

Wildfire

Wildfires are a recurring hazard throughout Southern California and can spread rapidly due to dry vegetation, steep terrain, low humidity, and strong winds. The Master's University is located in a wildfire-prone region, making preparedness and early action essential to protecting life and property. Wildfire incidents may develop over several hours or escalate within minutes, requiring immediate response and adherence to emergency instructions.

The Master's University Emergency Management Department, in coordination with Campus Safety and local emergency response agencies, continuously monitors wildfire threats and is prepared to implement protective actions, including evacuation or shelter-in-place procedures when necessary.

Response Options: Evacuate, Shelter, Prepare

EVACUATE – Preferred Option When Directed

If instructed to evacuate by emergency officials, Campus Safety, or university administration, evacuate immediately.

- Remain calm and act quickly.
- Take only essential items, including:
 - Cell phone and charger
 - Medications
 - Identification and wallet
 - Keys
 - Necessary personal items
- Wear closed-toe shoes and clothing that covers your arms and legs.
- Follow designated evacuation routes and instructions from university officials.
- Leave campus immediately and proceed to the designated evacuation or reunification location.
- Assist others if you can do so safely.

- Do not delay evacuation to gather additional belongings.
- Monitor official TMU communications for updates and instructions.

SHELTER-IN-PLACE

If evacuation is not immediately possible or if directed to shelter due to smoke conditions or rapidly changing fire behavior:

- Move indoors to a building designated by university officials.
- Close and secure all doors and windows.
- Shut off fans or ventilation systems if instructed.
- Stay away from windows and exterior doors.
- Monitor emergency notifications and official university communications.
- Remain indoors until directed otherwise by emergency personnel.

PREPARE

Wildfire preparedness begins before an emergency occurs.

- Familiarize yourself with campus evacuation routes and assembly locations.
- Register for Mustang Alert emergency notifications.
- Keep your cell phone charged during periods of elevated fire danger.
- Prepare a personal "go bag" with essential items.
- Monitor local weather conditions and Red Flag Warnings.
- Review emergency procedures regularly.

During a Wildfire Emergency

When it is safe to do so:

- Call 911 to report immediate threats to life or property.
- Contact TMU Campus Safety at (661) 713-7561.
- Report:
 - The location of visible fire or smoke
 - Any trapped or injured persons
 - Hazardous conditions affecting evacuation routes

During an Evacuation

- Follow all instructions from Campus Safety, law enforcement, fire personnel, and university officials.
- Stay on designated roadways and evacuation routes.
- Keep vehicle windows closed and headlights on.
- Do not return to evacuated areas until authorized by emergency officials.
- Be prepared for traffic congestion and changing conditions.

After the Incident

- Return to campus only after an official all-clear has been issued.
- Avoid damaged buildings, downed power lines, and areas with heavy smoke or debris.
- Seek medical attention for injuries or smoke-related symptoms.
- Monitor official TMU communications for recovery information and support resources.

Remember: Early evacuation is the safest option during a wildfire emergency. Always follow instructions from emergency responders and university officials.

