

Safe Village – Safe People

According to the Resolution of the Council of Ministers no. 157-A / 2018, of October 27, this latest program “Safe Villages – Safe People” outlines self-protection measure for the population in the event of a rural fire affecting people and their homes.

Following a recent meeting between Safe Communities Portugal and the Secretary of State for Civil Protection, a publication in English has been produced that covers a number of important topics including action to take: if a fire approaches your home; if you get surrounded by a fire; if you are near a fire; if you are confined inside a building and action in case of evacuation. For those living in high risk areas the recommendation is to have an evacuation kit available.

Although this may sound dramatic, it is a fact that fires have been gradually encroaching into rural areas over the last few years hence the change of name from “forest” to “rural”. It’s therefore better to be prepared.

In addition to the leaflets an on-line video with English sub-titles is being produced by the ANPC supported by SCP and will be available for download from the ANPC and Safe Communities websites.

In some high risk villages, mainly north of the A22, awareness sessions are being conducted by the municipal civil protection and GNR, showing escape routes and assembly points should a fire break out. Contact the local camara and or follow their Facebook page to check if one will be held near you. Signage in these areas is also being put in place

The leaflets can be downloaded in English from the SCP website www.safecommunitiesportugal.com Go to “Civil Protection” – “Rural Fires” and then “Rural Fire Protection”

Finally if you can help distribute the leaflets through supermarkets and other outlets or directly in high risk areas in the Algarve please contact info@safecommunitiesportugal.com.

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