



Protecting Against the Threat of Wildfires

Dear Neighbor,

Protecting you and your family from the threat of wildfires is our company's highest priority. Taking important actions to reduce the risk of wildfires has long been a focus for us, and today we continue to look for ways to enhance our operational practices and strengthen our infrastructure to address the increased threat of wildfires.

The 2017 wildfire season demonstrated the increased threat of wildfires in California. Wildfires threaten not only our homes, our lives and our economy, but also our fight to reduce California's carbon footprint. Without action, things will only get worse. It will lead to a hotter and drier California. With the reality of a now year-round wildfire season, we must all take significant measures to help mitigate these risks under the new normal conditions in our state.

As a community member, who has a home or business in a high fire risk area, we are writing you today to share information about what we at SCE are doing to help mitigate wildfire risks. We also want you to know that we are hosting community meetings throughout our service territory to share more details about our Wildfire Mitigation Program, including our Public Safety Power Shutoff protocol and other efforts to help keep our customers and communities safe. You should receive information about a meeting in your area soon.

What is a Public Safety Power Shutoff?

When extreme fire conditions — such as high winds — present a clear danger to the public, we may shut off power in high fire risk areas. De-energizing customers is not something we take lightly. Being without power can be disruptive to you and your family and it is our intention to use this protocol sparingly to manage only the most extreme conditions. We view these Public Safety Power Shutoffs as a last resort, only after a number of other operational practices have been exhausted.

Should a Public Safety Power Shutoff be likely, we will attempt to notify you prior to shutting your power off. In order for us to do this, it is important for us to have your most updated contact information. **Please call us at 1-800-655-4555, or sign up online for our “Outage Alerts” at SCE.com and click on My Account > Profile > Outage Alert Preferences.**

To learn more about Public Safety Power Shutoffs, visit www.sce.com/wildfire.

Ready to Respond Together

Roughly a quarter of our service territory, covering about 9 million acres, is considered to be in high fire risk areas. California's wildfire season is now year-round. Nothing is more important than the safety of you, your family and your community.

We have a comprehensive wildfire safety program to address this. It includes, but is not limited to, the following:

- Working closely with local fire agencies and coordinating on response plans
- Partnering with and funding nonprofits that work on various fire mitigation efforts, such as the California Conservation Corps (which helps remove excess brush that can fuel fires)
- Aggressively pruning trees and vegetation adjacent to power lines
- Using technologies to advance fire safety throughout our system (e.g. weather stations and real-time cameras to monitor high fire risk areas)

As we share more about SCE's ongoing efforts to keep you and your family safe, we encourage you to take steps to learn more about how you can be prepared. Please consider taking a moment to do the following:

- Visit the CAL FIRE website at www.readyforwildfire.org to learn more about defensible space, hardening your home and fire safe landscaping
- Inquire about your city/county vegetation ordinances
- Visit your county's Office of Emergency Service website to learn important information about what to do and where to go in emergencies
- Develop and practice a customized family disaster plan

Safety Tips for Outages and Emergency Events

- Customers with a medical condition that requires electric-powered life support equipment should be sure to have a backup power system in place or make other plans for health and welfare during an outage.
- If you use medical equipment in your home, SCE offers a Medical Baseline program. To learn more about the program and its benefits, including enrollment, please visit sce.com or call SCE at 1-800-655-4555.
- If you have electric gates, learn how to operate them manually. Notify any security companies that monitor your home or business.
- Shut off or disconnect all sensitive electronics before the outage to prevent damage or loss of data. If you have a portable gas generator, identify an outdoor location where you can safely use it during a power outage. Never use it indoors.
- Never connect a generator directly to your home's circuit breaker panel. This can cause "backfeeding," which poses serious electrocution risks for utility workers when trying to restore your power.
- Only use a UL-approved extension cord and power strip for your most critical loads (e.g., lights, refrigerator, computer or medical equipment).
- Consider extra fuel for your generator for extended outages since local fueling stations may be without power as well. Keep fuel in approved containers and in a safe location away from ignition sources.

