15 ft	8000 ft
Aspen	M	S	8-25 ft	9000 ft
American wild plum	M	S-PS	4-6 ft	8000 ft
Flowering plum	M	S-PS	8-10 ft	7000 ft
Western chokecherry	M-H	S-PS	6-8 ft	9000 ft
Boulder raspberry / thimbleweed	M	S-Sh	4-6 ft	9000 ft
Peachleaf willow	H	S-PS	20-30 ft	8000 ft

**Key:**    **L** = low        **M** = med        **H** = high  
              **S** = sunny      **PS** = partly sunny      **Sh** = shade      < = less than

## App. B: Wildfire Mitigation Annual Checklist

The checklist in Table 1 should be addressed each spring. It was developed by the Colorado State Forest Service (see "Directory" in §4).

**Table B: Wildfire Mitigation Annual Checklist**

- ☐ Thin and prune trees and shrubs according to the specifications of each Defensible Space zone. Dispose of the slash properly.
- ☐ Clear debris from roofs and gutters.
- ☐ Remove branches overhanging roof and within 10 feet of chimney.
- ☐ Check condition of chimney screens.
- ☐ Mow grass and weeds to specifications in zones 1 and 2.
- ☐ Check condition of external water supply and ensure that hose is available that can reach all parts of the house.
- ☐ Check internal fire extinguishers.
- ☐ Ensure driveways are clear and still wide enough for fire vehicles.
- ☐ Ensure that road signs and your name and house number are still visible.
- ☐ Ensure that tools storage area is accessible and has rakes, hoes, axes, and shovels.
- ☐ Review with entire household escape routes, meeting points, and other procedural details.
- ☐ Ensure that all vents (attic, roof, eaves, foundation, etc.) are screened and in good condition.
- ☐ Remove all trash, debris, and wood from zone 1.
- ☐ Check that your local fire department has updated information concerning your house (location of water, tools, power connections, solar batteries, etc.).

**Note:** This last item is particularly important if you are serviced by a volunteer fire department; turnover in such cases can be high if two or three residents move.

## App. C: Evacuation Checklist

### *How to Use the Checklist*

1. If you're reading this online, print it out. If possible, copy it on to heavy paper.
2. Go over it **before the crisis**, discussing how to accomplish each item **during the crisis**. Make assignments
3. Fill out the Checklist (pages 2 & 3). The time frames are obviously approximate; no one knows if, much less when, an evacuation will be ordered.
4. When evacuation becomes a possibility, do each step and note results. [Some suggestions below.]
5. Post the Checklist (and any note you think useful for the fire fighters) on your front door as you leave. Protect it somehow (laminates, zip-loc bag, etc.). Keep it brief and clear; they will be very busy.

### *Suggestions for Filling Out the Checklist*

The following items on the checklist might need clarification:

**Wildfire Mitigation Checklist (App. A):** Go through it again, with special attention to gutters, vents, Defensible Space Zone 1, large vehicle access.

**Doors:** Latch any door that tends to blow open (remember: fires can create tremendous wind). If applicable, leave note for fire fighters concerning latched doors.

**Separate Note to Fire Fighters:** Include other items, such as fire retardant features that aren't obvious. Write several hours prior, so you can rewrite, if necessary. Include major items only: fire fighters will be busy.

**Remember, this Checklist has three, equally important, goals:**

1. Action items for you
2. Information for firefighters
3. Argument that your house is save-able.

So fill it out and post it with items #2 and 3 in mind!

**Note:** Paper copies are available from Bill Sanders (PO Box 1490, Idaho Springs 80452). Free to GCCHLA members; \$1.00 each plus SASE for all others. **Improvements welcomed at email above.**

# Fire Evacuation Checklist

## (Post on Door)

Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_ House Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Contact Info: \_\_\_\_\_

Locations: \_\_\_\_\_ Batteries \_\_\_\_\_ Water sources  
\_\_\_\_\_ Propane Tank \_\_\_\_\_ Tool shed  
\_\_\_\_\_ Ladder(s) \_\_\_\_\_

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### *When Fire First Starts*

- ☐ If you haven't already done so, make a detailed inventory of personal items. Include purchase date & price, replacement cost, whether covered by insurance, etc. Store one copy off premises.
- ☐ Make a list of items to take either for use while gone or for safekeeping: papers (e.g., insurance, birth certificates, passports, & the inventory above), checkbook/credit card, ID, medicines, clothes, water, food, toiletries, pet supplies, etc.
- ☐ Review (or begin) the annual Wildfire Mitigation Checklist, particularly gutters, access, and defensible space.
- ☐ Fell any trees/limbs that you have been gambling on saving.
- ☐ Determine best radio news source on the fire. (Possibly K-Goat, particularly after the Saxon Mtn. upgrade.)
- ☐ Take "before" photos of inside and outside. Take the film with you when you leave.
- ☐ Make sure you have at least ½ tank of gas in the car(s) you will use to leave. Fill chain saw & pumps.
- ☐ Disconnect blockage of unidentified phone calls so that "Reverse-911" can be received.

### *1 Day Before Evacuation*

- ☐ Go over plans with family and close friend/relative not in fire area. Include rendez-vous point.
- ☐ If possible evacuate pets, livestock, and non-essential humans.
- ☐ Begin close checks on phone answering machine for reverse-911 notifications.
- ☐ If possible, get animals away from fire area.

### *6-12 Hours Before Evacuation*

- ☐ Fill water holding tank. Top off after significant use.
- ☐ Attach hoses to outside faucets. Charge, but keep nozzles shut. If roof is wood, attach one hose to sprinkler and place on roof (but do not turn on).
- ☐ Compose note to firefighters to place on front door. (Hand tools, chain saw, holding tank, cistern, etc.)
- ☐ Change into cotton or wool clothing (no nylon or combustible); put on sturdy footwear.
- ☐ Park all vehicles (a) out of way (garage preferable), (b) facing outward, (c) keys in ignition, (d) windows up.
- ☐ Disconnect electronic garage door opener (manual operation).

(over)

- ☐ Close or cover exterior vents, but do not use combustible materials to do so.
- ☐ Get combustible lawn furniture well away from structures.
- ☐ Begin loading car with valuables previously identified.
- ☐ Fill sinks, bathtubs, garbage pails, etc., with water. Place large towels, small rugs, burlap bags nearby.
- ☐ If applicable leave fueled portable pump next to cistern stream, or lake. (Make note to firefighters.)
- ☐ Round up all remaining pets (and their supplies) so that they can be evacuated immediately.

### ***1-2 Hours Before Evacuation***

- ☐ Shut off propane at the tank and at the house. Extinguish pilot lights.
- ☐ Erect ladder to roof (preferably away from fire direction. (Location: \_\_\_\_\_)  
Place second ladder to deck, if applicable: (Location: \_\_\_\_\_)
- ☐ Remove (or at least open) combustible curtains; close fire-resistant curtains or venetian blinds.
- ☐ Move combustible furniture to center of rooms.
- ☐ Turn on light in every room and on porch.
- ☐ Close **every** window; close **every** door you're not actually using. Leave all unlocked.
- ☐ Top off water in holding tank.
- ☐ Open fireplace damper, but place screen in front of hearth.

### ***As You Leave***

- ☐ Check doors (closed), windows (closed), lights (one on in every room).
- ☐ Place this checklist and any note in plastic bag and post where firefighters can see it.
- ☐ Drive away with headlights on. Follow evacuation route indicated; your favorite shortcut may have been affected by the fire or efforts to suppress it.

### ***While You Are Gone***

- ☐ Contact insurance agent(s) immediately. Tell them where you're staying.
- ☐ Keep **all** receipts. Don't determine by yourself what is, and isn't, covered.

### ***When You Return***

- ☐ Check phone, utilities, etc. Be sure pilot lights are lit before using gas appliances.
- ☐ Ventilate house if smoke in area is not too heavy. Unblock vents. Clean up fire retardant. If fire touched house, check roof and attic carefully.
- ☐ Inventory losses & report immediately. Use the "before" inventory as your starting point.
- ☐ Take "after" photos (before and after cleanup).
- ☐ If fire came close, watch for snags, hot spots, etc. and notify fire department **immediately**.
- ☐ Make any temporary repairs you can, particularly to reseal the outer shell from further damage. Do not wait for reimbursements to do so.

- Get a detailed estimate of repairs and forward to agent(s)/adjuster(s). One estimate is sufficient at this point.

## Intellectual Property

The following trademarks, registered trademarks, and service marks are held as indicated.

<b>Mark</b>	<b>Ownership</b>
BoonieLiving™	BoonieLiving, LLC
Emergency Preparedness Network	xxx
FireWise	xxx
Reverse-911	xxx
xxx®	xxx.

Other marks are the properties of their respective owners.

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