



RAT PATROL CHECKLIST

When the siren sounds report to the old Firehall, check in via text to Pauline or Jacquie T and don your gear. Pack up a golf cart with the RAT PACK and take your walkie talkie.

Pauline/Jacquie will get portable radio from Firehall to keep in touch with Incident Command (IC)

IC will deploy RATS to a location. Follow this checklist to prepare properties in order to give the home the best chance of surviving a wildfire or protect it from ember ignition from a nearby structure fire.

RATS may have to triage (a home surrounded with overhanging branches has too much fuel load for a RAT PATROL team to deal with) - move to the next property.

Home Checklist – Working with Homeowner if on site:

Inside the House – help owner to...

- Shut all windows and doors, leaving them unlocked.
- Remove flammable window shades, curtains and close metal shutters.
- Remove lightweight curtains.
- Move flammable furniture to the center of the room, away from windows and doors.
- *Shut off all propane gas at the tanks; turn off pilot lights.* Large propane tanks may need a cooling sprinkler set up. If so – advise IC and attach to homeowners system for that tank only.
- Leave exterior lights on so firefighters can see the house under smoky conditions.
- Shut off the air conditioning or heat/cooling pump.
- Seal attic and ground vents with pre-cut plywood or commercial seals
- Can owner patrol their property and monitor the fire situation? Advise them not to wait for an evacuation order if they feel threatened.
- Have them locate your pets and keep them nearby

Outside – Whether homeowner is present or not

- Gather up flammable items from the exterior of the house and bring them inside (patio furniture, children's toys, door mats, trash cans, etc.) or place them in the middle of the yard away from the house.
- Turn off propane tanks.
- Use leaf blowers to quickly clear dry debris from gutters (if possible) and around home and decks.
- Move propane appliances away from structures.

- Connect garden hoses to outside water valves or spigots for use by firefighters. Consider attaching foam nozzle and foaming decks and flammables using homeowner water supply.
- Set up WASP and spike sprinkler systems and ready for use.
- Don't leave sprinklers on or water running, unless independent water supply has been established (portable pumps/tanks) or IC has advised ok to run off residential hose attachment.
- If a ladder is available place it at the corner of the house for firefighters to quickly access the roof if needed.

AFTER EACH PROPERTY HAS BEEN PATROLED – RAT TEAM LEADER MUST CHECK IN TO IC ADVISE AND REPORT WHICH PROPERTY THEY ARE GOING TO NEXT.

EACH RAT PACK BAG WILL CONTAIN:

Small portable fire extinguisher

Cordless Leaf blower

Scott Backpack pumps

3 Scott foam nozzles

2 sprinkler kits – (can be implemented if homeowner has independent water supply source or if IC okay's use with domestic hose)

Tagging tape



Property has been RAT checked



No people present when check was done