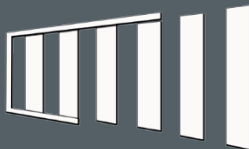


Attic, roof, foundation, and soffit vents are designed to remove moisture and condensation during cooler months and excess heat in warmer months.



For extra safety, consider making vent covers that can be easily installed when a wildfire approaches your home.

Vents can be entrances for burning embers. Once inside, embers can ignite construction materials and other flammable items, allowing a wildfire to enter the attic or crawl spaces long before the flames ever reach your home. Covering vents with 1/8-inch metal mesh screens or replacing them with ember-resistant baffle vents is an important part of protecting your home.

Note that most homes are built using 1/4-inch screens, which prevent birds and rodents from entering through vent openings. Unfortunately, that size screen allows burning embers to pass through and spread fire to the inside of the home. Smaller 1/16-inch mesh screens can easily become plugged with dust, paint, or dead plants, reducing their ability to control moisture and room temperature. Consequently, covering vents with 1/8-inch non-combustible, corrosion-resistant metal mesh screens offers the best wildfire protection, while still removing moisture and reducing heat in the attic or crawl spaces.

Regularly inspect vents for debris or damage while you are cleaning your gutters, and check your roof for places that embers can get into.



Redwood City Fire Department

www.redwoodcity.org



For more information, please visit the Redwood City website or call (650) 780-7400 to speak with a Fire Prevention Officer