

## **EVACUATION of a THREATENED AREA is PRIMARILY the RESPONSIBILITY of LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES and PERSONNEL**

### **WARNING**

Warning will take place by several methods, depending on time availability.

1. Radio and television - by chief government officials, emergency management director, or public information officer.
2. National Weather Service Weather Radio - announces all emergency warnings regardless of cause (frequency 162.525).
3. Law enforcement or fire vehicles - sounding sirens and giving information over public address loud speakers.
4. Door-to-door - by law enforcement and fire personnel.

### **EVACUATION ROUTES**

Evacuation routes cannot be established without knowing the location of the problem, the behavior of the problem, and conditions such as wind direction and wind speed. The safest evacuation routes will be identified by the appropriate agencies and will be made public during the evacuation warning. Pay attention to the blue and white evacuation route signs or personnel assigned to direct traffic.

**DO NOT  
DEVIATE FROM  
DESIGNATED  
EVACUATION  
ROUTES.**



### **TRANSPORTATION**

Residents will be expected to use personal vehicles. Car-pooling is suggested if arranged previous to the incident. Establish a plan for times when the family may be separated due to work or school schedules. Arrangements should be made with neighbors to transport family members with special needs, children, or those without a means of transportation. Persons confined due to medical conditions that prevent normal transportation should call the Yavapai County Department of Emergency Management at 520 / 771-3321 for assistance.

### **ACTIONS TO TAKE for Immediate Evacuation**

- Unplug all electrical equipment and appliances except refrigerator and freezer
- Close heavy drapes and blinds
- Turn on exterior lights
- Lock doors and windows
- IMPORTANT - tie a white towel or any large white cloth to front door knob or a convenient attachment close to door. This advises rescuers that your residence is evacuated.

### **ESSENTIALS TO TAKE for Immediate Evacuation**

- Important papers and valuables (if readily available)
- Medication
- Prescription glasses / Dentures
- Personal toilet articles / sanitary needs
- Sleeping bag or blankets
- Special dietary needs
- Baby foods, diapers, etc.
- Checkbook, credit cards, cash
- Drivers license

### **ADDITIONAL ITEMS to Take if Time Permits**

- Flashlight / extra batteries
- Portable radio / extra batteries
- Change of clothing for each person
- Food - nonperishable, ready to eat
- Water - one gallon per person
- Reading material
- Recreational items - games, cards, knitting, sewing, books, devotional materials
- First aid kit

### **REGISTRATION**

It is imperative that all evacuees take time to register at a registration/reception center, so that information concerning your whereabouts is available for local officials and relatives. The location will be identified at the time of the evacuation. This area could be a large parking area where evacuees will be asked to register all family members.

### **PLAN for Separated Family Members**

Every family should establish plans for times when families may be separated. Include the following:

- Relative or friends phone number where family members can call to exchange information.
- Determine who will transport family members unable to drive, or if no vehicle is available
- Establish a meeting place
- Determine who will be responsible for essential items.

**NOTE: NO ONE WILL BE ALLOWED TO ENTER THE EVACUATION AREA, THUS THE IMPORTANCE FOR PRE-PLANNING.**

## FOOD and SHELTER

At the time of registration evacuees will decide where they will go. You may stay with family or friends, a hotel/motel, or in a Red Cross shelter. Meals will be provided for those who cannot purchase meals on their own. Dining facilities will be identified at the appropriate time.

## SECURITY in an EVACUATION AREA

Law enforcement personnel will make every effort to provide security for evacuated area. The nature of the emergency and the safety of personnel will determine where perimeters will be established.

## CARE of PETS and ANIMALS

Planning for care of pets and animals should be included with the family evacuation plans. An animal's best protection is to be with the owner, however, this will not always be possible. Public shelters do not allow pets.

- Locate a safe place for your pets before disaster strikes
- If planning to stay in a hotel/motel determine if pets are allowed
- Ask friends or family to provide pet care
- Check availability of boarding kennels to shelter pets during emergencies
- Leaving a pet at home may place it at greater risk for injury. However it may be a last resort. Adequate food, water, and shelter should be provided.

Sheltering of pets may be available at the registration/reception centers if no other pet care is available. For detailed information while planning for evacuation and care of pets and animals, including horses, call Yavapai County Emergency Management at 771-3321.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The following organizations have provided input for the development of this evacuation guide:

Yavapai County Emergency Management

Yavapai County Sheriff's Office

Prescott Police Department

Prescott Fire Department

Central Yavapai Fire District

United States Forest Service - Prescott National Forest

Arizona State Land Department  
Fire Management Division

Prescott Area Wildland Urban Interface Commission

American Red Cross, Yavapai County Service Area

## FOR DISASTER PREPAREDNESS INFORMATION CONTACT:

Yavapai County Emergency Management  
1100 Commerce Drive  
Prescott, AZ 86305  
520 / 771-3321

# A Citizens Guide TO BASIC EVACUATION PROCEDURES



For:

## YAVAPAI COUNTY