# COLLABORATE CIVIL PROTECTION STARTS WITH YOU



**USEFUL CONTACTS** 







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## PREVENT PLAN RESCUE

Municipal Civil Protection Service of Almada Rua dos Lusíadas - Bairro do Matadouro 2800-221 Pragal Tel.: 212 946 577 cm-almada.pt

#### IN CASE OF FIRE

## IF YOU ARE NEAR A FIRE:

- Immediately call 112 or the local fire department;
- If it's safe, try to extinguish the fire using shovels, hoes, or branches;
- Do not hinder the firefighters' actions and follow their instructions:
- Move your vehicle away from fire access roads:
- If you see people engaging in risky behaviour, inform the authorities.



## IF THE FIRE IS NEAR YOUR HOME:

- Turn off the gas and electricity;
- Close all doors, windows, and shutters:
- Thoroughly wet the walls and bushes surrounding your house; Release any animals;
- In case of evacuation, assist
- children, the elderly, and the disabled in leaving;
- Do not waste time gathering unnecessary personal items;
- Do not go back for any reason.

RURAL FIRES ARE A THREAT NOT ONLY TO THE FOREST BUT ALSO TO BUILDINGS AND PEOPLE WHO LIVE AND WORK IN RURALAREAS.



#### IF YOU ARE SURROUNDED BY A FIRE:

- Move in the opposite direction of the wind;
- Take refuge in an area with water or little vegetation;
- Over your head and body with wet clothing;
- Breathe close to the ground through wet clothing to avoid inhaling smoke;
- Wait for the firefighters to arrive if you cannot escape on your own.

#### **AFTER THE FIRE:**

- There is a danger of reignition;
- Prevent children from playing in the area;
- Collaborate with the authorities whenever they request your help with mop-up and surveillance operations;
- Authorities will only advise evacuation if there is a risk to life;
- Keep a battery-powered radio at home;
- Stay informed by monitoring news from the media.



Rural Fires Prevention

SELF-PROTECTION MEASURES



MANAGING VEGETAL FUELS

PILED CONTROLLED BURNS —
Refers to the use of fire to eliminate leftover materials from forestry or agricultural operations, fully cut and then piled in a limited space not exceeding 4m² and a height of 1.3m. Conducting burnings must be reported to various entities via the platform:

https://fogos.icnf.pt/infoqueimasqueimadas/

OPEN LAND BURNS – Refers to the use of fire for pasture renewal, stubble removal, and eliminating leftover materials from forestry or agricultural operations, which are cut but not piled.

Conducting burnings is only permitted with authorization from the Municipality. The request for permission must be made through the platform:

https://fogos.icnf.pt/infoqueimasqueimadas/



The carrying out of open land burns illegally can constitute a violation punishable with a fine ranging from 500€ to 5000€ for individuals and from 2500€ to 25,000€ for legal entities.

PILED CONTROLLED BURNS AND OPEN LAND BURNS ARE THE CAUSE OF MANY FIRES...

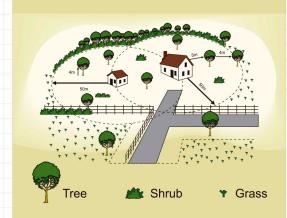
IF YOU INTEND TO CARRY OUT A PILED CONTROLLED BURN OR OPEN LAND BURN, PLEASE TAKE THE FOLLOWING PRECAUTIONS:

- Inform yourself through the Municipal Civil Protection Service of Almada or check the website of the Portuguese Institute for Sea and Atmosphere (www.ipma.pt);
- Preferably perform the piled controlled burn or open land burn on a day without wind and during the cooler hours, in the morning or late afternoon:
- For piled controlled burns, divide the plant material so that you burn a small amount at a time:
- Clear the land around the area you intend to burn to prevent the fire from spreading;
- During the piled controlled burn or open land burn, always have shovels, rakes, hoses, and other tools on hand:
- Monitor the site of the piled controlled burn or open land burn, and at the end, extinguish it with water or soil;
- Notify your neighbours and do not perform piled controlled burns or open land burns that could cause damage to third-party property.

# PROTECT YOUR HOME FROM RURAL FIRES

#### WHAT TO DO?

Managing the fuel around houses or other isolated buildings is mandatory. Clear a strip of at least 50 meters by reducing the vegetation present.



#### How To Do It?

- Ensure a minimum distance of 5 meters between the tops of trees and buildings.
- Do not accumulate firewood, wood, forest or agricultural debris, or other flammable materials.
- Maintain a minimum distance of 4 meters between the tops of trees.
- Prune:

**BURNS AND OPEN LAND BURNS** 

CONTROLLED

PILED

Trees > 8 meters:
4 meters above the ground.
Trees < 8 meters:

half of the tree's height.

Reduce the amount of underbrush on the ground.

# MAINTAINING CLEAN LAND AND YARDS IS A DUTY FOR ALL PROPERTY OWNERS

Property owners are required to regularly clean and/or clear their land and yards to prevent fire risks and to avoid using these areas as waste disposal sites (Municipal Urban Waste Regulation, Image, Cleaning, and Urban Hygiene of the Almada City Council).

Failure to clean and clear land can result in fines ranging from €250 to €1,500 for individuals and €1,250 to €22,000 for companies.



FOCUS ON
PREVENTION,
AVOID RURAL FIRES!