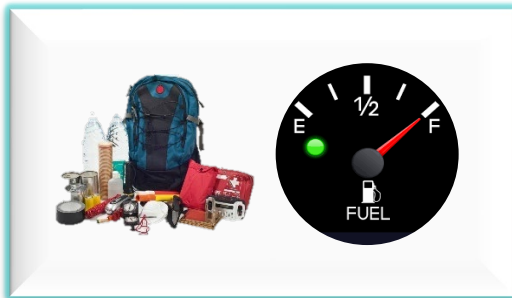


EVACUATING IN EMERGENCIES

Evacuate (leave the area) if you are told to by officials or if there is a threat in your area, such as a fire, tsunami or flood. Specific instructions & length of evacuation depends on the emergency. To prepare for evacuation:

1. GATHER SUPPLIES

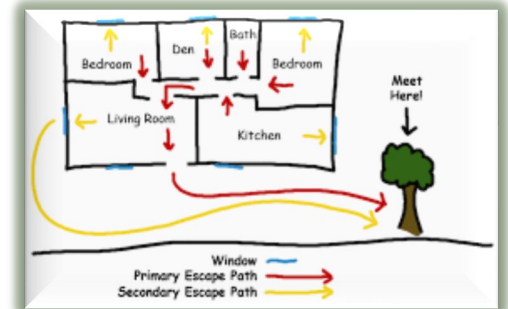


- Have an evacuation kit** with 3 days including water, food and medicine, clothes, sturdy shoes, important documents, and valuable possessions ready to go.
- Keep gas tanks at least halfway full**; gas stations may be closed.



- Have at least two ways out of** your home, school, work, neighborhood, & city. *Know how to manually open/close gates & garages*
- Have multiple methods of transportation** to evacuate out of the area
- Have designated meeting places** just outside of your home, neighborhood and city, in different directions, so that you have a place to go if you can't return home, no matter where the threat is coming from.
 - ◆ Meeting locations should be in **safe, familiar locations and accessible to all**, including pets, where you can stay until it is safe to return home.

3. PRACTICE IT



- Have evacuation drill** regularly and practice evacuating from all locations you spend a lot of time at.
 - ◆ Use different starting points, routes and exits, every time you practice
 - ◆ Practice with & without others, and at different times of day/night.

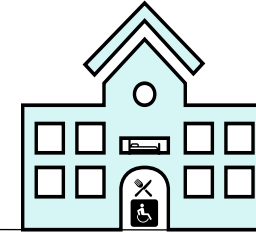
TERMS TO KNOW

EVACUATION ORDER: Immediate threat to life. This is a lawful order to leave now & close the area to public access. *Some regions also use the term Mandatory Evacuation.*

EVACUATION WARNING: Potential threat to life and/or property. Those who require additional time to evacuate, and those with pets and livestock should leave now. *Depending on the emergency, there may not be time to issue an Evacuation Warning.*

EVACUATING IN EMERGENCIES

IF TOLD TO EVACUATE, YOU SHOULD:



1. LEAVE IMMEDIATELY if you have been told to evacuate or you feel it is unsafe to remain in your home. *If you have the time:*

- ✓ **Lock doors & windows**
- ✓ **Shutoff utilities** if instructed to by officials
- ✓ **Unplug electrical equipment** (ex. TVs, small appliances) Leave freezers & refrigerators plugged in unless there is a risk of flooding.
- ✓ **Wear sturdy shoes and protective clothing** (ex. Long pants, long-sleeved shirts, hat)

- ✓ **Bring your pets and emergency kit** with you
- ✓ **Take one car per family** when possible to help avoid congestion
- ✓ **Check with neighbors** who may need a ride
- ✓ **Call loved ones and leave a note** saying when you left, your route & destination.

2. FOLLOW OFFICIAL INSTRUCTIONS

- × **Don't take shortcuts;** they may be blocked.
- × **Watch for hazards** (ex. flooded areas & downed powerlines).

3. GO TO A LOVED ONE'S HOME OR HOTEL, if possible

- ◆ Pick a location that is accessible to all, including pets and those with disabilities
- ◆ Go to a public shelter if you have nowhere else to go.
- ◆ Be patient & cooperative wherever you go.

Public shelters can open to help meet basic needs after large disasters. Keep in mind that:

They're confined places, with many people, & little privacy.

They don't accept pets, only service animals (*In Monterey County, SPCA provides animals shelters near public shelters when possible*)

They don't allow alcohol or weapons & restrict smoking

4. STAY INFORMED and DON'T return home until officials say it is safe to do so!

- ✓ Watch the local news
- ✓ Listen to local and NOAA radios
- ✓ Check your city/county's websites and social media regularly.
- ✓ Follow official instructions

For information on current emergencies and to find shelters near you go to **Monterey County Office of Emergency Services website**
<https://www.co.monterey.ca.us/office-of-emergency-services>
or **Call/Text 211**

COMING HOME

RETURN HOME IN THE DAY AND ONLY AFTER AUTHORITIES SAY IT IS SAFE.

Expect hazards and utility disruption, proceed with caution, and be prepared to leave again, if officials tell you to.

Avoid bringing children and pets on the first trip back home.

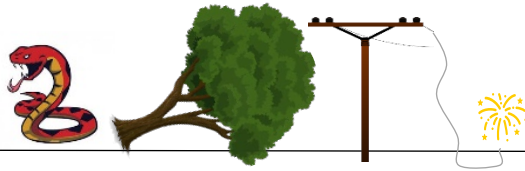


BEFORE RETURNING

- Inform loved ones before you leave & when you arrive.
- Fill up gas tanks and fully charge phones.
- Bring supplies:
 - Food/Water
 - Camera/Phone
 - Protective Clothes (sturdy boots, long sleeve shirts, pants, helmet, safety goggles, dust mask, work gloves)
 - Flashlight & Portable Radio
 - Portable Charger & Extra Batteries
 - Proof of Residency

Don't corner, capture, or try to rescue wild animals and never move a dead animal.

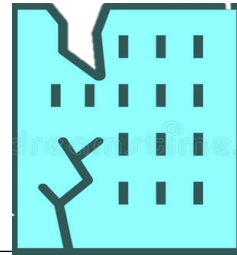
Call local animal control or wildlife resource office if an animal is dead, injured, trapped or won't leave your home.



ON THE WAY HOME

- Watch for, avoid, and notify authorities & others about hazards (ex. wild animals, damaged roads/building/overpasses, downed power lines, broken glass, flooding).
- If you encounter an animal in your home, **open a window/provide an escape route**. It will likely leave on its own.
- If bitten by an animal, **seek immediate medical attention, stay calm and try to see and remember the color and shape of the snake**.
- If a power line falls on your vehicle **stay inside the car, call 911, and warn others to stay away**.

NEVER enter a building if you doubt it's safety, smell gas/rotten eggs, or see damage, or flooding. Call a building professional (ex. structural engineers, contractors, plumbers, home inspectors) or FEMA to inspect it before entering.



BEFORE ENTERING YOUR HOME:

- Walk carefully around the outside, checking for structural damage, roof, chimney, or foundation cracks, loose power lines, & gas leaks.
- Before reentering, call FEMA or a building professional (ex. structural engineers, contractors, plumbers, home inspectors) to inspect your home.
- Keep your radio and cell phone on you in case of emergencies.
- Bring a flashlight & turn it on before entering the building.

Don't turn on lights/flashlights or spark matches/lighters indoors until verifying there is no gas leak or electrical issues.



Don't use water until it has been tested by authorities.

Don't flush toilets until verifying sewage lines are intact.

WHEN ENTERING YOUR HOME:

- Enter carefully, open cabinets and doors with caution and watching for hazards (slippery floors, broken glass, loose boards, wild animals, glass)
- If the house has been closed up for several days, enter briefly to **open doors and windows** to let the house air out for a while (at least 30 minutes) before you stay for any length of time.
- Sniff for gas leaks, starting at the water heater, check the electrical system for sparks, breaks, or frayed wires, and check for water leaks.
- Shutoff damaged gas, power, and water lines as needed. If in doubt contact your utility provider
- Check with local authorities before using any water and pump out wells; the water could be contaminated.