

Tehama County Residents, *Are You prepared?*



Ponderosa Fire

Multi-Hazard **EMERGENCY EVACUATION PLAN**



Wildland Fire Preparation and Evacuation “READY, SET, GO”

“Ready”

- Provide defensible space around structures for a distance of at least 100 feet.
- Clear flammable materials from rain gutters and roof.
- Trim tree branches at least 10 feet from chimney.
- Clear at least 10 feet around propane tanks.
- Replace flammable vegetation with less flammable plants.
- Use fire resistant materials for roofing and siding.
- Move wood piles away from house.
- Make sure your water tank is full and the hydrant is accessible.
- Have garden hose and ladder available that will reach the roof.
- Locate escape routes and Safe Refuge Areas.
- Create a wildfire Action Plan. Know where to meet your family.
- Choose an out-of-area friend or relative as a check-in contact.

“Set”

- Evacuate as soon as you are set.
- Alert family and neighbors.
- Dress in appropriate clothing (i.e., long pants, long-sleeved shirt, goggles or glasses, hat and a dry bandana over your face. Cotton clothing is best).
- Ensure you have your emergency supply kit on -hand that includes all necessary items, such as battery powered radio, spare batteries, emergency contact numbers, and ample drinking water.
- Tune in to any local radio or TV station for updates and information.
- Remain close to your house, and drink plenty of water. Keep an eye on your family and secure pets and prepare them for transport until you are ready to leave.
- Park vehicles facing outward.
- Put valuables, medicines, important documents, and essentials in your vehicle.
- Keep keys where you can find them.
- Close shutters, windows, heavy drapes and fireplace dampers.
- Remove thin drapes and other flammables near windows.
- Turn on outside lights and leave some inside lights on.
- Turn off gas at meter or propane tank.

“Go”

- Citizens may be notified by law enforcement personnel and/or fire personnel if evacuation is necessary.
- Safely make your way out of the area, driving with headlights on. If unable to evacuate completely, go to the closest Safe Refuge Area. (See map inside)
- The Red Cross will establish evacuation centers.
- If evacuated, contact the Red Cross to provide information about your status so that family or friends can be informed.
- After an area has been evacuated, the area will remain closed until the threat has passed.
- **MOST IMPORTANTLY**, if you feel unsafe, don't wait.

What Would Happen in the Event of an Evacuation

- **The Fire Department or Incident Commander may initially decide the areas to be evacuated. Law Enforcement will notify the occupants.** The area to be evacuated will depend upon where the fire or hazard is located, and any factors influencing its travel.
- **The Law Enforcement Branch Director will supervise law enforcement resources.** Law enforcement and their volunteers will assist with the evacuation of disabled or non-ambulatory residents and the security of all areas evacuated.
- **Safe refuge areas have been pre-selected for your community by emergency personnel. (see enclosed map)** You should proceed to the designated safety zones unless otherwise directed by emergency personnel during the evacuation process.
- **Red Cross will be responsible for establishing and locating shelters for long term sheltering if needed.** Red Cross will have a representative at the Incident Command Post.
- **If you are evacuated;** contact the Red Cross shelter to provide information about your location in the event family or friends are trying to contact you.
- **California Highway Patrol (CHP) and the Tehama County Sheriff's Office (TCSO) will control traffic flow and maintain access for emergency equipment.**

Public Safety agencies will carry out duties and functional responsibilities to the best of their ability considering the extent of the emergency and available resources.

If you become trapped

While in your home:

- Stay calm and keep your family together.
- Call 911 and inform authorities of your location.
- Fill sinks and tubs with cold water.
- Stay inside your house.
- Stay away from outside walls and windows.

While in your vehicle:

- Stay calm
- Park your vehicle in an area clear of vegetation.
- Close all vehicle windows and vents.
- Cover yourself with a wool or cotton blanket or jacket.
- Lie on the vehicle floor.

While on foot:

- Stay calm
- Find an area clear of vegetation, a ditch or depression on level ground if possible.
- Lie face down and cover up your body.
- Use your cell phone to advise officials-**Call 911**

RETURNING HOME AFTER A WILDFIRE

Do not return to your home until fire officials determine it is safe. Notification that it is safe to return home will be given as soon as possible, considering safety and accessibility.

When you return home:

- Be alert for downed power lines and other hazards.
- Check propane tanks, regulators, and lines before turning gas on.
- Check your residence carefully for hidden embers or smoldering fires.

How Will Citizens Be Notified?

- Fire Personnel
- Home-to-home by the Sheriff's Department or their volunteers.
- Emergency Alert System (EAS), Reverse 9-1-1, and alerting on radio and TV.

Local Radio/Internet Station's

KPAY 1290 AM
KCEZ 102.1 FM
KHSL 103.5 FM
KNCQ 97.3 FM
KHHZ 97.7FM

- For a copy of this Emergency Plan, contact the Tehama County Sheriff's Office @ 529-7940 or CAL FIRE @ (530)528-5199.
- Do not call the local Fire Stations to report an emergency or for information. **Contact 9-1-1 to report all emergencies.**
- Tehama County Fire Department needs Volunteers Firefighters, for information call 530-528-5199.

When Can Residents Return To Their Homes?

The Incident Commander will determine when it is safe for citizens to move back into their homes. This will be done as soon as possible.

This will be announced through the media as well as on the Department's information lines, at road blocks, safe refuge areas, and relocation shelters.

For emergency information, contact the Tehama County Sheriffs Office at **530-529-7900.**

WHERE TO KEEP THIS PLAN: A few suggestions on locations for keeping and maintaining your escape plan.

- Refrigerator Door

- Home Bulletin Board

- Vehicle Glove Box

Evacuation Information

Evacuation Warning:

Residents in a defined area will be alerted of a potential threat to life and property from an emergency incident.

Evacuation Order:

Residents will be evacuated out of a defined area due to an immediate threat to life and property from an emergency incident.

Closure:

A closure prohibits the usage or occupancy of a defined area due to a potential or actual threat to public health and/or safety. Whenever the area is under closure, the roads in the area will be closed by CHP or TCSO.

Lifting of Evacuation Warnings and Orders:

Warnings and orders will be rescinded when it is determined that the threat is over. Road closures will be opened to residents with identification.

KNOW THE LAW, BE READY TO EVACUATE:

California law authorizes officers to restrict access to any area where a menace to public health or safety exists due to a calamity such as a flood, storm, fire, earthquake, explosion, accident, or other disaster. Refusal to comply is a misdemeanor. (Penal Code 409.5)

Sheltering Options

- **Shelter in place:**
Staying secured inside your current location.
- **Safe Refuge Area:**
A temporary location to hold evacuees until safe evacuation is possible. Not all safe refuge areas may be available due to the location of the incident.
- **Shelters:**
Red Cross establishes shelters for the immediate and short-term housing and care of evacuated residents.
- **Alternative Locations:**
Residents who do not wish to use Red Cross shelters should consider determining alternative housing locations in advance. If you choose not to go to a Red Cross shelter, you are advised to contact Red Cross to provide information about your location in the event family or friends try to find you.
- **Planning your escape route:**
The direction of your escape will be dictated by the location of the incident in relation to your home.

Primary Travel Routes During Evacuation

- Know the primary escape routes to get to the safe refuge areas identified.
- Be prepared to be directed by law enforcement personnel. **You must follow their directions.**
- Drive the routes in advance so that you will be prepared for the confusion of an actual emergency.

DISASTERS & EMERGENCIES

If a major disaster hits an area, it may affect the whole community, and help may not come right away. Listen to local radio and television stations for possible Emergency Alert System announcements.

For quick access for *how to* information, mark the “First Aid and Survival Guide”, located in section B-1 through B-6 of the Customer Guide in your “AT&T Phone book”.

Terrorism

In a Terrorist attack:

- Stay calm. Follow instructions from public safety personnel.
- Be ready for another attack.
- Do not spread rumors.

Be alert:

- When you go to a new building, always look for other ways to leave quickly.
- If you find a strange package, do not touch it. Leave the area and call 911.

Structure Fires - Home or Office

- Get out of any building involved in a fire.
- Notify occupants, set off the fire alarms.
- If you are trapped by fire, close doors and windows to slow fire spread. Stay near the floor and call for help.

To use a fire extinguisher, think **PASS**:

Pull the pin.

Aim the nozzle at the base of the fire.

Squeeze the handle.

Sweep foam from side to side.

Air Contamination

During serious air pollution, chemical, or radiation disasters, radio broadcasts may tell you to “shelter in place”.

Here’s what to do:

- Stay inside your home, building, or car.
- Close windows and doors. Pull blinds, curtains, and drapes.
- Turn off air conditioning and ventilators that pull air into the building.
- Block cracks around windows and doors with towels.
- Wait until emergency personnel or “Emergency Alert System” on radio or television gives you the OK to leave.

If someone is injured

Do not move the victim unless there is immediate danger.

- Call 911. If the victim is bleeding or unconscious, tell the 911 operator.
- Remain calm, and stay with the victim.

If the victim is bleeding:

- Apply direct pressure to the wound. Raise the injured area.
- Do not let the victim’s blood touch your skin.

Poisoning

- If you suspect poisoning, call 911 immediately.
- If you know what poison was taken, tell the 911 operator.
- Keep the victim safe and warm until help arrives.

24-HOUR POISON CONTROL 1-800-222-1222

Earthquake

During an earthquake:

- **Duck** under a table or big piece of furniture.
- **Cover** your head and neck with your arms.
- **Hold** on until the shaking stops.

Wheelchair users: Apply the brake; cover your head with your arms.

Drivers: Pull over. Do not block the street, stay in your car.

After the quake stops:

- Expect aftershocks.
- Watch for falling objects and power lines.
- Check your home utilities. If you smell gas, turn off the gas line and leave the building.

Power outages or emergencies

- Turn off all appliances and unplug computers.
- Leave one light on to show when power has been restored.
- Do not use candles. Use flashlights.
- If you are cold, bring everyone into one room and close all doors to keep heat in.
- Check all appliances when power is restored.
- **Do not touch or try to move downed power lines!** Call 911 report all downed power lines.

Floods

During a flood:

- Listen to area radio and television stations and NOAA Weather Radio for possible flood warning reports.
- Be aware of your surroundings and know your evacuation routes. Know all safe routes from home, work, and school that are on higher ground.
- Be prepared to evacuate at a moment's notice.
- Stay away from rising creeks, streams, and rivers.
- Keep children away from water. They are often curious and sometimes lack judgment about running or contaminated water.
- Be especially cautious at night when it is hard to recognize flood dangers.

“Turn Around, Don’t Drown”

- Don’t drive through water on the roadway; during floods, more people are trapped and die on their vehicle than anywhere else.
- Six inches of fast-moving water can knock an adult off his or her feet.
- 18 inches of water will float most cars; two feet of water can float a SUV or truck.

All Hazards

Be aware and prepared:

- Develop a family emergency plan.
- Post emergency telephone numbers by the phone, and teach children how to dial 9-1-1.
- Have an emergency preparedness kit. For information on how to create an emergency preparedness kit, go to www.tehamaso.org
- Plan and practice an evacuation route for all hazards.
- Have a plan for your animals.

When a disaster or other emergency strikes...

Whether a fire, flood, earthquake, terrorist act, or public health issue like the bird flu, West Nile, Vaccine shortages, and SARS... All of these emergencies call for a central source of information where people can turn to receive or give help. 2-1-1 Tehama is that place for our community.

When a disaster or other emergency strikes, 2-1-1 is here to connect you to up-to-date information, relief, and recovery resources. One call to 2-1-1 will connect you with a friendly voice and put you on the path to finding the information you need. You can also visit 211tehama.org and click on “Disaster Resources” under the “Disaster Response” tab for information.

Information available from 2-1-1 during and following a disaster or other emergency:

- Location of emergency shelters
- Location and hours of relief services
- Road closures
- Animal evacuation sites
- Where to find food and water
- Where to find temporary housing
- How to access other government resources
- How to volunteer to help
- How to make a donation
- How to locate family and friends