

PREPAREDNESS

Wildfire Season Prep Guide

For homeowners with solar + battery — what to check before wildfire season, when a Red Flag Warning or Public Safety Power Shutoff (PSPS) is issued, during an active fire threat, and after.

Before Wildfire Season Spring prep

- ☐ Confirm your battery firmware/software is up to date.
- ☐ Test backup/islanding mode once — typically, you can do this through your battery/inverter phone app.
- ☐ Make sure critical loads (fridge, well pump, medical equipment, and Wi-Fi/router) are actually on the backed-up circuits.
- ☐ Locate and label your PV rapid-shutdown switch and main battery disconnect.
- ☐ Create defensible space around panels, conduit, and the battery enclosure — clear dry brush, leaves, and vegetation within 5 feet, per standard wildfire defensible-space zoning.
- ☐ Save your installer's and monitoring app's support contacts somewhere offline.
- ☐ Consider adding a Redde fuel cell so your battery never runs dry.

WHY HOMEOWNERS ADD REDDE

The recharger that keeps your battery from ever running dry.

A standard 250-gallon propane tank has ~200 gallons of usable propane. Given that amount of propane, Redde fuel cell will run for ~50 days if operated continuously during that period, whereas a standby generator would run for just a few days. It runs on the natural gas or propane you already have, watching your battery and topping it off automatically — including through multi-day PSPS events and post-fire outages when a battery alone would run out.

When a Red Flag Warning or PSPS is Issued Final prep

- ☐ Set battery to prioritize charging (reserve = 100% if your system allows a manual override).
- ☐ Switch inverter/battery to “backup” or “outage watch” mode if your system has one — for some systems this happens automatically.
- ☐ Charge phones, laptops, power banks, and any EV to full.
- ☐ Photograph your solar array, inverter, and battery setup for insurance records.
- ☐ Clear roofs, gutters, and the ground near the battery/inverter of dry leaves and debris; move propane tanks or other flammables away from the structure.
- ☐ Confirm your go-bag includes chargers and a portable power source, and that you know your evacuation zone and route.

Day of / During an Active Threat Active fire

- ☐ Do not manually shut down the system unless instructed by your installer, utility, or fire officials — most modern systems island automatically during a grid outage or PSPS event.
- ☐ If evacuation is ordered, leave immediately — do not stay behind to manage your solar or battery system.
- ☐ Avoid running large loads (AC, water heater) on battery backup to stretch runtime for essentials — much less of a concern with a Redde fuel cell keeping the battery topped off.
- ☐ Monitor battery state of charge and outage status via app if cell/Wi-Fi service holds.

After the Fire or Outage Recovery

- ☐ Do a visual check from the ground only — look for ash or ember damage, melted components, exposed wiring, or heat damage to the battery/inverter cabinet.
- ☐ Do not touch or reset equipment showing heat, smoke, or physical damage — call your installer.
- ☐ If panels are covered in ash or soot, they're safe to leave until a professional inspection and cleaning — do not wipe them dry yourself, and do not climb the roof.
- ☐ If there has been ash in your area, change the air filter on your Redde fuel cell system.
- ☐ Report any damage to your installer and insurance carrier with your pre-season photos.
- ☐ Once grid or PSPS power returns, confirm the system reconnects/re-syncs correctly — some inverters require a manual reset after extended outages.

AFTER THE OUTAGE

Your battery gets you through hours. Redde gets you through the whole outage.

If you don't have Redde yet and want to talk through options before next wildfire season, reach out to your installer or contact us directly — a Redde fuel cell pairs with most major battery brands, including Tesla, FranklinWH, and a variety of 48V battery systems.

General guidance — always follow your specific system manufacturer's and installer's fire-safety procedures and local evacuation orders, which take precedence over this checklist.

 **ALWAYS READY.**