

# #DISASTER READY – EVACUATION PLAN

The process of evacuations can be complicated and stressful. Everyone should have a plan.



## POSSIBLE STAGES OF EVACUATION FOR COMMUNITIES

The best type of evacuation is a planned and calm one. The only way this can occur is if you are proactive and alert to potential risks in their early stages. The possible phases include:

- 1. EVACUATION ALERT:** The purpose of an alert is to inform of potential or impending danger.
- 2. EARLY VOLUNTARY EVACUATION OF HIGH-RISK AREAS:** Focus on the most vulnerable in the community first.
- 3. SECONDARY VOLUNTARY EVACUATION OF COMMUNITY:** The community that has not evacuated in the Early Evacuation phase.
- 4. MANDATORY EVACUATIONS:** Ordered by officials, a compulsory order to leave your home.

## HAVE A PLAN FOR EVACUATION

Be Evacuation Ready. Your plan should cover the following points.

- Under what conditions will you evacuate or decide to rather stay? Run through different scenarios.
- How will you stay informed about what is happening locally and further away? This knowledge will help with decision making.
- Who will you inform of your plans so you can be safely tracked and contacted if needed?
- Have a list of emergency contacts and emergency service numbers written down. Keep this on you when you evacuate.
- Does your community have an evacuation plan? Find out what your community plan is.
- What will you take with you? Having an Emergency Kit and 'Grab Bag' prepared is essential.
- How will you evacuate? On foot or by vehicle will make a difference.
- Before you evacuate, is there anyone you need to check on first, do you have pets? Include these aspects in your plan.

## REMINDER OF EVACUATION DECISIONS

Carefully consider the roads or routes you choose to use when evacuation occurs.

- Evacuate away from any danger.
- Ensure all household members are informed and prepared for the evacuation process ASAP.
- Follow advice from officials.
- If not mandatory, is evacuation necessary? Do not hamper the emergency services incoming 'traffic' or cause panic by evacuating unnecessarily.

## THINGS TO CONSIDER

- An evacuation centre needs to be 'activated' by official authorities, therefore if you choose to voluntarily evacuate, you will need to have an alternate place to go to. Plan for this.
- Do you have an inventory of items you own for insurance purposes? Are you sufficiently insured and covered for loss of home and items?



# BE PREPARED

ADVISORY

WATCH

WARNING

Are you #DisasterReady?

