

Evacuation Planning

This guide combines an evacuation map template with a step-by-step evacuation checklist. Use it to plan your routes, identify safe meeting places, and ensure you know what to do before, during, and after an evacuation. Keep copies in your family binder, go-bags, and vehicles.

Evacuation Destinations

Outside of Home Meeting Place (100ft): _____

Neighborhood Meeting Place (0.5-1 miles): _____

Primary Route: _____

Secondary Route: _____

Out-of-Town Destination: _____

Primary Route: _____

Secondary Route: _____

Long Distance Destination (3-4 hrs): _____

Primary Route: _____

Secondary Route: _____

Evacuation Map Template

- ☐ Draw or print maps from Google Maps and keep copies in your go-bag, glove compartment, and family binder
- ☐ Mark your primary and alternate evacuation routes (by car and on foot).
- ☐ Highlight nearby safe meeting places (park, library, community center).
- ☐ Mark highways or main roads out of your city.
- ☐ Highlight 2-3 potential destinations (family/friends' homes, hotels, or shelters).
- ☐ Add backup routes in case primary roads are blocked.



Evacuation Checklist

Before You Evacuate

- ☐ Assemble go-bags for each family member (including special needs items).
- ☐ Pack a pet emergency kit (food, carrier, leash, medical records).
- ☐ Secure critical documents (IDs, insurance, medical, financial).
- ☐ Keep your vehicle's gas tank at least half full at all times.
- ☐ Store an emergency car kit (water, snacks, blankets, first aid, flashlight).
- ☐ Share your evacuation plan with your out-of-town contact.

When Evacuation Is Announced

- ☐ Grab go-bags, documents, and pet kits.
- ☐ Unplug appliances, turn off utilities (gas, water, electricity) if instructed.
- ☐ Lock your home.
- ☐ Follow designated evacuation routes (avoid shortcuts that may be blocked).
- ☐ Stay tuned to local alerts via radio, phone, or official apps.
- ☐ Travel with neighbors or relatives if they need assistance.

If You Cannot Evacuate Immediately

- ☐ Move to your designated safe room (preferably interior, no windows).
- ☐ Keep water, snacks, and flashlights nearby.
- ☐ Stay in communication with your out-of-town contact.
- ☐ Follow official updates to know when it's safe to leave.

After Evacuation

- ☐ Check in with your out-of-town contact to confirm safety.
- ☐ Report your status via Red Cross 'Safe and Well' or local systems.
- ☐ Return home only when authorities declare it safe.
- ☐ Document any damages with photos before cleaning or repairs.
- ☐ File insurance claims promptly with your stored policy numbers.

IMPORTANT: Run a household evacuation drill at least once a year. Time how long it takes to be 'car-ready' with your go-bags packed and essentials gathered.