

DURING EVACUATION

- Tune in to local radio and television for the latest evacuation information.
- Always follow instructions from emergency management authorities. They have a master plan and may ask certain parts of the community to evacuate first or to use specific routes.
- Make sure you understand the route authorities recommend for your area. Have map or GPS in case last minute detours are announced or become necessary.
- Notify your employer/s.
- Dress in sturdy clothing, such as long pants and shirts and put on sturdy shoes.
- Gather any extra items requested by authorities, such as sheets, pillows and blankets.
- Place emergency kits, children's kits and go packet you've prepared ahead of time in car.
- Gather enough clothing for three days for each person, if you haven't before.
- Take care of animals according to plans made ahead of time.
- Unless otherwise instructed, if no flooding is anticipated, turn off all small equipment and appliances but leave freezers and refrigerators running. If flooding is likely, turn off all the electricity at the main panel or circuit breaker.
- If instructed to do so, turn off gas and water lines.
- Close and lock all the doors and windows in the home.
- Let friends and neighbors know about the evacuation and the family's absence. If requested by authorities, mark your house unoccupied according to their directions (note or white cloth on front door, etc)
- If possible, leave in daylight.
- Steer clear of downed power lines, debris and other obstacles.
- Be prepared for slow going, be courteous and considerate of others.
- Expect some discomfort if required to stay in a shelter, but focus on the safety of family members during the experience.
- Once in a stable location, contact separated family members, but limit calls to prevent overloading the phone system. Out-of-state calls and text messages may go through more quickly and easily than regular calls.

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