

## **Ready GO - Planning for Evacuation: Steps You Can Do Now**

### **Register for alert systems!!**

1. Linn-Benton Alert at <https://www.co.benton.or.us/preparedness/page/emergency-alert>
2. City of Corvallis Alert  
<https://www.corvallisoregon.gov/fire/page/corvallis-alert-emergency-notifications>  
Or text CORVALLIS to 888777
3. Download Red Cross disaster apps onto smart phone or tablet  
<https://www.redcross.org/get-help/how-to-prepare-for-emergencies/mobile-apps.html>  
Or text "GETEMERGENCY" to 90999

### **Develop an evacuation plan, write it down, and discuss it with family members:**

- Which route you will drive out and head north, south, east, or west
- Draw the route on a map, identify and avoid choke points (stop lights, train crossings, etc.)
- Decide on rendezvous points for immediate family members in neighborhood, in Corvallis, outside of Corvallis
- Determine an out of state contact liaison and ensure each member of the family has the correct contact name/number
- Plan to address needs of elderly and/or disabled family members and neighbors
- Plan contingencies for pets
- Familiarize yourself with steps involved in leaving your house on the actual day of evacuation (see attached "Planning for Evacuation: Checklist for Imminent Evacuation").

### **Plan what will go into your Go Bag(s) and assemble** (see "Ready GO - Planning for Evacuation: Your Go Bag" available at the Ready GO web page on the Grand Oaks Community web site):

- Acquire items necessary for Go Bags, then pre-pack a backpack for each family member (and pets). Backpack is preferable, since you may need to carry it yourself.
- Decide on how to move larger items into and out of car (i.e., plastic bins) and acquire these containers.

- Learn the evacuation alert levels and hang the flyer so it is readily visible (see "Oregon State Evacuation Levels," at <https://www.oregon.gov/osp/Docs/OrStEvacLevelsFinalJune2014.pdf>).
- Bookmark wildfire sites on your mobile device (see list of sites at "Ready GO – Planning for Evacuation: Web Sites to Bookmark", can be found at Ready GO web page)
- Ensure that your family knows where your gas shut-off control is located and how to safely shut it down in an emergency (ONLY turn this off if directed to do so or if you were to smell gas from a broken line).
- Participate in spring City of Corvallis evacuation drill (see "Planning for Evacuation: Checklist for Imminent Evacuation," attached).
- Look for information from the Grand Oaks Ready GO emergency preparedness committee after the evacuation drill about wildfire prevention steps to harden your home against wildfire.
- Participate on the Grand Oaks Ready GO team and/or on the Community Emergency Resource Team (CERT) training through Benton County. Information at <https://www.co.benton.or.us/sheriff/page/cert-community-emergency-response-team>.

## **Ready GO - Planning for Evacuation: Checklist for Imminent Evacuation**

*Place this page in a readily accessible location.*

### **Inside the House**

- Locate your pets and keep them inside in preparation for evacuation.
- Shut all windows and doors, leaving them unlocked (locked during practice evacuation).
- Remove flammable window shades, curtains and close metal shutters.
- Move flammable furniture to the center of the room away from windows and doors.
- Be prepared to shut off gas at the meter and turn off pilot lights. (ONLY if directed by the local fire authorities and not in a practice drill situation.)
- Leave your lights on so firefighters can see your house under smoky conditions.
- Shut off the air conditioning.

### **Outside the House**

- Gather up flammable items from the exterior of the house and bring them inside (patio furniture, children's toys, door mats, trash cans, etc.).
- Turn off propane tanks and move any propane (BBQ or outdoor heater) appliances away from structures.
- Connect garden hoses to outside water valves or spigots for use by firefighters. Fill water buckets and place them around the house.
- Don't leave sprinklers on or water running as they can affect critical water pressure.
- Leave exterior lights on so home is visible to firefighters in smoke or darkness of night.
- Put your Go Bag in your vehicle. Add your personal mementos and documents, if time allows and if you may not return to the home.
- Back your car into the driveway with vehicle loaded and all doors and windows closed. Carry your car keys with you, and put an extra set of car keys in the car.
- Have a ladder available and place it at the corner of the house for firefighters to quickly access your roof.
- Seal attic and ground vents with pre-cut plywood or commercial seals.
- Patrol your property and monitor the fire situation. Don't wait for an evacuation order if you feel threatened.
- Check on neighbors and make sure they are preparing to leave.