



Forest Meadows Owners Association

Emergency Plan

Presented by FMOA Board of Directors

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## Purpose

To provide a plan for the orderly, efficient and safe evacuation of people from areas within the Forest Meadows community when threatened by emergency incidents that are potentially life threatening. This summary is the information necessary for residents for orderly and safe evacuation of Forest Meadows.

**IF YOU SEE SOMETHING, SAY SOMETHING! CALL 911 if you see fire. Don't assume someone else has reported the incident.**

## Important Numbers and WEBSITE links:

Emergency – Dial **911**

Forest Meadows:

- Main Office: 209 728 -2511
- URL: [https://www.fmowners.com/emergency\\_agency\\_links](https://www.fmowners.com/emergency_agency_links)

Ebbetts Pass Fire District (209) 795-1646

CalFire Tuolumne-Calaveras 209-754-3831

Calaveras County Sheriff's Office (209) 754-6500

Calaveras County Office of Emergency Services

- Phone: (209) 754-6650
- URL: <https://oes.calaverasgov.us>

PG&E :

- Phone: 1 (800) 743-5000
- URL: <https://www.safetyactioncenter.pge.com/articles/42-create-emergency-plan-today>

Sign up for emergency notifications at:

[www.nixle.com](http://www.nixle.com)

<http://oes.calaverasgov.us/notifications>

Watch Duty provides real-time push notifications about wildfires in California

<https://watchduty.org> (get the app)

## **EVACUATION ZONES:**

Your address has been associated with an evacuation zone. Determine your Zone by looking up your address using the following URL...

<https://community.zonehaven.com>

## **EVACUATION ORDERS:**

Evacuation orders in Calaveras County may be either Warning or Mandatory and will be managed by EVACUATION ZONE. Given our limited number of Emergency Exits and poor communication infrastructure in our vicinity, you should treat an Warning Evacuation as a Mandatory Evacuation--resources will be mobilized to notify you of the emergency. FMOA strongly urges you to evacuate when you get an Warning, though you are not legally obliged to do so. If you choose to remain until a Mandatory Evacuation is ordered and you are legally required to leave, your options for evacuation, and your time to prepare, may be severely reduced.

Forest Meadows residents should plan ahead for such a scenario by:

- Developing a family emergency plan
- Building an emergency supply kit
- Making sure that the gas tank is always at least half full
- Prepare a GO BAG that includes any critical medication, Cash, Identification (Passport, Driver's License) a change of clothes, and any other emergency materials you deem necessary
- Take a complete video (using your phone) of your household inventory and store the files in a Cloud account if possible.

## HOW EVACUATION ORDERS ARE TO BE DELIVERED TO FOREST MEADOWS:

- Calaveras County Sheriff's Office will inform FM residents who have registered for the Calaveras Alert and Nixle services of the evacuation status via those services (home phone, cell phone, email alerts are all available).
- Local radio/TV stations will be informed and will broadcast the order. We strongly urge all residents to obtain a battery-operated radio; internet and cellphone networks in this area are unreliable in an emergency.
- Emergency Services personnel will inform the community of the evacuation order.
  - Residents will be directed to specified emergency exits by Emergency Services Personnel. Do not assume all emergency exits will be safe to use.
  - In the event of a Mandatory Evacuation, in addition to the above, public safety officials will go door-to-door.
- Depending on the circumstance, FMOA may notify residents via...
  - E-blast (email)
  - Alert notice on FMOA website, [www.fmowners.com](http://www.fmowners.com)
  - Notice board at front gate

## EMERGENCY COMMUNICATION INFORMATION

Nixle and Calaveras Alert signup information:

Both of these services, which the County will use to contact residents in cases of emergencies, may be accessed via the web.

- Nixle is described here: <https://nixle.com/alert/4774029/>
- To sign up go to [www.nixle.com](http://www.nixle.com)  
Calaveras Alert Emergency Notification program is explained here: <http://oes.calaverasgov.us/notifications>  
Registration instructions are included on this page. You can register your home phone, cell phone(s), receive text messages, emails and notifications on social media using these services. We recommend you sign up for both.
- Other notification services:
  - Local radio stations: KVML 1450 AM, KKBN 93.5
  - Local cable television (Comcast channels 7 and 9)
  - Announcements on monitored websites: <https://www.mymotherlode.com> , <http://thepinetree.net>, yubanet.com), [www.fmowners.com](http://www.fmowners.com)

## RESIDENT EMERGENCY PREPARATION AND RESPONSIBILITIES

### Pre-Evacuation Planning:

- Family preparation involves creating a plan--where will you evacuate, how will you meet, how will you communicate.
- Ensure everyone in your family knows where the gas (propane) and electric shutoff is and how to use them.
- Review evacuation routes from your location and designate an emergency meeting location outside the hazard area. Plan where you will go east or west from Forest Meadows.
- Take an inventory of major household items and belongings. Use a video camera or take digital photographs. Store your important data in the Cloud if possible.
- Designate an out-of-area friend or relative as a point of contact, so you can communicate with family members who have relocated.
- Keep a list of emergency contact numbers near your phone and make sure they are programmed into your cellphone.
- Prepare an emergency supply kit including: a battery-powered radio, spare batteries, emergency contact numbers, blankets, snacks and ample drinking water.
- Prepare an evacuation checklist long before a fire threatens, and organize what you plan to take with you.

### Create a GO BAG...for you

- Critical medications
- Important personal papers and photographs, including insurance information
- Essential valuables
- Change of toiletries and clothing
- Cell phone and computer (make sure you take power cords as well)
- An evacuation route map
- Hint: keep large trash bags, pillowcases, or storage boxes or baskets near those items you may want to take with you.
- Copies of all medical and vaccination records
- 2-week supply of medication, plus copy of prescription.
- Blanket or large towel
- First aid kit

### Create a GO BAG...for your animals

- Crate or traveling carrier large enough for the pet to stand up and turn around.
- Make sure all crates are labeled with the pet's name, your name, and a phone number where you can be reached.
  - food, water and bowls for each pet.
  - paper towels/plastic bags/spray disinfectant for waste cleanup
- Extra collars/ID tags and Leash

## Getting Set to Go:

Get set to leave before a formal evacuation is ordered. Evacuate as soon as you are packed and let family and neighbors know you are leaving. Stay tuned to your local radio and TV stations and relevant social media for updates. Finally, remain close to your house, stay hydrated and keep an eye on your pets-- keep them inside and be aware of where they are as much as you can. With unfamiliar sounds, smells, and sights that follow a disaster, household pets can easily become confused and get lost. Dogs and cats should wear appropriate identification at all times. Know your cat's and dog's common and favorite hiding places. Once the chaos starts, this is where you will find them.

- Make sure you know at all times where your car keys are, your glasses, your wallet, your cellphone, etc.--all the things you want on your person when you leave.
- Inside your home,
  - shut windows and doors,
  - remove flammable window shades and curtains;
  - If you have time, move flammable furniture to the center of the room, away from windows and doors.
  - Turn off gas, pilot lights, heating and air conditioning units,
  - leave some lights on so firefighters can see your house under smoky conditions.
- Outside the house,
  - Place the "Evacuated" banner on the address sign nearest to the street. These are available in our front office and/or from your local fire house.
  - Gather flammable items from the immediate exterior of the house, and move them away from the home.
  - Bring in any flammable patio furniture that is located on exterior decks.
  - Turn off any sprinklers or water system, leave your exterior lights on.
  - If you have a ladder and shovel, leave them where they are easily visible.
  - Have your car ready to head out the driveway and shut the windows and lock your doors.

**If firefighters need to get into your home, they will break down a door to gain entry. Make sure there are no obstructions in your driveway or entry that would block firefighters from gaining entry to your house.**

- Follow instructions to proper exit route and to designated shelter area to register your evacuation.
- Emergency Services will provide updates as to when it's safe to return.
- Law Enforcement will patrol our neighborhoods in the event of an evacuation to ensure looting does not occur.
- Do not trust information on social media sites.

## EMERGENCY EXITS

**EMERGENCY SERVICES WILL DETERMINE THE BEST EVACUATION ROUTE AND WILL PROVIDE INSTRUCTIONS AT THE POINT OF THE EVACUATION.**

- Primary Exit: Main Gate on Forest Meadows Dr and Highway 4
- Secondary Exit: Gate at the end of Heather Dr.

**DO NOT DECIDE ON YOUR OWN WHICH EXIT IS BEST. EMERGENCY SERVICES WILL ENSURE YOUR EVACUATION ROUTE IS SAFE**

## SHELTER IN PLACE

Whether you are at home, work or elsewhere, there may be situations when it's simply best to stay where you are and avoid any uncertainty outside.

There may be circumstances when staying put and creating a barrier between yourself and potentially contaminated air outside, a process known as "sealing the room", is a matter of survival. Use common sense and available information to assess the situation and determine if there is immediate danger. If you see large amounts of debris in the air, or if local authorities say the air is badly contaminated, you may want to take this kind of action.

- The process used to seal the room is considered a temporary protective measure to create a barrier between you and potentially contaminated air outside. It is a type of sheltering in place that requires preplanning.
  - Bring your family and pets inside.
  - Lock doors, close windows, air vents and fireplace dampers.
  - Turn off fan, air conditioning and forced air heating systems.
  - Take your emergency supply kit unless you have reason to believe it has been contaminated.
  - Go into an interior room with few windows, if possible.
  - Seal all windows, doors and air vents with 2-4 mil thick plastic sheeting and duct tape.
- Consider measuring and cutting the sheeting in advance to save time.
  - Cut the plastic sheeting several inches wider than the openings and label each sheet.
  - Duct tape plastic at corners first and then tape down all edges. Be prepared to improvise and use what you have on hand to seal gaps so that you create a barrier between yourself and any contamination.
- Local authorities may not immediately be able to provide information on what is happening and what you should do. However, you should watch TV, listen to the radio or check the Internet often for official news and instructions as they become available.

**PLEASE BE AWARE: Phone services may be impacted by the emergency event and/or may be overwhelmed by the volume of calls.**



## **SHELTER IN PLACE continued:**

- Items to put in your emergency supply kit:
  - Water, one gallon per day per person plus water for pets
  - Food items for special dietary needs, foods that are not overly salty and at least a three-day supply of food per person.
  - A well-stocked first aid kit
  - A battery-operated radio with a wind-up option. Check batteries each year and replace if necessary.
  - Battery operated lanterns and flashlights are a better option to using candles,
  - A set of clean clothes and toiletry items if this is the emergency kit you have put together to take to an evacuation shelter.
  - A supply of dry firewood, fire starter sticks, kindling and newspaper on hand just to be used for emergencies, for instance if there is no power for a three-day period and you have a wood burning stove or fireplace.
- If a mandatory evacuation should occur here are a few tips:
  - Take your emergency kit of supplies with you if you are planning to go to a shelter.
  - You may want to include playing cards, and a game or two.
- Residents at particular risk in case of a prolonged shelter-in-place emergency, such as a major winter storm that knocks out power over a wide area, are encouraged to identify their special needs well ahead of such an emergency so they can receive necessary attention should such an event occur.