

# PERSONAL PROTECTIVE CLOTHING AND EQUIPMENT PPE

## WHAT TO WEAR DURING A WILDFIRE EVACUATION

Prepared Jan 2020 (rev. 7-2021)  
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# WILDFIRE EVACUATION



**MULTIPLE THREATS EXIST THAT CAN AFFECT YOUR ABILITY TO ESCAPE A WILDFIRE  
AND AFFECT YOUR ABILITY TO STAY CALM, THINK CLEARLY, AND TO BE ABLE TO  
REACT APPROPRIATELY WHEN YOU CAN'T**

**SEE, BREATHE, KEEP MOVING, OR NEED TO SEEK TEMPORARY SAFETY REFUGE OR  
SHELTER SHOULD YOU HAVE TO LEAVE YOUR RESIDENCE OR VEHICLE AND THE FIRE  
IS MOVING RAPIDLY THROUGH THE AREA.**

# DURING EVACUATION YOU MAY ENCOUNTER

## *WILDFIRE CONDITIONS AND THREATS DANGEROUS TO LIFE AND HEALTH*

### **MULTIPLE THREATS THAT CAN AFFECT YOUR ABILITY TO ESCAPE A WILDFIRE:**

When evacuating from wildfire areas citizens need to be prepared to face a hostile and life-threatening environment where they can be exposed to:

HIGH AMBIENT TEMPS    DRY HEAT 90-100+ Degrees F

CONVECTED HEAT

DIRECT FLAME CONTACT

HEAVY SMOKE

HOT OBJECTS

SEARING HOT WIND

DIFFICULTY BREATHING

EMBERS OR FIREBRANDS

ASH, DUST

FLYING DEBRIS

NIGHTTIME or LIMITED VISIBILITY in Heavy Smoke

BLOCKED ROAD OR ROUTE

DOWNTOWN POWER LINES

DOWNTOWN TREES

VEHICLES DRIVING THROUGH SMOKE

PANICKED CITIZENS, UNPREDICTABLE BEHAVIOR



# PERSONAL PROTECTIVE CLOTHING & EQUIPMENT PPE

Safety recommendations for citizens during wildfire evacuation and possible entrapment situations during evacuation.

(these are recommendations only and do not make any claim or guarantee anyone's degree of personal safety or use of any products during a wildfire emergency evacuation.)

# BASIC ITEMS

## HEADWEAR

HAT with chin strap or tie, preferably with a neck covering to prevent embers.



Wide-Brimmed,  
Firm Shape  
not easily blown flat

**Or HELMET with chin strap Can use Construction Helmet**



**EYES Use Goggles with adjustable strap. Enclosed type, padded**



Influx\_FirePro\_FS\_Goggles



ESS Firefighter\_Rubber\_Goggles\_Smokeless



# I. RESPIRATORY PROTECTION

PROTECT YOUR AIRWAY FROM  
SMOKE-DUST-FUMES

FACE MASK DUST MASK



## II. BODY PROTECTION

### A. HANDS GLOVES

LEATHER GLOVES with WRIST COVER (best)





## B. UPPER BODY PROTECTION

**JACKET OR OVERCOAT Long-Sleeve**

**SHIRT Long-Sleeve**

**Multiple Layers Best**

Leather



Propper Wildland Shirt - Tecasafe Plus  
CAL/OSHA NFPA 1977

100% Heavy Cotton



### Materials -No Synthetics

- **LEATHER** Jacket (Lightweight)
- **COTTON** Burns, will not melt (Flame Resistant Treated, best type)
- **WOOL** Inherently Flame Resistant (7.5 oz. Serge Wool)
- **NOMEX/KEVLAR/PBI** Flame Resistant
- **Two-layers** PREFERRED

## C. LOWER BODY

### PANTS



#### Materials

- |           |                            |
|-----------|----------------------------|
| 1. COTTON | Burns, will not melt       |
| 2. WOOL   | Inherently Flame Resistant |
| 3. NOMEX  | Flame Resistant            |

Nomex/Kevlar (Very High Cost)



## D. FOOTWEAR

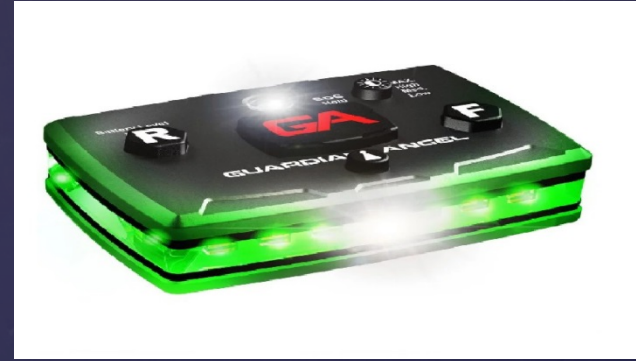
**BOOTS** or closed toe Shoes  
(No Sandals)

**LEATHER** Hightop or Lowtop

EXAMPLES:







# Safety, Visibility, Alerting, and Warning Devices

# PROTECTION FROM RADIANT HEAT



[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=G\\_TLR\\_GeYiU](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=G_TLR_GeYiU)

## **USE:**

- **YOUR VEHICLE**
- **PROTECTIVE CLOTHING**
- **ALUMINIZED BLANKET**
- **WOOL BLANKET (100% 7.5 Oz Fabric Weight)**
- **USE SOLID OBJECT as a Barrier GET LOW TO THE GROUND**



# EXTREME FIRE BEHAVIOR

## Flame Sheets, Spotting, Area Ignition, Ember-Streams



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Jvy2siEwOZ0>

<https://abcnews.go.com/International/astonishing-video-shows-australian-fire-crew-survive-overrun/story?id=68002645>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4ONQSjkRWi8>