

QWA Procedure (4/26/2026)

“CONDUCT QWA Procedure” - THIS MEANS YOU go outside and do a 360 degree turn (viewing ground level, tree level and sky level). Do you detect any suspect smoke (visual or smell), fire or embers? You are looking for any new starts / spots. A known reported fire for which Cal Fire is responding is not suspect.

If you do NOT detect any suspect smoke, fire or embers, having done the above procedure, you report “QWA”.

If you did not do the QWA procedure when requested, then do NOT say “QWA”. Rather, you say **“did not do QWA procedure”**.

COMMENT: The higher the number of stations reporting “QWA” reflects a higher degree of confidence that your neighborhood doesn’t have any new starts / spot fires. Thus, it is important that as many stations as possible conduct this procedure when requested. Any station can make the request on the radio when necessary.

People are relying on your report and all other reports. If no one reports when requested, then no one knows what the situation is in their neighborhood and/or other Areas.