

Five Safety Steps for any Disaster:

1. Get alerts to know what to do.
2. Make a plan to protect your people.
3. **Get to safety with things you need.**
4. Stay safe at home when you can't leave.
5. Help friends and neighbors get ready.



Current wildfire news has focused on the widespread Bay Area disaster. We ALL need to be aware that nearly **1½ million acres** have burned throughout CA the past 2 weeks. Large fires are burning to the west, southeast and south of our area. Areas of this county are reaching dangerously high wildfire conditions. **We NEED TO BE PREPARED!**

The current situation in California is a good reminder about an important topic: YOUR GO BAG - the main topic this week. An individual quoted in last week's post stated: *"I was running around in circles. I couldn't piece together a rational thought..."* You can AVOID this stress and have FOCUS when you PLAN AHEAD and PREPARE!

GO BAG

Most disasters are unexpected and happen fast. You might not have time to shop, or even to pack. Pack up important items now, so you and your family will have what you need later.

Pack a Go Bag for when you have to leave home in a hurry. Pack things for each member of your household. Think about what you would take if you had 15 minutes notice to leave your home. Now, think if you had just two minutes.

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TO PACK NOW

- Documents: Copies of identification and insurance; Other papers important to you; Photos of family and pets.
- Cash: Small bills \$1s & \$5s; Save up a little at a time.
- Map: Mark different routes out of your neighborhood.
- Medications List: All medications you take; Other important medical information.
- This Guide: Your contacts list; Your local meeting place; Your supplies checklist.

GRAB AND GO

PACK AS YOU LEAVE

- Wallet or purse and keys
- Phone and charger
- Medicine

GOOD TO GRAB IF YOU ALREADY OWN

- Portable radio
- Flashlight
- First aid supplies
- Portable computer

Write down here what else you should bring for everyone in your household. You may need a change of clothes or a toothbrush. Think about the needs of babies, older adults, people with medical conditions and people with disabilities. Don't forget any pets.

A Simple Start: Put a bag together with 3 days worth of clothes, toiletries, etc. Put it in your closet – ready if/when an evacuation order happens.

Items to Round Up: Important documents? Map? >> Your prepared Disaster Response Guide (DRG) with your preparedness information >> to guide you through the disaster.

And what about your pets? Can you quickly evacuate with them and have their needs covered?

For more information, go to the highlighted sites immediately below.

For us: <https://www.fema.gov/media-library-data/1584362227817-a2800c83ada65c68cdaa34d7f7729e0/checklist.pdf>

For our pets: <https://www.cdc.gov/healthypets/emergencies/pet-disaster-prep-kit.html>

>>> Disasters happen! Are YOU Prepared? <<<

The DRG (Disaster Response Guide) is available in [seven languages](#). Click on the link [here](#), scroll down the page until you see **Get Prepared**, click on the DOWNLOAD button and select the language of your choice. If you know of someone that has limited English abilities, please guide them to this page. **This could save a life.**

