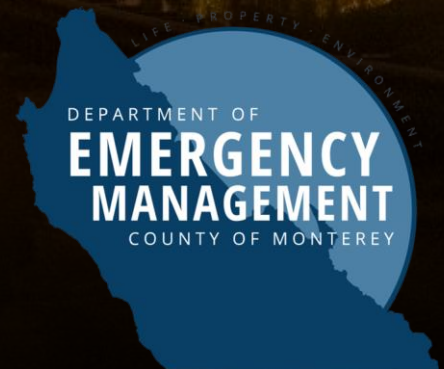




# EVACUATION PLANNING





Many kinds of emergencies can cause you to have to evacuate. In some cases, you may have a day or two to prepare while other situations might call for an immediate evacuation.

Planning is vital to making sure that you can evacuate quickly and safely no matter what the circumstances.





PREPAREDNESS



Stay informed by registering for Emergency Alerts to receive area-specific emergency information, including evacuation orders and street closures.

[Alertmontereycounty.org](http://Alertmontereycounty.org)  
or text your zip code to  
65513

# STAY INFORMED STAY PREPARED

## Receive Local Emergency Alerts on Your Phone

Scan the QR Codes below to sign up for alerts and find useful resources for Monterey County residents

The graphic features a central smartphone displaying two QR codes, each with a 'SCAN ME' label. The top QR code is associated with the Department of Emergency Management logo, which includes a map of Monterey County. The bottom QR code is associated with the A!ERT Monterey County logo. To the right of the phone are four red icons: a house with a crack, a fire with trees, a car on a road with waves, and a warning triangle with an exclamation mark. At the bottom right, there are two official logos: the Department of Emergency Management logo and the Monterey County seal, which includes the text 'COUNTY OF MONTEREY CALIFORNIA' and '1850'.

Assemble  
supplies that  
are ready for  
evacuation

## PREP KIT 101

- ✓ Food
- ✓ Water
- ✓ Flashlight
- ✓ Batteries
- ✓ Battery or solar radio
- ✓ Evacuation routes/map
- ✓ Can opener
- ✓ Important documents
- ✓ Medications
- ✓ First aid kit
- ✓ Blanket
- ✓ Hygiene products
- ✓ Pet supplies



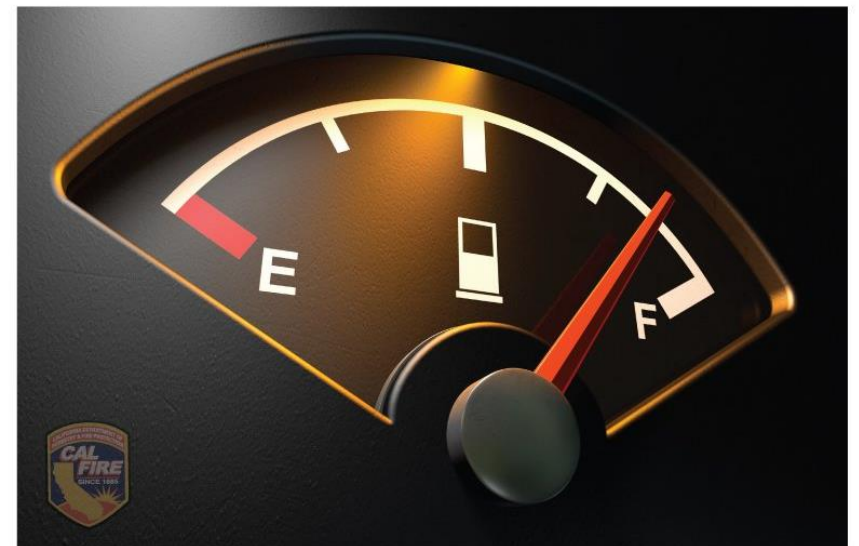


Ensure your  
vehicle is  
ready.



## PRE-EVACUATION PREPARATION

Always keep the gas tank at least half full in your vehicles



PLANNING



Create a  
family  
emergency  
plan





# Emergency plan should include:

- Evacuation route
- Family communication plan
- How often update emergency kits
- Shelter plan (or reunification site)
- Phone numbers of all family members
- Emergency contacts for out of area
- Escape routes
- Emergency meeting spots (3, with 1 being out of area)
- Pet plan (if needed)
- Important documents (in firesafe/waterproof bag or box)

# Practice your plan

- Visit emergency meeting places
- Designate roles and responsibilities
- Practice evacuation and escape routes
- Review your emergency essentials and add/replace as needed
- Update emergency contact information
- Encourage neighbors to participate/share contact information.

DURING AN  
EVACUATION





Understand  
the alerts

# KNOW THE DIFFERENCE



Potential threat to life/property. Leave now if you need additional time to evacuate or have pets or livestock.

A lawful order to evacuate due to immediate threat to life/property.

**Evacuation Warning**

**Evacuation Order**



**Cal OES**  
GOVERNOR'S OFFICE  
OF EMERGENCY SERVICES

# Procedure

- Leave early enough to avoid being trapped.
- Contact Monterey County SPCA if need assistance with large animals.
- Wear sturdy shoes and clothing that provides some protection such as long pants, long-sleeved shirts, hat.
- Initiate family communication plan.
- Secure your home by closing and locking doors, windows.
- Unplug electrical equipment such as TV's, small appliances.
- Check with neighbors who may need a ride. Carpool when possible, to help avoid congestion.
- Follow evacuation routes. Do not take shortcuts as they may be blocked.
- Be alert for road hazards.

AFTER AN  
EVACUATION





# Returning home

- Return only when officials have instructed to do so.
- Expect hazards and utility disruption- proceed with caution.
- Walk carefully around outside, look for damage, loose power lines, gas leaks.
- Bring a flashlight and turn it on before entering.
- Enter carefully and watch for hazards (broken glass, loose boards, etc.)
- Open windows to air out and check for any leaks/breaks.
- Check with local authorities before using any water and pump out wells- water could be contaminated.

COUNTY RESOURCES

DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COUNTY OF MONTEREY

# County of Monterey

Emergency Readiness, Response, and Recovery

## Prepare

Find out how your family can be more prepared and become more resilient

Go to Prepare Monterey County >>

## Emergency

Stay up to date with the latest information during an emergency

Go to Emergency Monterey County >>

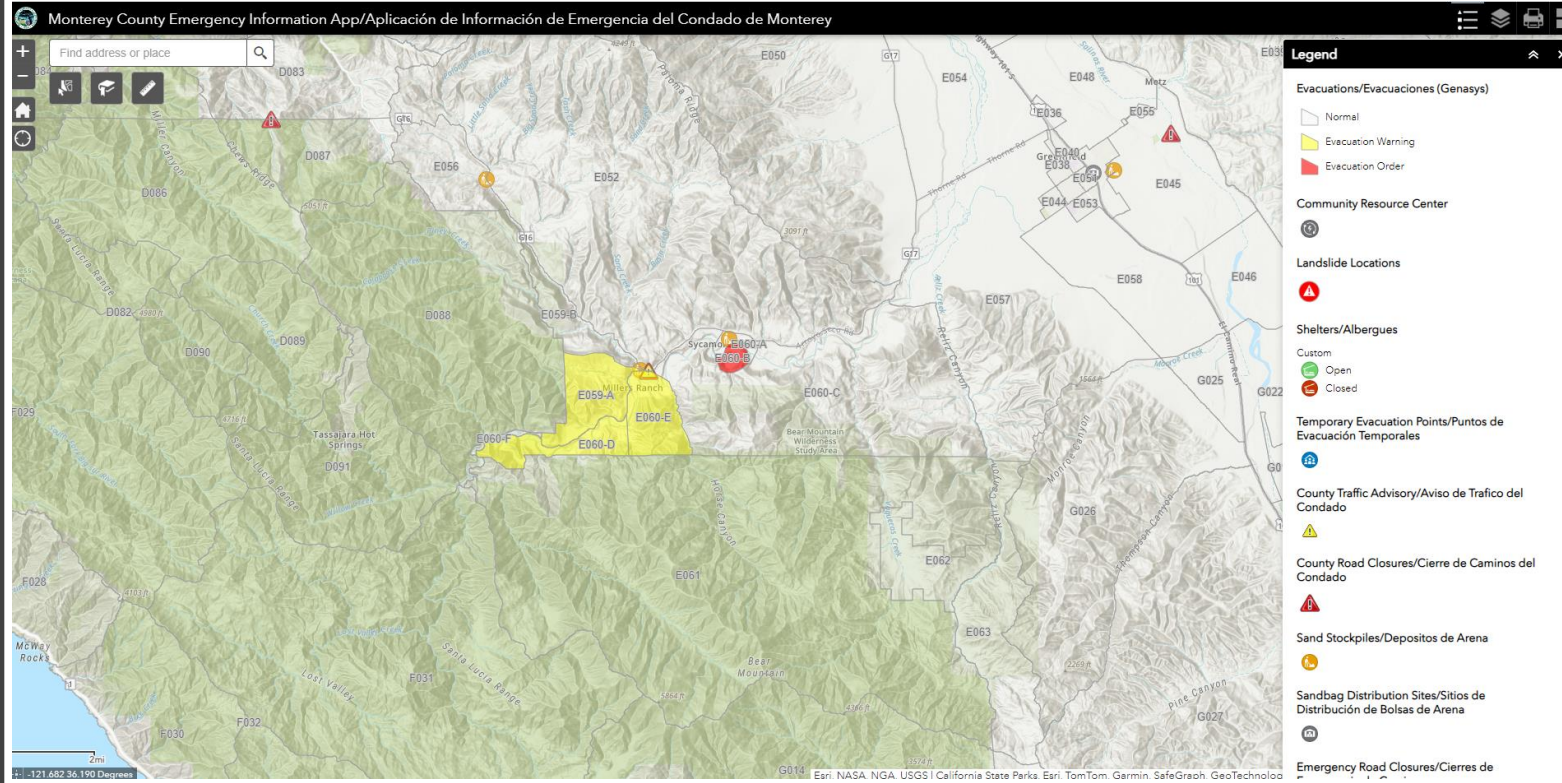
## Recover

Stay up to date with the latest information during an emergency

Go to Recover Monterey County >>



# Know your zone





# Additional resources

- Register for alerts: [www.alertmontereycounty.org](http://www.alertmontereycounty.org)
- DEM website: [www.readymontereycounty.org](http://www.readymontereycounty.org)
- SPCA: [www.spcamc.org](http://www.spcamc.org)
- PG&E Emergency page: [www.pgealerts.alerts.pge.com](http://www.pgealerts.alerts.pge.com)
- National Weather Service: [www.weather.gov](http://www.weather.gov)

# Preparedness materials

[www.ready.gov](http://www.ready.gov)

The screenshot shows the Ready.gov website interface. At the top, there is a logo for 'Ready' with a green checkmark icon, and navigation links for 'About Ready' and 'Contact Us'. A search bar is located in the top right corner. Below the logo, a green navigation bar contains links for 'Disasters and Emergencies', 'Make a Plan', 'Get Involved', 'Ready Business', 'Ready Kids', and 'Resources'. The main content area features an illustration of a family being embraced by a FEMA representative. To the right, there are two smartphone mockups: one displaying an 'Alerts' screen for Baltimore, MD, with a 'Flash Flood Warning' and a 'Tornado Watch' issued for June 1st, and another displaying a 'Recover' section with a 'FAQ' and a list of topics including 'Before You Apply', 'When You Apply', 'After You Apply', 'Appealing a Decision', and 'Technical Assistance'. Below the illustration, a sidebar menu lists 'Disasters and Emergencies' with sub-links for 'All Hazards', 'Emergency Alerts', 'Attacks in Public Places', 'Avalanche', 'Biohazard Exposure', 'Cybersecurity', 'Drought', 'Earthquakes', 'Explosions', and 'Extreme Heat'. The main content area has a heading 'Disasters and Emergencies' with language options for 'English' and 'Español'. The text explains that users can learn about disasters and hazards, get emergency alerts, and know where to go if they need to evacuate. It also mentions downloading the FEMA App for preparedness strategies and real-time alerts. A section titled 'Order Free Preparedness Materials' states that materials can be ordered from FEMA's online ordering platform at no cost. Finally, a section for 'Hazard Information Sheets' provides information on how to prepare for, stay safe during, and respond to hazards, with a link to FEMA's Protective Actions Research site.

Planning  
materials  
[www.ready.gov](http://www.ready.gov)



[About Ready](#) | [Contact Us](#)

Search



Disasters and Emergencies ▾

Make a Plan ▾

Get Involved

Ready Business ▾

Ready Kids

Resources ▾

Disasters and  
Emergencies

**Make a Plan**

**Plan Ahead**

**Make a Plan Form**

Build a Kit

Low and No Cost  
Preparedness

Financial Preparedness

Get Tech Ready

People with Disabilities

Older Adults

Caregivers

Pets and Animals

#SummerReady

#WinterReady

Evacuation

Shelter

[English](#) [Español](#)

*The information you provide is not saved, stored or shared by any government agency.*

You may not be together when disaster strikes, so it's important to know how you'll reconnect if separated. Use this form to create a Family Emergency Communication Plan, which you can email as a PDF file once complete.

## Household Information

Home #: (optional)

123-456-7890

Address: (optional)

## Family Members



# Neighborhood communication tools: **nextdoor.com**



Share on Nextdoor

## ***How to use Nextdoor during a disaster***

Below are tips on using Nextdoor to share and find local information and resources to ask for or offer to help. When looking for and sharing information on Nextdoor, search for commonly used terms such as evacuation orders, road closures, supplies, gasoline, and shelter.

- Remember that some of your neighbors may need help. You can help them prepare, for example, by running errands, securing outdoor items, clearing drains, filling and placing sandbags, or installing hurricane shutters
- If evacuation orders are given, some of your neighbors may also need a ride; knock on their doors and post to Nextdoor with your offer.
- You may return home before others, and you can offer to check on your neighbors' homes and take pictures of the damage so they can start the claim process.
- Repost messages you find helpful to increase visibility.
- For the best experience, use the Nextdoor app or install it if it is not on your phone.
- To find trusted information from public agencies, go to <https://nextdoor.com/agency/feed>.
- Invite your neighbors to join Nextdoor to create more resilient neighborhoods in times of crisis.

To ensure that you and your neighbors can communicate with each other to share vital information, give and get help, and receive essential updates from public agencies, join Nextdoor now!

[Join Nextdoor](#)

# Neighborhood communication tools: [Ring.com/neighbors](https://Ring.com/neighbors)

The screenshot displays the Ring Neighbors website interface. At the top, the Ring logo is on the left, and navigation links for Products, Protect Plans, Neighbors, Help, and Shop are on the right. Below the navigation, there is a breadcrumb trail: Blog Home > Products & Innovation >. The main content area features a map of a neighborhood in Los Angeles, with a blue outline indicating the user's neighborhood. Various colored pins are scattered across the map, representing different types of alerts: red for Crime, green for Safety, purple for Suspicious, and yellow for Stranger. A video player is overlaid on the map, showing a man in a grey jacket and cap standing in a backyard. The video title is "Attempted Backyard Burglary" and the text below it reads: "This was not the first time this has happened to us, but thankfully... more". The video player has 15 likes, a comment icon, and a share icon. The map background shows streets like Santa Monica Fwy, Sepulveda Blvd, and various residential streets in Palms and Culver City.

# Evacuation checklist:

[readymontereycounty.org/  
prepare/evacuation-guide](https://www.readymontereycounty.org/prepare/evacuation-guide)

## WILDFIRE EVACUATION CHECKLIST



Learn more at <https://www.readyforwildfire.org/prepare-for-wildfire/go-evacuation-guide/>

If evacuation is anticipated and time allows, follow this checklist to give your family and home the best chance of survival. Complete the Family Communication Plan on the opposite side for each family member and keep in your wildfire and emergency "Go Kit(s)."

**EVACUATION NOTIFICATIONS & INFORMATION** Register for Alert Marin and Nixle to receive evacuation and fire information notices!

### ALERT MONTEREY COUNTY

[alertmontereycounty.org](http://alertmontereycounty.org) when emergency action is needed at a specific address: wildfires, imminent flooding, evacuations, or other public safety incidents where lives may be at risk; critical information about evacuation routes, hazards, and shelters. Online registration required!



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

Used to provide incident information. Text MocoOES to 888777 and include any and all zip codes you want to be alerted for in your text. For daily fire updates for the River and Carmel fires text MCFIRES2020 to 888777.

### 211

You can call or text 211. Operators can provide updated fire and evacuation information. You can also text "fire" or "wildfire" to 211-211, add your zip code and receive links to current information.

**EVACUATION ORDER:** Leave now! Evacuate immediately. Do not delay to gather valuables or prepare your home. Follow any directions given in the evacuation order.

**EVACUATION WARNING:** Evacuate as soon as possible. A short delay to gather your Go Kit and prepare your home may be OK. Leave if you feel unsafe or conditions change.

**SHELTER IN PLACE:** Stay in your current location or the safest nearby building or unburnable area. May be required when evacuation is impossible, too dangerous, or unnecessary.

### ALWAYS:

#### COMMUNICATIONS

- Keep your cell phone fully charged.
- Notify an out-of-area contact of your phone number, location and status. Update regularly.
- Leave a note with your contact info and out-of-area contact taped to fridge or inside a front window.
- Check on or call neighbors to alert them to prepare at first sign of fire.

#### ON YOUR PERSON

- Dress all family members in long sleeves and long pants; heavy cotton or wool is best, no matter how hot it is.
- Wear full coverage goggles, leather gloves, head protection.
- Cover faces with a dry cotton or wool bandanna or scarf over an N95 respirator. Tie long hair back.
- Carry a headlamp and flashlight (even during the day).
- Carry car keys, wallet, ID, cell phone, and spare battery.
- Drink plenty of water, stay hydrated.
- Put "Go Kits" (reverse) in your vehicle.

#### PETS & ANIMALS

- Locate your pets and place in carriers NOW. You won't be able to catch them when the fire approaches.
- Be sure your pets wear tags and are registered with microchips.
- Place carriers (with your pets in them) near the front door, with fresh water and extra food.
- Prepare horses and large animals for transport and consider moving them to a safe location early, before

### IF TIME ALLOWS:

#### INSIDE THE HOUSE

- Shut all windows and doors (interior too) and leave them *unlocked*.
- Remove combustible window shades and curtains; close metal shutters.
- Move furniture to the center of the room, away from windows.
- Leave indoor and outdoor lights on.
- Shut off HVAC and ceiling fans.

#### OUTSIDE & IN NEIGHBORHOOD

- Place combustible outdoor items (patio furniture, toys, doormats, trash cans, etc.) in garage or 30' from structures (optional: place in a pool).
- Shut off gas at the meter or propane tank; move small tanks at least 15' away from combustibles.
- Connect garden hoses with squeeze-grip nozzles to outdoor spigots for use by firefighters.
- Fill water buckets and place around outside of house, especially near decks and fences.
- Clean your gutters and blow leaves away from house.
- Back your car into driveway, loaded, with doors and windows closed.
- Prop open fence and side gates.
- Place ladder(s) at the corner(s) of structures for firefighters.
- Seal attic and ground vents with pre-cut plywood or metal covers (even duct tape will protect from ember entry) if time allows.
- Patrol your property and monitor conditions. Leave if you see fire igniting or

### WHEN YOU LEAVE:

- Leave immediately if ordered.
- Don't wait for an evacuation order if you feel unsafe or conditions change; leave early if unsure.
- Assist elderly or disabled neighbors.
- Carpool with neighbors to reduce traffic.
- Take only essential vehicles with adequate fuel.
- In your car, turn on headlights, close windows, turn on inside air and AC, tune to local radio.
- Drive slowly and defensively; be observant.
- The best evacuation route is usually the one you know best. Take the fastest paved route to a valley floor, away from the fire if possible.
- Proceed downhill, away from the fire if possible. Know at least two routes.
- If roads are impassable or you are trapped: take shelter in a building, car, or an open area; park in an outside turn if trapped on a hillside; stay far from vegetation; look for wide roads, parking lots, playing fields, etc.
- If trapped, you are better protected inside a building or vehicle.
- Don't abandon your car in the road if passage is impossible. If you must leave your car, park it off the road and consider other options for shelter.
- Evacuate on foot *only* as a last resort.
- Don't evacuate by fire road, uphill, or into open-space areas with unburned vegetation.





---

# COUNTY OF MONTEREY

# DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Mindy Esqueda

Emergency Services Planner

(831) 796-1924

[EsquedaM@co.Monterey.ca.us](mailto:EsquedaM@co.Monterey.ca.us)