



CREATE A FAMILY EVACUATION PLAN

In some circumstances, you may be “advised” to leave the area by local authorities. In other circumstances, local officials may decide the hazards are serious enough to require “mandatory” evacuations. You may



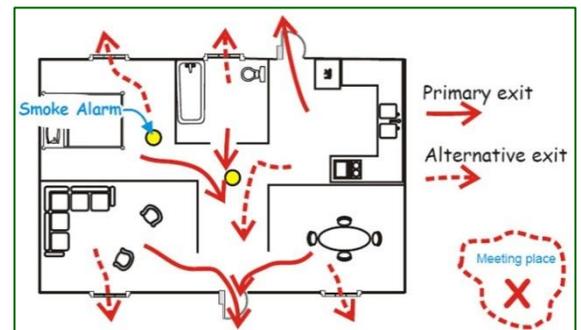
decide to leave the area on your own. Regardless of how the decision is made, have a plan for when you must leave your home. Should a community evacuation become necessary, local officials will provide information to the public through the media. In some cases, other warnings methods will be used such as text alerts, emails, telephone calls or even door to door notifications. If

local officials ask you to leave, do so immediately; they have a good reason for making this request.

1. Create Your Family Evacuation Plan

There are emergencies affecting only you and your family such as a home fire. There are emergencies affecting the entire community such as an earthquake or a flood. It is important to make sure your family is prepared and informed on where to go and how to communicate with each other in a disaster or emergency.

- Talk with your family and decide how you will communicate if you are not together when a disaster strikes.
- Discuss evacuation plans for an emergency such as a home fire. Talk about how you would get out of each room in your home. Try to find two different paths out of each room. Show each family member how they can safely leave the home. Talk about where to meet once you leave the home. Select two locations as rally points, one place in the immediate area and one place outside of your immediate area. Define when you will use each of the locations. Decide how you will find each other if you are separated when the emergency occurs.
- Discuss evacuation plans for a larger emergency such as an earthquake. Talk about how and when to use your rally points. Decide how you will find each other if you are separated when the emergency occurs. Decide what to do if a family member cannot get home after an earthquake.

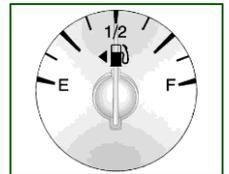


- If you must leave, decide where you would go and what route you would take to get there. You may choose to go to a hotel/motel, stay with friends or relatives in a safe location or go to an evacuation shelter if necessary. Have a destination before you leave and tell your out-of-state contact where you are going. Always have more than one option just in case access to certain areas is restricted or roads are impassable. Consider what you will need to take with you and make accommodations for the needs of family members such as small children, seniors, those with special needs and pets.
- Discuss what you take with you if you have must use an emergency shelter in the community. Discuss what you would take if you have just a few moments to leave the home. Discuss irreplaceable mementos such as photos or heirlooms and make a plan.
- Practice evacuating your home twice a year. Drive your planned evacuation route and plot alternate routes on your map in case roads are impassable.
- Plan ahead for your pets. Keep a phone list of pet-friendly hotels/motels and animal shelters that are along your evacuation routes.
- It is important to make sure that the entire family is prepared and informed in the event of a disaster or emergency. You may not always be together when these events take place and should have plans for making sure you are able to contact and find one another.
- Coordinate your evacuation plan as part of your family's disaster plan.

2. Considerations When Creating A Family Evacuation Plan

These are points you may need to consider when you are developing your evacuation plan.

- Plan to take one car per family to reduce congestion and delay.
- If you have a car and an evacuation seems likely, keep the gasoline tank full. Keep at least a half tank of gas in your car at all times, this will ensure your ability to get at least 100 miles away should an unexpected issue arise.
- Become familiar with alternate routes and other means of transportation out of your area.
- Follow recommended evacuation routes. Do not take shortcuts; they may be blocked.
- Stay Informed and be alert for road hazards such as flooded roads or bridge under crossings and downed power lines. Do not drive into flooded areas.
- If you do not have a car, plan how you will leave if you have to. Make arrangements with family, friends or your local government.



3. Before A Disaster Threatens Your Property

These are steps you should take before a disaster that will assist you with your recovery after the event.

- Take photos of each room and the contents within. If you do not have a camera, make a written record of all of your household possessions. Record model and serial numbers when possible. This list could help you prove the value of what you owned if those possessions are damaged or destroyed. Completing this task before an incident can also assist in documenting the losses for your taxes.
- Taking photos of all items in your home, including expensive items such as cars, tools, sofas, chairs, tables, beds, chests, wall units, and any other furniture too heavy to move. Store a copy of the record somewhere away from home, in a file on a secure flash drive or a "cloud" based data directory, or in a safe deposit box.
- Store important papers in an easily accessible location or store electronic copies in a secure but easily accessible device: Records you may need include:
 - Driver's license or personal identification
 - Wills, deeds, and copies of recent tax returns



- Social Security card
- Stocks, bonds, and other negotiable certificates
- Birth and marriage certificates
- Insurance policies and coverage information
- Medical information such as prescriptions, contact information for your physicians, etc.

4. When A Disaster Threatens

- Stay informed by listening to local radio and television reports.
- If high winds are expected, cover the outside of all windows of your home. Use shutters that are rated to provide significant protection from windblown debris, or fit plywood coverings over all windows. Tape does not prevent windows from breaking. All tape does is prevent windows from shattering. Using tape on windows is not recommended.
- If flooding is expected, consider using sand bags to keep water away from your home. It takes two people about one hour to fill and place 100 sandbags, giving you a wall one foot high and 20 feet long. Make sure you have enough sand, burlap or plastic bags, shovels, strong helpers, and time to place them properly.
- Move objects that may get damaged by wind or water to safer areas of your home. Move television sets, computers, stereo and electronic equipment, and easily moveable appliances like a microwave oven to higher levels of your home and away from windows. Wrap them in sheets, blankets, or burlap.

5. When The Evacuation Order Is Given

- Follow the evacuation instruction.
- Listen to a battery-powered radio and stay informed.
- If time allows and you have call-forwarding on your home phone, forward your home phone number to your cell phone number.
- Call or email the out-of-state contact in your family communications plan. Tell them where you are going.
- Dress appropriately, wear sturdy shoes and clothing that provides some protection such as long pants, long-sleeved shirts and a cap. Bring seasonally appropriate outer wear for your comfort.
- Take your pets with you; do not leave them behind. Because pets are not permitted in public shelters, follow your plan to go to a relative's or friend's home or find a "pet-friendly" hotel.
- Secure your home by closing and locking doors and windows.
- Use travel routes specified by local authorities — don't use shortcuts because certain areas may be impassable or dangerous.
- Stay away from downed power lines.
- Unplug electrical equipment such as radios, televisions and small appliances. Leave freezers and refrigerators plugged in unless there is a risk of flooding. If there is damage to your home and you are instructed to do so, shut off water, gas and electricity before leaving.
- Leave natural gas on. Unless local officials advise otherwise, leave natural gas on because you will need it for heating and cooking when you return home. If you turn gas off, a licensed professional is required to turn it back on, and it may take weeks for a professional to respond.
- Leave a note telling others when you left and where you are going.
- Check with neighbors who may need a ride.
- Take your "Emergency Supply Kit", your "Go Bag" and your "Car Kit" unless you have reason to believe they have been contaminated.



These bags included essential supplies and papers such as:

- Flashlight with plenty of extra batteries
- Battery-powered radio with extra batteries
- First aid kit
- Prescription medications in their original bottle, plus copies of the prescriptions
- Eyeglasses (with a copy of the prescription)
- Water (at least one gallon per person is recommended; more is better)
- Foods that do not require refrigeration or cooking
- Items that infants and elderly household members may require
- Medical equipment and devices, such as dentures, crutches, prostheses, etc.
- Change of clothes for each household member
- Sleeping bag or bedroll and pillow for each household member
- Checkbook, cash, and credit cards
- Map of the area
- Car keys and keys to the place you may be going (friend's or relative's home)
- **Let you family and friends know you are safe when you arrive at your destination**

For additional information on emergency preparedness, please visit any of the following on-line resources:

City of Long Beach:

- Fire Department
http://www.longbeach.gov/fire/emergency_prep/default.asp
- Police Department
<http://www.longbeach.gov/police/default.asp>
- Health and Human Services
<http://www.longbeach.gov/civica/filebank/blobdload.asp?BlobID=9067>

County Agency:

- Los Angeles County Office of Emergency Management
<http://www.lacoa.org/>

State Agency:

- The Governor's Office of Emergency Services
<http://www.oes.ca.gov/>

Federal Agency:

- **Federal Emergency Management Agency**
<http://www.fema.gov/>
- **Department of Homeland Security**
<http://www.dhs.gov/index.shtm>
- **U.S. Geological Survey – Specific earthquake information and maps.**
<http://www.usgs.gov/>
- **Center for Disease Control and Prevention**
<http://www.cdc.gov/> or <http://www.bt.cdc.gov/planning/index.asp>

For additional information on emergency preparedness, please visit any of the following on-line resources:

- U.S. Geological Survey – Specific earthquake information and maps.
<http://www.usgs.gov/>
- Center for Disease Control and Prevention

<http://www.cdc.gov/> or <http://www.bt.cdc.gov/planning/index.asp>

- Greater Long Beach Chapter
<http://www.redcrosslb.org/>

City of Long Beach Emergency Phone Numbers:

Emergencies Dial 911

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|------------------------|--------------|
| • Gas Department: | 562.570.2140 |
| • Water and Sewer: | 562.570.2390 |
| • Public Works: | 562.570.2700 |
| • Police Non-Emergency | 562.435.6711 |
| • Fire Non-Emergency | 562.570.9400 |

Social Media:

You can also sign up for any of the City of Long Beach social media accounts and receive updates on the City's disaster responses, as well as information to assist you.

www.facebook.com/CityofLongBeachCA

<https://twitter.com/LongBeachCity>

www.youtube.com/user/LongBeachCityCA

