

WILDFIRE PREPARATION AND SAFETY TIPS FOR HOMEOWNERS

FAST FACTS

38 states have areas at risk for wildfires.

Eight out of the ten costliest wildfires took place in California; however, Texas has been known to have double the number of wildfires as California in an average year.





89%

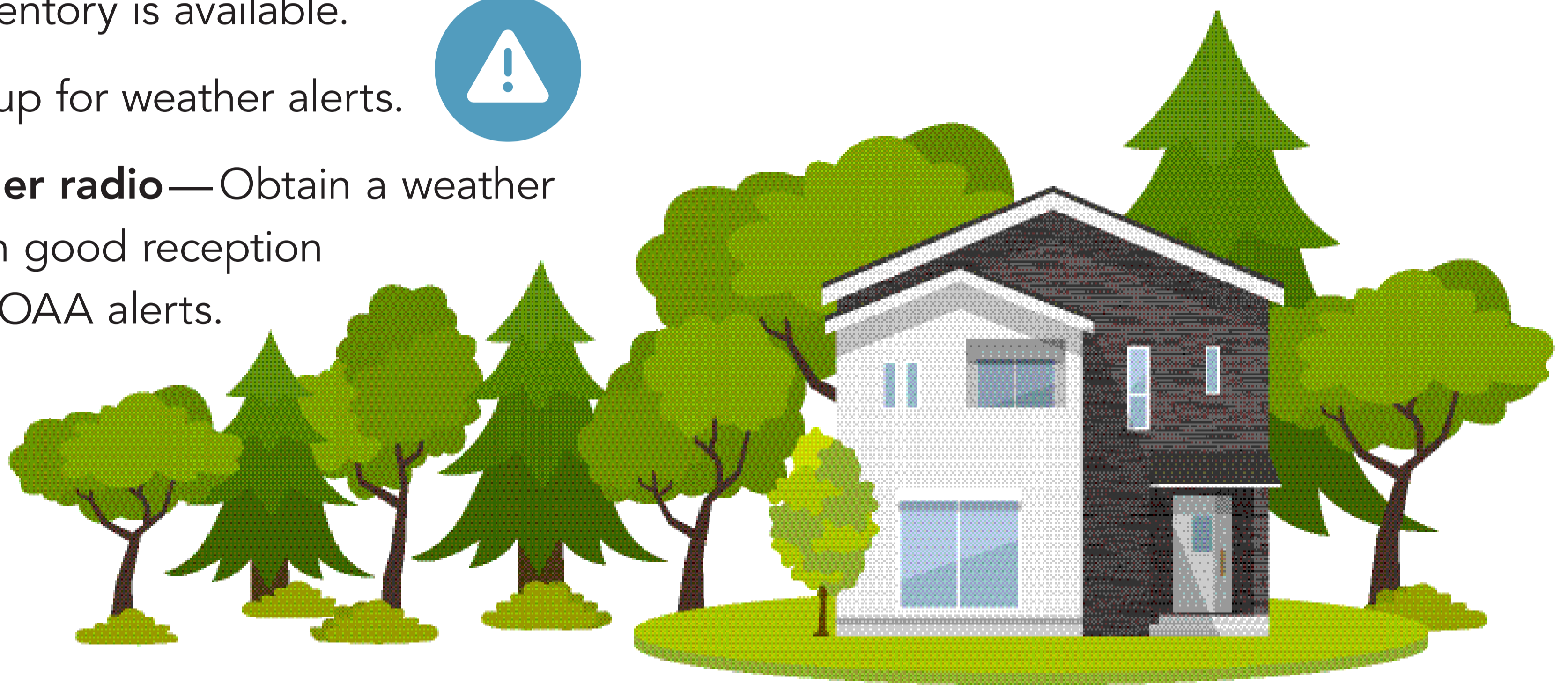
of wildfires between 2017–2021 were caused by humans.







Sources: Insurance Information Institute, Congressional Research Service

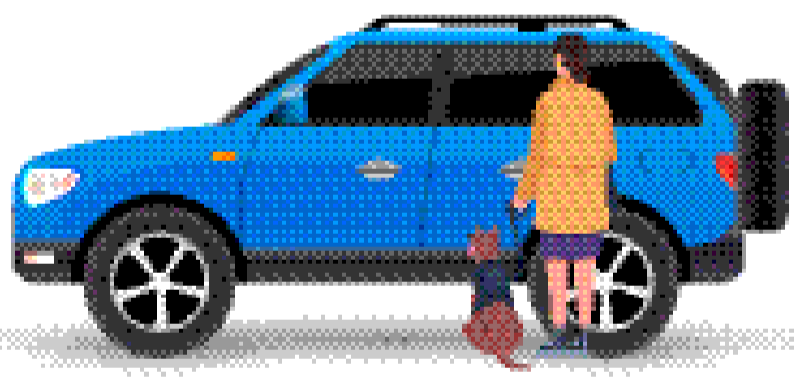
PREPARE TODAY

- **Create a family communications plan**—Develop a family contact sheet with names, addresses and phone numbers of important contacts including doctors, schools and out-of-state family members. Keep an online backup available. 
- **Make a home inventory**—Insurance claims are typically processed faster when an inventory is available. 
- **Stay alert**—Sign up for weather alerts.
- **Purchase a weather radio**—Obtain a weather resistant radio with good reception that can receive NOAA alerts.





IF YOU ARE EVACUATING YOUR HOME WHEN A FIRE IS APPROACHING

- **Shut off gas**—Turn off gas at the meter or propane at the tank if you know how to do it safely. Call a professional if you need assistance.
- **Turn off HVAC**—Cover vents and turn off cooling systems to help keep out smoke. 
- **Install fire-resistant shutters**—Carefully install fire-resistant shutters or plywood to help protect from radiant heat and embers. If assistance is needed, contact a professional.
- **Light it up**—Turn on interior and exterior lights to help with visibility in case of smoke. 
- **Take it down**—Remove window treatments and move furniture away from doors and windows.
- **Move combustible items inside or away**—Bring furniture and smaller items inside and move larger items as far away from the home as possible
- **Close doors and windows securely.** 
- **Wet property with hoses.**
- **Fill trash cans and buckets with water**—Place water receptacles so they are easy to find. 
- **Evacuate.**



WHEN YOU CAN SAFELY RETURN

- **Carefully put it out if safe to do**—(otherwise contact fire officials for help)
 - Extinguish any exterior sparks or embers. Do not climb on roof to extinguish embers.
 - Extinguish burning trees or piles of materials.
- **Keep doors and windows closed.**
- **Access and document damage**—Take photos and videos of any damage you can safely access prior to clean up. 
- **Save all receipts.**
- **Call your insurance agent as soon as possible to start a claim.**



HOW TO REPORT A CLAIM



Online
www.hanover.com



Prestige claims
877-922-2774

Platinum policy service
800-799-6977

General claims
800-628-0250



Mobile app
Hanover Mobile

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