



PREPARE FOR EVACUATION



KNOW HOW TO GO



When to Go | What to Bring | Where to Go

Residents and visitors in RPV have an important role in ensuring that everyone can get to a safe location in the event of an evacuation. Planning, preparing and practicing simple actions can help make leaving quicker, easier and safer.

KNOW WHEN TO GO

1) Know Your Zone !

Find your zone on the Palos Verdes Peninsula evacuation readiness website, PVPReady.gov which has Peninsula-wide evacuation zone maps. Write your zone down and place it in an easily accessible location, like your fridge. Repeat for other important zones, such as work, school, or places of worship. Ensure your family and friends know their zones and exchange them so you can check each other's status during an emergency.



No account, registration, or app download is required, and the platform provides critical information in multiple languages. During an emergency, such as a wildfire or flood, the website and corresponding alerts will show which zones are under evacuation the moment an order is issued by authorities and serve as a real-time verified source of emergency information.

2) Are signed up to receive evacuation alerts

You can't go if you don't know; an essential part of your evacuation preparation is signing up for important emergency notifications, including zone status through the Alert SouthBay system. Sign up for RPV Emergency Alerts with **Alert SouthBay**: online at alertsouthbay.com, download the free Everbridge app from your favorite app store or by texting AlertSB to 888777. Those in the region affected by an evacuation warning or order will be alerted using a variety of notifications, including the Alert SouthBay system, social media, and traditional door-to-door warnings from public safety.



3) Learn what to do during different evacuation scenarios.

The Know Your Zone map uses color coding to clearly communicate the evacuation status of a zone. The table on the next page shows each possible evacuation status along with a general description and the action needed to be taken in the affected zone.

Know Your Zone  Evacuation Map Key

Zone Status	Meaning and/or Action Needed
EVACUATION ORDER	<p>Immediate threat to life; danger is here, leave the area immediately! <i>This is a lawful order to leave now. The area is lawfully closed to public access.</i></p> <p>Failure to follow an Evacuation Order may endanger the lives of others, causing personal injury, or death. Once you have left the area you will not be able to return until the Order has been lifted.</p>
EVACUATION WARNING	<p>Potential threat to life and/or property; danger is near, prepare to leave the area! <i>Those who require additional time to evacuate, and those with pets and livestock should leave now.</i></p> <p>Gather your family, pets, basic needs and important paperwork, fill up gas tanks, and make arrangements for transport of large animals and household members with access and functional needs.</p>
SHELTER IN PLACE	<p>Go indoors; it is not safe outside, get and stay indoors! <i>Shut and lock doors and windows. Prepare to self-sustain until further notice and/or contacted by emergency personnel for additional direction.</i></p> <p>During biological, chemical or radiological emergencies, police activity, or when evacuations are not possible, local officials may tell you to “shelter-in-place” or seek safe shelter or a “temporary refuge area”. The exact instructions for sheltering in place will differ based on the emergency, but can include shutting off air conditioners, closing vents and windows, locking doors, and/or going to internal rooms of your home or building. Follow official instructions and listen to the radio for authorities to provide further instructions and announce when the threat has passed. Do not venture out of your shelter area until you are instructed that it is safe to do so.</p>
ADVISORY	Be on alert and follow county recommendations.
EVACUATION ORDER LIFTED	It is now safe to return to your home. Be aware of your surroundings.
NORMAL	No current knowledge of active public safety incidents affecting your area.

WHAT TO BRING

Have a “Go Bag” in every location you frequent that includes important contact information such as an out of area contact, important documents, charger for important devices, clothes, cash, hygiene items, and anything else your family will need during an evacuation (Medication, baby formula, comfort items, etc.).

You can find a starter list of emergency evacuation supplies for people in the January newsletter and for pets and horses in the February newsletter, available for viewing here: <https://www.rpvca.gov/1428/EPC-Monthly-Messaging> .

WHERE TO GO

Know at least 2 ways out of your neighborhood and locations where you can evacuate to. Evacuation routes are incident specific and relative to the threat location. In your planning, be sure to include a route that takes you off of the peninsula entirely. Download maps onto your smartphone from your favorite street navigation app in case cellular networks are down. In the event your smartphone is not working, keep a paper map in your “Go Bag” with your routes marked.

Practice evacuating the area at least twice a year. Make sure to include animals and children in drills to help reduce fear and anxiety during a real evacuation.

Additional Information:

Evacuation-related Question & Answer List from the 3/20/25 RPV Wildfire TownHall, pp.4-5

Wildfire Evacuation Checklist providing information on what to do before, during, after from F.E.M.A., pp.6-7

Mark Your Calendar

Palos Verdes Peninsula Wildfire Town Hall and Expo, Saturday, April 26th from 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. at Fred Hesse, Jr. Community Park. Event website: [link](#)

Sign up to have this monthly newsletter from the Emergency Preparedness Committee (EPC) sent to your inbox: <https://www.rpvca.gov/list.aspx> . Prior monthly newsletters can be viewed [here](#) . For additional information and resources, please contact the EPC at EPC@rpvca.gov or (310) 544-5209 .



Evacuation Questions & Answers from the 2/20/25 RPV WILDFIRE PREPAREDNESS TOWN HALL

EVACUATION PLANS & READINESS

QUESTION	ANSWER
Where should we go during an evacuation?	<p>Households should develop their own emergency plans and include multiple options on where to go and how to get there if they must evacuate; since every emergency is different, the more options you have the better.</p> <p>The City has identified several locations that can be used as emergency facilities, including Hesse Park, Ladera Linda, and the Interpretive Center; use of facilities will be incident specific and residents should NOT automatically evacuate to these facilities. First responders will direct residents on where to go during an emergency using Alert South Bay.</p>
Is there a plan for traffic control to assist in a mass evacuation such as a wildfire.	<p>The LA County Sheriff's Department has identified tactical methods for traffic control during evacuations. Since every emergency has different circumstances surrounding it, the exact traffic control plans will be decided at the start of an incident and can be modified as an incident progresses.</p>
What can resident's associations/homeowner associations do to help with traffic flow in the early stages of an evacuation, before law enforcement maybe on site?	<p>Remain calm, continue to obey traffic laws so as to avoid the possibility of creating separate emergent situations requiring a law enforcement response, and pay close attention to evacuation orders on the Genasys map, which can be found on PVPReady.gov, as traffic concerns will likely be a factor for when those orders are implemented.</p> <p>It is extremely unlikely that an evacuation order is implemented before law enforcement arrives. Response times are low because of how law divides the jurisdiction into reporting districts, and they would likely arrive well before a situation would escalate to the level of evacuation that would create traffic concerns.</p>
How is the City working with the State Legislature and Governor's office to change state housing laws that eliminate local control of zoning and stop the increased density that can impede evacuations?	<p>The City Council-adopted legislative platform for 2025, and has been since 2021, identifies local control and high density as a high priority. The 4 Peninsula cities advocate with our state representative that housing density laws should be determined locally and exclude Very High Fire Severity Zone areas. RPV provides written correspondence to this point to the state legislators and visits Sacramento periodically to underscore the City's legislative platform, found here: www.rpvca.gov/1357/Legislation-Corner</p>

RPV

READY

BE



Evacuation Questions & Answers from the 2/20/25 RPV WILDFIRE PREPAREDNESS TOWN HALL

EVACUATION PLANS & READINESS

QUESTION	ANSWER
Is there a way to quickly find out if an evacuation warning is valid or a mistake?	Type your address into the map on the PVPReady.gov website and you will see the most up to date status for your zone and any protective actions you should take. Link: https://www.pvpready.gov/find-your-zone/
What's the text number to receive evacuation alerts?	Text "Alertsb" to 888-777 to sign up for text alerts for local emergencies.
When will residents be notified of evacuations and how?	Residents will be notified of evacuations via Wireless Emergency Alerts , Alert South Bay , RPVtv , MyRPV App , RPV website , and RPV social media accounts. When time allows, first responders may use loudspeakers or door to door knocks to alert residents. Remember, not every emergency allows enough time to send alerts, so always be vigilant and leave immediately if you feel unsafe.
Is there a typical amount of time between an evac warning & order?	The time between evacuation warnings and orders will vary. You may receive an order without ever receiving a warning during a rapidly evolving incident.
Is there an evacuation road map or routes for residents?	While local first responders have identified tactical options for evacuations throughout RPV, evacuation routes and maps will not be decided upon until an incident occurs, as every incident is different and can require the use of different routes and tactics to keep the community safe.
Does the city have an updated evacuation plan in case of a wildfire?	The City relies on fire responder tactical plans and the RPV Emergency Operations Plan to guide evacuations. To bolster Peninsula-wide response capabilities and readiness, the 4 Peninsula Cities plan to develop a regional Mass Care & Evacuation Playbook in 2026, after completion of the Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan.
If a fire breaks out, which way do we evacuate?	The direction you will need to evacuate toward will be based on the circumstances surrounding the incident (i.e. wind direction, fire containment). If there is an evacuation in your area, Alert South Bay and PVP Ready will provide evacuation route info, as will LA County Sheriff's Department, who manages evacuations and traffic control.

Wildfire Evacuation Checklist

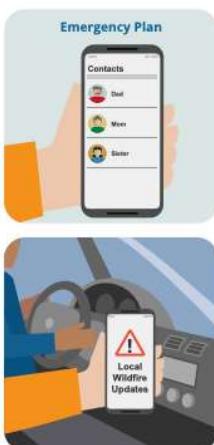
Make leaving safely second nature



Plan, prepare and practice these simple tips that can help make leaving your home quicker, easier and safer in the event of a wildfire and reduce your risk of injury.

Pre-fire: Plan, prepare and practice before a wildfire occurs.

A wildfire may make it necessary for you and your neighbors to evacuate. Plan, prepare and practice wildfire evacuation together and with your local emergency services. This can help save lives!



Pre-fire: plan

- ✓ Sign up to receive local emergency alerts and warnings on all home phones, cellphones and other devices.
- ✓ Know what your community's emergency notification and evacuation plans are.
- ✓ Plan an evacuation route away from your home and other alternate routes in case the first route is closed or threatened by wildfire.
- ✓ Make sure your designated contact knows your plan and to communicate with you to know you are safe.
- ✓ Know the evacuation plans for locations where household members regularly are such as workplaces, schools and commuter routes.
- ✓ Plan to evacuate family, friends or neighbors who have disabilities.
- ✓ Maintain roads and bridges on your property and in your community if you are responsible for them. Improve roads to have 2 ways out and make them wide enough for emergency vehicles. Make sure everyone can open gated roads. Post load limits on bridges. Build culverts with materials that won't melt.



Pre-fire: prepare

- ✓ Prepack emergency supply kits.
- ✓ Back vehicles into your garage or park them in an open space facing the direction of escape.
- ✓ Keep the gas tank in vehicles at least half full.



Pre-fire: practice

- ✓ Practice often with everyone in your home, using at least 2 ways out of your neighborhood.
- ✓ Participate in community wildfire drills. If something could keep you from leaving successfully, such as a locked gate, address it immediately.
- ✓ Practice evacuating animals and pets, including how to operate trailers and other vehicles needed to transport them. Know what resources are needed for their care in case of evacuation.



FEMA



U.S. Fire Administration
Working for a fire-safe America



RANCHO PALOS VERDES
California



During a wildfire event

- ✓ Charge all cellphones in case of power loss.
- ✓ Know the local fire conditions and be prepared to leave at a moment's notice.
- ✓ Leave early if you are concerned. It may take more time than you think to evacuate due to heavier traffic and decreased visibility, or if you have small children, pets or livestock, or have physical challenges.
- ✓ Go promptly when told to evacuate.
- ✓ Don't drive out with trailers or large vehicles like RV's, especially if you are unfamiliar with operating them. A stalled or abandoned vehicle makes it hard for others to leave and first responders to get into the area.
- ✓ Keep your car windows up and the air conditioning on to prevent embers and smoke from entering the vehicle.
- ✓ Continue to listen for additional evacuation instructions.



After evacuating

- ✓ Make sure that everyone is okay once you are out. If someone is injured or not feeling well, get immediate assistance.
- ✓ Inform your designated contact as soon as you are safe.
- ✓ Don't return to your home until you are told you can safely do so.
- ✓ Follow safety guidance, including bringing in fresh water and other supplies.

