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News Release

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Kaua'i Fire Department Prevention Bureau advises brushfire preparedness for dry summer conditions

LĪHU'E – In preparation for drier conditions starting late June, the Kaua'i Fire Department Fire Prevention Bureau advises the public to prepare for potential brushfires.

“The KFD Fire Prevention bureau has been working with other agencies and partners across Kaua'i and the State to prepare for higher-than-average wildfire activity,” said Deputy Fire Chief Michael Gibson. “Weather forecasting from [NOAA](#) suggests drought conditions starting in late June. This means we could have an early and long brush fire season.”

In preparation, the Kaua'i Fire Department is assessing the Wildland-Urban interface areas of Kaua'i to identify any homes believed would be at risk for brush fires.

[Hawaii Wildfire](#) has provided guidebooks with checklists to help residents prepare their homes for fire safety. A digital version can be downloaded at the following site:

<https://www.hawaiiwildfire.org/fire-resource-library-blog/rsg-your-personal-wildland-fire-action-guide>.

Residents can also take the following actions to prevent fire spread to their homes:

- Weed around the property regularly, especially areas that a lawn mower is not appropriate for;
- Remove leaf litter and other debris that accumulate around the building, under vegetation, and other collection areas;

- Remove leaf litter, straw, and other debris from under and around propane tanks to create 10 feet of clearance around it;
- Eliminate ladder fuels by pruning tree branches on trees around the property to within at least 6 feet of the ground;
- Remove flammable materials from underneath the house, decks, porches, and lanai; and
- Mow the lawn regularly to keep grasses shorter than 4 inches tall around the home. Never cut in dry vegetation. Do not mow in the heat of the day or when the wind is blowing.

“The KFD Prevention Bureau will drop off printed versions of these guidebooks to each fire station, along with a letter from KFD stating the situation and urgency that affected households at risk for brush fires be prepared,” said KFD Prevention Bureau Capt. Jeremie Makepa. “We are working to ensure that all areas of concern have been identified and guidebooks distributed to these households.”



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