Red Flag Warning Checklist

Red Flag = strong winds, low humidity, and dry vegetation.
Any spark can become a fast-moving wildfire.

1. Stay informed

- [ ] Confirm the warning timeframe (National Weather Service) and check your local fire and wind forecast.
- [ ] Learn about LA County 4 steps to preparedness (ready.lacounty.gov) .
- [ ] Look up your evacuation zone at protect.genasys.com (or the Genasys Protect app) and write it down; evacuation notices name zones.
- [ ] Keep phones charged; have a battery-powered or hand-crank radio and a car charger ready.
- [ ] Bookmark lacounty.gov/emergency for incidents, evacuations, and shelters; AwareCA, Watch Duty and CAL FIRE also track fires.

2. Prepare your home and property

- [ ] Bring in or move away from the house: patio furniture, cushions, doormats, and other flammable items.
- [ ] Clear dry leaves, pine needles, and debris from roof, gutters, decks, and under/around the home.
- [ ] Move firewood, propane tanks, and trash bins well away from structures.
- [ ] Close all windows, doors, garage door, and vents; shut off gas if you must leave.
- [ ] Remove or keep the first 5 feet around the house free of anything that can burn.
- [ ] Keep a hose connected and within reach; know where your shut-offs are.

3. Avoid spark and ignition sources

- [ ] No outdoor burning, fire pits, or BBQs; skip fireworks and open flames entirely.
- [ ] Postpone mowing, weed trimming, grinding, welding, and other work that can create sparks.
- [ ] Never park or idle vehicles on dry grass; check that tow chains are not dragging.
- [ ] Properly dispose of cigarettes; do not toss them out of a car window.
- [ ] Avoid using damaged electrical cords, and be cautious with generators and outdoor power equipment.

4. Get your household ready to go

- [ ] Review your evacuation plan, two exit routes, and a meeting spot with everyone in the household.
- [ ] Pack or stage your go-bag: medications, ID, documents, chargers, glasses, cash, water, N95 masks. Keep important documents, photos, and irreplaceable items together where you can grab them.
- [ ] Plan for pets and livestock: carriers, leashes, food, medications, and a place to take them.
- [ ] Check on neighbors, older adults, and anyone who may need help evacuating.
- [ ] Park your vehicle facing out, keep the gas tank at least half full, and keep keys handy.

5. During the warning period

- [ ] Stay alert for smoke or fire; call 911 immediately if you see flames or smoke.
- [ ] Keep shoes, long pants, a long-sleeve shirt, and a flashlight within reach overnight.
- [ ] Avoid power outage surprises: charge devices and have flashlights available (no candles).
- [ ] Be ready to leave early. If officials say go, go.

6. If you must evacuate

- [ ] Leave immediately when told to; do not wait to see the fire. Take your go-bag, pets, and medications.
- [ ] Wear protective clothing and a mask, close windows and doors, and leave lights on for visibility.
- [ ] Follow official routes and expect heavy traffic; drive with headlights on and watch for emergency vehicles.
- [ ] Let family or friends know where you are going; go to an open evacuation center (listed at lacounty.gov/emergency or via 211 LA), and check official channels before returning home.

Los Angeles County local resources

In an emergency	**Call 911**
Alert LA County (free alerts)	Learn about LA County 4 steps to preparedness (ready.lacounty.gov)
Genasys Protect (evacuation zones)	Register for the LA County Genasys Program (alertlacounty.genasys.com/portal/en/register)
LA County Emergency	lacounty.gov/emergency: incident updates, evacuations, shelters. General information: (213) 974-1234. Fire updates: @LACoFDPIO and @ReadyLACounty on X.
Ready LA County	ready.lacounty.gov/fire: Ready, Set, Go wildfire preparedness guidance.
Sheriff alerts	LASD Nixle text/email alerts at nixle.com.
211 LA (non-emergency, 24/7)	Dial 211 for evacuation zones and routes, shelters, and animal care locations. No ride out? 911 if under an evacuation order; 211 if not.
Animals and livestock	LA County Animal Care and Control: animalcare.lacounty.gov Evacuation assistance: (562) 940-6898

***In an emergency, call 911**. Phone numbers and websites were current when this was made; verify before relying on them. This checklist is general guidance; always follow instructions from local fire and law enforcement officials.*