

## Elsinore Valley Strong

*Making the Most of Your Time in Fire Country*

Even without a lot of time or money, there are many things you can do to help protect your property and neighborhood from a wildfire and its firebrands.

### Roads

- Make your home address visible.
- Remove dead, dying and diseased vegetation from 10 feet on either side.
- Create off-street parking (if possible).
- Manage overhanging branches.
- Communicate and negotiate with neighbors.

### Structures

- Clean roof and gutters.
- Ensure all openings are screened.
- Manage seams and fill gaps.
- Paint, if not sand, all peeling paint.
- Make your address visible.

### The First 30 Feet

- Remove all flammable items within the first 5 feet!
- Remove dead, dying and diseased vegetation.
- Plant fire retardant and fire resistant plants.
- Maintain an inviting driveway.
- Do not let your plants dry out.

### Outlying Areas / To Property Line

- Remove dead, dying and diseased vegetation.
- Control the buildup of weeds through mechanical clearing.
- Make and maintain escape routes.

### Additional Resources

**Riverside County Fire Department:** <http://www.rvcfire.org/Pages/default.aspx>

Along with detailed fire hazard maps, the county provides public education material.

**California FireSafe Council:** <https://cafiresafecouncil.org>

Along with a mountain of effective public education material, FireSafe also provides grants for fire protection work at a community scale.

**National Fire Protection Association: FIREWISE USA:** <https://www.nfpa.org>

A warehouse for everything fire, including an incredible variety of literature on living safely in fire country.

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## Elsinore Valley Strong: Perennials for Fire Country

### *Low Growing and Rooting*

***Achillea* spp.** Yarrow. Meadow natives from Southern California. Can dry to 4" spring and summer, 6" in fall. No irrigation in winter.

***Armeria* spp.** Sea pink or Thrift. Coastal plant. Dry to 4" to 5" between watering in spring through fall, but only to 2" to 3" inland. Dry to 6" in winter.

***Calylophus* spp.** Sundrops. Favors dry conditions and can dry to 6" along coast and 4" inland spring and summer, dry to a 1' in fall. No irrigation in winter.

***Ceratostigma plumbaginoides*** Dwarf plumbago. Dry to 4" in sandy soils (its preference) and to 6" in clay.

***Convolvulus mauritanicus*, *C. sabatius*** Ground morning glory. Dry to 5" along coast; 3" to 4" inland. Suffers from overwatering in clay soils.

***Dymondia margaretae*** Dymondia. This grows best if only slightly dry between watering; dry to 3" in spring and summer, 5" in fall. No irrigation in winter.

***Erigeron karvinskianus*** Mexican daisy or Santa Barbara daisy. Drought and fire-adapted. Let dry to 4" in spring, 6" in summer and fall. No irrigation in winter.

***Gazania hybrids*** Gazania. In the hotter, drier areas gazania looks better if only dried to 2" to 4" year-round.

***Heuchera* spp.** Coral bells or Alum root. Some Southern California natives. Winter dormant. Dry to just 4" spring, 6" in summer and fall. No irrigation in winter.

***Nepeta cataria*** Catnip. Dry to 3" in sandy soils, but up to 6" in clay soils in spring through fall. No irrigation in winter.

***Oenothera elata hookeri*** Hooker's evening primrose. Prefers a wet winter and spring, drying to only 3", and a dry summer and fall, drying to 6" or more.

***Osteospermum fruticosum*** African daisy, Freeway daisy. Drought-adapted, but it looks better if irrigated. Dry to 4" - 6" throughout the year.

***Pelargonium* spp.** Common geranium, Ivy geranium, Martha Washington. Dry to 4" in spring and summer, 6" in fall and winter.

***Salvia chamaedryoides*** Germander sage. Dry to only 6" winter and spring, but 9" in summer and 1' in fall.

***Sisyrinchium bellum*** Blue-eyed grass. Native to Southern California. Treat as a warm season grower. Dry to 3" to 6" in spring through fall. No irrigation in winter.

***Teucrium cossonii*** Majorcan, Teucrium or Fruity germander. Dry to 4" in spring, 6" to 8" in summer and fall. No irrigation in winter.

***Tradescantia pallida*, *P. spathacea*** Purple heart, Moses in the cradle. Looks best if it never dries more than 4" to 6" year-round.

***Verbena* spp.** Dry to 4" in spring, 6" in summer and fall. No irrigation in winter.

## *Elsinore Valley Strong: Larger Perennials for Fire Safety*

***Agapanthus africanus, A. orientalis*** Lily of the Nile. Dry to 9" spring/summer and to 1' fall/winter along the coast; but inland dry to 6" in spring/summer, 9" in fall/winter.

***Anigozanthos spp.*** Kangaroo paws. Dry to only 4" to 6" in spring through fall. No irrigation in winter.

***Asclepias spp.*** Milkweed. Includes some California natives (but these are harder to find). Along the coast dry to 4" to 6" spring through fall. No irrigation in winter.

***Cordyline australis*** Grass palm. Dry to 4" in spring, 4" to 6". No irrigation in winter.

***Dianella tasmanica*** Flax lily. Dry to only 4" in spring and summer, 6" in fall. No irrigation in winter. In the shade it can dry to 6" to 9" spring through fall.

***Dietes spp.*** Fortnight lily, African iris. Dry to 1' in spring, 6" in summer, 1' in fall. No irrigation in winter.

***Epilobium (Zauschneria) canum*** California fuchsia or Zauschneria. Southern California native. Dry to 6" in spring and summer, 1' the rest of the year.

***Gaura lindheimeri*** Gaura. Dry to 4" year-round.

***Hemerocallis hybrids*** Day lily. Dry to 4" in spring, 6" in summer and fall. No irrigation in winter.

***Kniphofia spp.*** red hot poker, Torch lily. Dry to 6" in spring and fall, 4" in summer. No irrigation in winter.

***Limonium perezii*** Sea lavender. Depending on distance from the coast, dry to 4" to 6" in winter and spring, and 6" to 9" in summer and fall. Suffers in dense soils.

***Lobelia laxiflora*** Mexican lobelia. Monsoon-adapted and dry to only 6" during summer, but 9" spring and fall. No irrigation in winter.

***Penstemon spp.*** Penstemon. Dry to only 5" in winter and spring, to 9" in summer and fall.

***Phlomis russeliana*** Turkish sage. Tough. Dries to 4" in spring, summer and fall. No irrigation in winter.

***Phormium tenax*** New Zealand flax. Dry to 6" in spring through fall. No irrigation in winter. Will rot in dense wet soils. Do not irrigate in high humidity.

***Salvia spathacea*** Hummingbird sage. Dry to 4" late winter, early spring, 6" in summer, 9" in fall. No irrigation early winter.

***Senecio inderaria, S. viravira*** Dusty miller. Tough plant. Dries to 4" in spring, but 6" to 9" in summer and fall (depending on exposure and soil). No irrigation in winter.

***Sphaeralcea spp.*** Globe mallow. Includes many Southern California natives and a true desert perennial. Dry to 6" spring, to 1' in summer and fall. No irrigation in winter.

***Thalictrum fendleri*** Meadow rue. Southern California native. Does best if it does not dry to more than 4" spring and summer, 6" in fall. No irrigation in winter.

***Viguiera spp.*** Desert sunflower, Goldeneye. Some are monsoon-adapted. Dry to 6" spring and summer. No irrigation fall or winter. Will rot with too much irrigation.

***Xanthorrhoea spp*** Grass tree

Dry to 6" in spring, 9" summer and fall. No irrigation in winter. Low nutrient needs; nothing but wood chips or mulch is needed. A slow grower and fertilizer will not help. Pull dead leaves in late winter, early spring.

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