

How Fire Weather Information Works

The following graphic explains how fire weather information moves from the National Weather Service to the Berkeley Fire Department, then to people who live in the Berkeley Hills. It also explains what community members should do during a Red Flag Warning or Extreme Fire Weather, and how the City prepares for dangerous fire weather.

1. National Weather Service

The National Weather Service monitors weather conditions and issues Red Flag Warnings, including Red Flag Warnings designated as Particularly Dangerous Situations.

A Red Flag Warning means weather conditions could support rapid fire growth. A Particularly Dangerous Situation identifies especially severe fire weather conditions.

The graphic shows this information moving from the National Weather Service to the Berkeley Fire Department.

2. Berkeley Fire Department

The Berkeley Fire Department reviews and evaluates Red Flag Warnings issued by the National Weather Service.

When a Red Flag Warning is marked as a Particularly Dangerous Situation by the National Weather Service, the Berkeley Fire Department will declare **Extreme Fire Weather**.

The graphic shows information moving from the Berkeley Fire Department to Berkeley Hills community members.

3. Berkeley Hills community members

Residents receive fire weather information, including Red Flag Warnings and Particularly Dangerous Situations, through **AC Alert** and **Genasys Protect**.

Community members should take protective actions based on the alert level. The graphic distinguishes between two levels of action:

During a Red Flag Warning: residents should prepare and increase their readiness. Recommended actions include keeping your phone on and with you so you can receive alerts, backing your car into your driveway, keeping a go-bag by the door, and checking in with neighbors so you can help one another.

During Extreme Fire Weather: more urgent action is needed. Residents of the **Upper Berkeley Hills and Panoramic Hill** should leave before a fire starts. These areas have particularly high wildfire and evacuation risk.

Residents in other Berkeley Hills areas should **pack their cars and be ready to leave quickly**.

Residents are encouraged to plan ahead using the City's Fire Weather Planning Worksheets at **bit.ly/MyEvacuationPlan**.

What the City does during dangerous fire weather

The graphic also shows several actions the City may take to prepare for and respond to dangerous fire weather:

- Activate the Emergency Operations Center.
- Increase staffing, including police staffing, to provide additional coverage and support faster response.
- Stage fire equipment and other resources in strategic locations.
- Increase communication and coordination among City departments and partner agencies.
- Prepare for rapid response if a fire starts.

HOW FIRE WEATHER INFORMATION WORKS



1. NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE (NWS)



Monitors weather conditions and issues Red Flag Warnings, including Particularly Dangerous Situations.



2. BERKELEY FIRE DEPARTMENT



Reviews and evaluates Red Flag Warnings.

In Particularly Dangerous Situations, Berkeley Fire Department declares **Extreme Fire Weather.**



3. HILLS COMMUNITY MEMBERS



Receive fire weather alerts through AC Alert and Genasys Protect.

Take protective actions based on the alert level.



WHAT HILLS COMMUNITY MEMBERS SHOULD DO



RED FLAG WARNING



Keep your phone on and with you to receive alerts



Back your car into your driveway



Keep a go-bag by the door



Check in with neighbors to help each other



EXTREME FIRE WEATHER



More intense action is needed.



If you live in the Upper Berkeley Hills or Panoramic Hill: **leave before a fire starts.**



If you live in other hills areas: **pack your car** and be ready to **leave quickly.**



Plan ahead so you can act quickly when it matters. Use the Fire Weather Planning Worksheets to help you prepare:

<https://bit.ly/MyEvacuationPlan>



CITY OF BERKELEY

WHAT YOUR CITY DOES



Activate Emergency Operations Center



Upstaff personnel, including police, for increased coverage and faster response.



Stage equipment and resources in strategic locations.



Enhance communication and coordination across agencies.



Prepare for rapid response with plans in place in case a fire occurs.