

Evacuation Tips

If you live in an area where an evacuation is possible or probable, whether it be from wildfire, earthquake, hurricane or other threat, here are some tips to make your evacuation go more smoothly:

DO NOW: Go-Bag

1. Have a Go-Bag for each member of the household stored near your vehicle with at least:
 - a. Sturdy, closed toe shoes
 - b. Socks and underwear (2 pair each)
 - c. Long pants
 - d. Long sleeve shirt
 - e. Jacket
 - f. Hat
 - g. Flashlight
 - h. Cell charger and cables
 - i. Toiletry kit including medications for a week
 - j. Spare eyeglasses and sunglasses
2. Keep your electronics (cell phone, tablet, laptop with chargers) plugged in but all together and ready to grab and go.

DO NOW: Documents

1. Store in the cloud and/or have a memory stick or CD with .jpg or .pdf of the following:
 - a. House documents including title, mortgage papers, insurance policies
 - b. Personal ID including driver's license, passport, social security
 - c. Health documents including insurance policy, medical record, name and phone number of primary care physician, name and phone number of pharmacy, list of current medications with dosages, list of allergies and existing conditions
 - d. Keepsake photos
 - e. Photo or video record of each room in the house showing all valuable items
 - f. List of all valuable items including purchase date, cost, model and serial numbers

DO NOW: Preparedness Actions

1. Register your cell or VoIP phone(s) with your county's Community Warning System.
2. Register your cell with your local Nixle. To opt-in for Nixle, text your zip code to 888777.
3. Have a battery operated radio, flashlight, pocket knife, shoes, socks, underwear, long pants, long sleeve shirt in a bag tied to the head of your bed.

DO NOW: Access and Functional Needs (AFN) individuals

1. Take special precautions so that AFN persons will know about evacuation orders at any time of day or night, even if power fails.
2. Pre-determine who will help any AFN person evacuate and have a backup.
3. Prepare to take durable medical goods, oxygen and any other special needs.
4. If you are the AFN individual, be proactive and find responsible people to evacuate you.
5. Program your cell with your sheriff's dispatch number and fire dispatch number so you can call them if you get trapped. Don't rely on 911, they will be overwhelmed.

DO NOW: Communications

1. Predesignate an Out-of-State Contact (OoSC) and program the contact's cell number into each family member's cell phone.

DO NOW: Neighborhood

1. Know your neighbors and their schedules, including vacation plans.
2. Know who will need help to evacuate.
3. Coordinate responsibilities for children, AFN persons and animals.



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Evacuation Tips, continued

DO NOW: Animals

1. Have pet food in a Pet Go-Bag with leashes, poop-bags, water dish, medications, etc.
2. Keep your dogs confined indoors if there is smoke.
3. Have kennels for your dogs in case they have to go to a shelter.
4. Keep a collar on cats and keep them confined to a single room so you can get them easily. Keep a kennel for cats in the same room.
5. Make sure all of your animals are microchipped.
6. Have photos of your animals with you to prove ownership.
7. For larger animals, have a pre-designated place for them out of the area and a way of transporting them. Contact your local horsemen's association, etc.
8. If you must leave and you don't have all of your animals controlled, leave doors, windows and gates open. Animals will frequently escape and survive.
9. Don't be a fatality while trying to save your animals.

DO AT RED FLAG WARNING: Vehicle

1. Consider taking only a single vehicle to help reduce traffic jams!
2. Make sure that you have at least $\frac{1}{2}$ full tank of fuel.
3. Park your vehicle
 - a. In a driveway facing the street, not in a garage. If you have a driveway gate, leave it open.
 - b. On the street in the direction of departure.
4. Keep vehicle keys in your pocket.
5. Keep plenty of drinking water in your vehicle.
6. Load time-sensitive medications into vehicle. Unopened insulin can be stored at room temperature for up to 28 days.
7. Keep emergency kit and / or CERT backpack in your vehicle.
8. Pre-load your vehicle with Go-Bags, keepsake items and small toys for your children.
9. Plan to evacuate before mandatory order is issued.

DO WHEN FIRE IS NEAR: Actions

1. If there is any possibility that the fire might reach you, consider sleeping in shifts so that one responsible person is awake at all times to monitor fire status.
2. If smoke is heavy, use the air conditioner, even if it is fan only, to recirculate the indoor air. Do not open windows.
3. Move any flammable items away from your house including furniture, propane tanks, etc.
4. Place ladder to the roof near driveway.

DO AT TIME OF EVACUATION: Communicate

1. Use TEXT messages of less than 160 characters with no photos and no voice phone calls.
2. Send a text message to your OoSC when evacuating.
3. Send another text message to your OoSC when arriving at collection point.
4. Report any missing family members to county sheriff's office.
5. Report any found persons who were previously reported missing.
6. Keep OoSC up to date on status of all family members.

DO AT TIME OF EVACUATION: Actions

1. Leave outside lights on for first responders.
2. Leave any driveway gates open.
3. Drive safely and cautiously to the collection point.
4. Check in at collection point and get sheltering information.



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