

ATTENTION: IMPORTANT COMMUNITY EVACUATION INFORMATION.

PLAN YOUR ESCAPE NOW!

WHEN YOU RECEIVE THIS HANDOUT YOU SHOULD:

- Highlight your evacuation route now and post this map in a conspicuous location, also put a copy in each of your vehicles;
- Make plans for anyone who may be in your home when you are not, ex., children, elderly, those with special needs, etc.;
- Prepare a checklist of important items to take with you, ex., irreplaceable documents, medications, photos, cell phone/charger, computer tower, etc.
- Once evacuated, road closures may prevent you from returning;
- Prearrange a meeting place outside your neighborhood with family members;
- Those with special needs should develop a Phone Tree network with friends/neighbors who can assist in an evacuation;
- Plan how you will transport your pets. Arrange for the evacuation of large animals and know shelter locations. Make sure all animals have appropriate identification.

DON'T WAIT TO BE TOLD TO EVACUATE!

Most people who are killed or injured in a fire waited too long to evacuate. If you are uncomfortable because of smoke, extreme weather conditions, etc., you should move to a safer location. The longer you wait the more congestion there will be on roadways. **IF IN DOUBT – GET OUT.**

BEFORE EVACUATION DO THE FOLLOWING:

- Place valuable documents, family mementos, medicines, glasses and other valuables in your vehicle;
- Secure pets in carriers so departure is not delayed;
- Place your car facing out with windows closed;
- Close garage doors but leave them unlocked and disconnect any automatic door openers;
- Shut off propane or natural gas valves and move all portable propane tanks away from your house;
- Close all interior doors to slow any fire;
- Wear long sleeve cotton or wool shirts and long pants;
- Wear gloves, do not wear synthetic fabrics;
- Turn on all exterior lights;
- Move combustibles, yard furniture, cushions, etc., away from the house;
- Attach garden hoses to bibs and lay them out into the yard;
- Place a metal ladder against the side of house opposite the approaching fire;
- Close all windows and doors and close heavy draperies, but open light fabric window coverings;
- Apply fire blocking gel, if trained and if available.

HOW WILL YOU BE TOLD TO EVACUATE?

A Reverse 9-1-1 call from the Sheriff's Office will inform you of a mandatory evacuation. Reverse 9-1-1 calls will not automatically be made to cell phones. To register your cell phone on the 9-1-1 database, go to www.readysandiego.org. Remember that if you lose power or your power is turned off, you may not receive an official evacuation call from the Sheriff's Office. Having a corded phone, or a registered cell phone, will better your chances of receiving a call in the event power is lost or turned off.

IF YOU FEEL YOU ARE UNABLE TO EVACUATE, DO THE FOLLOWING:

If you are inside your home:

- Move furniture away from windows and sliding glass doors;
- Close all windows and doors and close heavy draperies, but open light fabric window coverings. Leave all exterior doors unlocked.
- Stay inside your house, away from outside walls and in rooms opposite the approaching fire;
- Keep your family together;
- Place wet towels around gaps in doors to keep out smoke;
- Stay in your house until the fire passes – the fire will be loud, smoky, hot, but will most likely pass in about 10 to 20 minutes. The conditions will be much worse outside. If your house does catch on fire, you will usually have time to leave before substantial damage occurs.

If you are trapped in your vehicle while attempting to evacuate:

Park in an area clear of vegetation, turn off the ignition, close all windows and vents, cover yourself with a blanket or coat and lie on the floor. Tires may burst from the heat, but remain in your vehicle until the fire passes.

If you are trapped by fire while attempting to evacuate on foot:

Find a ditch or area along a road clear of vegetation; however, avoid canyons since they channel wildfire. Lie face down and cover exposed skin with a jacket or blanket.

Once the fire has passed:

- Account for the safety of every person.
- Check the exterior of your home, roof, and attic for embers.
- Keep doors and windows closed; continue to check your home and yard for burning embers for at least 12 hours.

