



EVACUATIONS FROM ARMY INSTALLATIONS

In the event of an emergency, regional and installation emergency management organizations have plans and procedures to direct evacuation or direct movement of personnel and family members to safe havens or civilian shelters. Installation procedures provide the means to warn personnel on the installation. Additional procedures for personnel off base are provided to installations overseas where the local government may not have the required capabilities.



If advance warning and other circumstances permit, the preference for nonessential and nonemergency personnel is evacuation, wherein the endangered population is directed to leave the threatened area using specified routes and transportation methods.

Evacuation procedures identify the available transportation networks and their capabilities, especially the carrying capacity of proposed evacuation routes and existing or potential bottlenecks caused either by traffic or natural occurrences, such as rising waters. It is important to keep in mind that destructive weather, earthquakes and other hazards may limit or completely eliminate some transportation methods, especially bridges, ferries, tunnels and mass transit systems. During certain emergencies—especially those involving flooding, high winds, multiple aftershocks or volcanic eruption—emergency public information broadcasts may include prohibitions on using travel trailers, campers, motor homes, buses, motorcycles, bicycles and boats.

After evacuating, all members of the Army community must be accounted for to ensure the safety of the community and the distribution of support services and public assistance. If the scale of the evacuation makes assembly impractical, look for electronic “rally points” (phone number, Web site) to be established.

How to Prepare

Safe and effective evacuation requires planning ahead—there may be no advance warning. You should plan to use the primary evacuation route recommended by your installation, but identify alternative evacuation routes in advance and gather appropriate maps to take along in your emergency supply kit. If you don't have access to a vehicle, make other arrangements ahead of time. Depending on regulations at the remote safe haven or civilian shelter, pets may have to be left behind. Identify locations that will accept your pet in the event of an emergency. Service animals are always permitted inside civilian shelters. Plan how you will care for your animals, microchip or tag pets clearly and make a small pet emergency supply kit. Include food, water, leash, medicine, vet documents, a photograph of your pet and a small toy. Remember when an emergency occurs pets may become frightened. Allow extra time to secure your pet. When making your plan, also consider any additional special needs specific to your family.



ARMY STRONG.

Actions to Take During an Evacuation

- Plan to take one car to reduce congestion and delay.
- Keep a full tank of gas—power outages or congestion could make refueling challenging.
- Gather your emergency supply kit, adequate for at least three days.
- Wear sturdy shoes and clothing, such as long pants, long-sleeved shirts and a cap.
- Close and lock all doors and windows.
- Unplug nonessential electrical equipment. Leave freezers and refrigerators plugged in unless there is a risk of flooding.
- Listen to a battery-powered radio or TV to follow local evacuation instructions.
- Leave the hazard area when directed to avoid being trapped or stranded.
- Let others know or post a note as to where you are going.
- Follow the recommended evacuation routes and zones; shortcuts may be blocked.
- Stay alert for damaged or missing roads, bridges and structures.
- Stay away from downed power lines.
- Once you are in a safe place, report to your command if you are military or government civilian personnel or a member of the selective reserves.

Where to Find Additional Information

- Ready Army—www.ready.army.mil

It's up to you. Prepare strong. Get an emergency supply kit with enough supplies for at least three days, make an emergency plan with your family and be informed about what might happen.

