

PREPAREDNESS TIPS – EVACUATION

IN ADDITION TO ALL THE TIPS IN THE PREVIOUS LISTS
YOU SHOULD OBSERVE THESE ADDITIONAL DISASTER
AND EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS TIPS

- Have your emergency disaster plan, communication plan, and supplies ready to leave at a moment's notice
- Know where you are going to find shelter – friend's house, hotel, or public shelter
- Have knowledge of approved local routes to shelter as well as maps of neighboring states in case you need to evacuate to a distant location
- Allow adequate time to reach shelter – traffic congestion and bad weather will extend time it takes to reach shelter
- Evacuating at night may mean less traffic
- Have alternate shelter and alternate route ready
- Designate a meeting place for family members
- Make sure your car is in good working condition
- Keep a full tank of gas in your vehicle at all times
- Wear protective clothing, long sleeves, good comfortable shoes
- Have plan for pets made in advance (see pet preparation list)
- Pack car in advance with bedding, clothing, air mattress and/or lawn chairs or chaises
- Pack what you and your family needs since space in shelter is limited
- Communicate to family and friends where you are going, when you expect to arrive there
- Bring sleeping supplies, food that will not spoil or need cooking, your valuables and important papers, water, coolers, supplies, medications, child and senior/disabled supplies, personal hygiene items, and activity supplies for family
- Empty refrigerator before you evacuate
- Label all supplies you take with you with your name, etc.
- Turn off electricity and water at main switch before you leave – gas if necessary
- Unplug all electrical devices
- Be sure to have cash with you as well as your homeowner insurance documents
- Secure your residence when you leave – take keys with you and lock doors and windows
- Have a cell phone with extra batteries and charger
- Be sure to have an inventory of your property or at least pictures or videotape
- Do not empty swimming pool
- Pack breakables in boxes or wrap in blankets and place above floor
- Remove mirrors and lampshades and wrap in blankets and place in shower or bathtub
- Have a whistle to signal family members when necessary
- Do not leave shelter until authorities say it is safe to do so
- Have a picture ID so that you can return home through police barricades
- If you are in a public shelter, register when you arrive, find a safe place for your family, locate exits and bathrooms
- Provide assistance to others in the shelter if possible
- Be sure to have cash with you as well as your homeowner insurance documents
- Unplug all electrical devices
- Be alert and aware at your location
- Have alternate plans available if you cannot return home because of flooding, damage, etc.