Walls and siding on the outside of your home are at risk from radiant heat, burning embers, and direct flames.

Combustible siding, such as wood or vinyl that catches fire and burns near windows will threaten the inside of your home. Additionally, burning siding can spread to the roof, rain gutters, eaves, vents, decks, balconies, patio covers, windows and doors, creating even more danger.

If your home has combustible siding and you’re not ready to replace it, replace any materials in poor condition. Seal gaps and cracks in siding and trim materials with a good quality caulk to keep burning embers out during a wildfire. Keep a 5-foot safe zone between your home and vegetation to reduce contact from direct flames or radiant heat.

Wall materials that resist heat and flames include:

- **Stucco** - extremely durable, withstands extreme temperatures and weather conditions, and needs very little care. It also provides good protection, and is unaffected by rot, mold, and insects
- **Masonry** - acts as an excellent sound barrier and reduces heating and cooling costs. It doesn’t rot and will last the lifetime of the home under normal conditions. Washing it down occasionally with a hose should be the only care required
- **Cement Board** - low maintenance and extremely strong. It does need painting, but absorbs paint so well that it hardly ever chips or peels. It also has a natural, realistic look

For more information, please visit the OCFA website or call (714) 573-6774 to schedule a wildfire home assessment.