

## EVACUATION TIPS

Evacuations save lives and allow responding personnel to focus on the emergency at hand. **Please evacuate promptly when requested.**

Practice before a fire. Drive your planned route of escape out of your neighborhood or from work before an actual emergency.

### THE EVACUATION PROCESS

Law enforcement agencies are typically responsible for enforcing an evacuation order. Follow their directions promptly.

You will be advised of potential evacuations as early as possible.

You must take the initiative to stay informed and aware.

Listen for your neighborhood warning siren.

Tune your radio/ TV for announcements from law enforcement and emergency personnel.

In Contra Costa County check the community warning system at [www.cococaer.org](http://www.cococaer.org).

Program your local emergency number into your cell phone. Local emergency numbers:

Berkeley (510) 981-5911  
El Cerrito/Kensington (510) 233-5223  
Moraga-Orinda (925) 228-8282  
Oakland (510) 444-1616

If you use a cell phone to call 911, the call may go to California Highway Patrol in Vallejo and not local emergency providers.

## EVACUATION ORDERS

There are many terms that may be used to alert you to the significance of danger from wildfire.

**All evacuation instructions provided by officials should be followed immediately for your safety.**

## EVACUATION CHECKLIST

Critical medications

Important personal papers, photos

Essential valuables

Pets, collar and leads, carriers, medications, water and food for 72 hours

Change of clothing and toiletries

Cell phone and hand-cranked or solar charger

Critical papers and effects

Area map marked with at least two routes

Agreed upon meeting place for family members.



Hills Emergency Forum  
[www.hillsemergencyforum.org](http://www.hillsemergencyforum.org)

**Keep a copy of these Tips in your car, at home and at work  
For When You Need Them**



# Wildfire Evacuation Tips



## IF EVACUATION IS A POSSIBILITY

- Locate your Evacuation Checklist and place the items in your vehicle.
- Park your vehicle facing outward and carry your car keys with you.
- Locate your pets and keep them ready to transport.
- Prepare large animals for transport.
- Set up a ladder for access to the roof.
- Move propane BBQ appliances away from structures.
- Place connected garden hoses and buckets full of water around the outside of the house.
- Cover up. Wear long pants, long sleeves shirt, heavy shoes/ boots, dry bandanna for face cover, goggles or glasses. 100% cotton is preferable.
- Leave lights on in house – door unlocked.
- Leave windows closed – vents/ air conditioning off.
- Identify in advance where to meet if you get separated. Select a common friend or relative to call.
- Evacuations save lives and allow responding personnel to focus on the emergency at hand.

## IF YOU BECOME TRAPPED

### While in your vehicle

- Stay calm.
- Park your vehicle in an area clear of vegetation and power lines. Do not block the road.
- Keep the engine running and headlights on. Roll up windows and set the venting system to re-circulate to reduce smoke in the car.
- Cover yourself with wool blanket or jacket.
- Lie on vehicle floor.
- Use your cell phone to advise officials – Call your local emergency number.

### While on foot

- Stay calm.
- Go to an area clear of vegetation, a ditch or depression, if possible.
- Lie face down, cover up.
- Use your cell phone to advise officials – Call your local emergency number.

### While in your home

- Stay calm, keep your family together.
- Call your local emergency number and inform officials of your location.
- Fill your sinks and tubs with cold water.
- Keep doors and windows closed but unlocked.
- Stay inside your house.
- Stay away from outside walls and windows.

*Note: It will get hot in the house. But it is much hotter, and more dangerous outside.*

## RETURNING HOME

Fire officials will determine when it is safe for you to return to your home. This will be done as soon as possible considering safety and accessibility.

## WHEN YOU RETURN HOME

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

## FOR MORE INFORMATION

### Local Emergency Broadcast Stations:

- City of Berkeley 1610 AM
- City of Oakland 530 AM
- El Cerrito NWS radio code 706013
- UC Berkeley KALX 90.7 FM

### Regional News

- KCBS 740 AM
- KGO 810 AM
- KNBR 680 AM

### Emergency Preparedness Websites

- [www.getreadyberkeley.org](http://www.getreadyberkeley.org)
- [www.elcerritokengingtoncert.org](http://www.elcerritokengingtoncert.org)
- [www.oaklandnet.com/fire/core.html](http://www.oaklandnet.com/fire/core.html)
- [www.lamorindacert.org](http://www.lamorindacert.org)
- [www.oep.berkeley.edu](http://www.oep.berkeley.edu)
- [www.ready.gov](http://www.ready.gov)