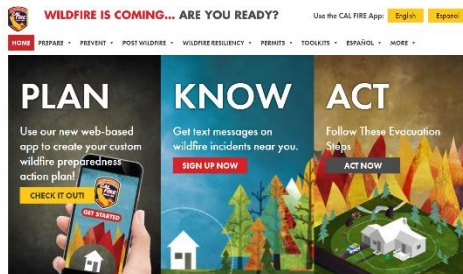


ALPINE MEADOWS EVACUATION AND EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS INFORMATION 2023

Alpine Meadows is rated as a Very High Fire Severity Zone by Cal Fire so knowing what to do and what not to do when conditions are ideal for a wildfire could be life-saving.

A great place to start for evacuation preparedness information is **Ready for Wildfire**



<https://www.readyforwildfire.org/>



Red Flag Days



The vast majority of out of control wildfires occur on RED FLAG days (low humidity and strong winds) which are declared for the Tahoe region by the National Weather Service in Reno 24-48 hours prior to the event. The Tahoe region falls under Zone CA272 when looking for the **Fire Weather Forecast**.

https://www.weather.gov/wrh/fire?wfo=rev&layer=nwsfwx_w If you are a second homeowner, Red Flag days are a good time to avoid being in the Tahoe area.

If you are not able to avoid the Tahoe area on Red Flag days, use the forecast warning as an opportunity to prepare:

- Make sure your vehicle is fully fueled or charged.
- Have your Go Bag ready and other important items.
- Have an evacuation checklist and divvy it up so each family member has a section that they check off, to make the most efficient use of time and be mentally prepared to go.
- Have what you need to self-sustain for 72 hours; this is the amount of time it typically takes FEMA to stand up resources in the event of a disaster.
- Clean up outside your house to protect your home from anything that an ember can catch on fire, and prepare the inside of your house.
- Never turn on water/sprinklers/hoses prior to leaving; the water system will lose pressure that is desperately needed for targeted fire suppression.
- Download Caltrans Quickmaps app (Apple and Android) so that you have real-time information on road closures/detours.
- Add Placer County Sheriff, Placer County, CHP Truckee, and Caltrans District 3 to your social media favorites, as they will be issuing updates during an emergency.

Evacuation Warnings/Orders

Unless you are notified of an evacuation order, it will be up to you to determine when and where to go in case of an emergency. Due to the limited number of first responders, do not expect to have door-to-door or neighborhood notification of the need to evacuate during a wildfire. It is important to monitor the situation and notify your neighbors as you learn of an evacuation advisory and a mandatory evacuation order. Follow

the directions of law enforcement for voluntary and mandatory evacuation, but don't ignore gut instinct. If you feel uneasy, it's better to leave early than to be stuck due to waiting too long.

- An **evacuation warning** is a *potential* threat to life and/or property and will be issued to the extent time allows. Those who require additional time to evacuate, and those with pets and livestock should leave.
- An **evacuation order** is an *immediate* threat to life. This is a *lawful order* to leave. The area is lawfully closed to public access. Follow the direction of law enforcement, regardless of where they send you as that is where the roadways and resources will be available to support evacuees.

Evacuating Alpine Meadows could take hours due to the congestion on SR 89. Consider leaving early rather than waiting for an evacuation order.

Evacuation information will be communicated through Placer Alerts, but **you must sign up to receive notifications**. <https://www.placer.ca.gov//2426/Placer-Alert> Information will also be broadcast on local radio stations so be sure to have a battery-operated radio.



If it is not possible to safely exit Alpine Meadows, and you determine your home would not be safe from fire, go to an area that has little to no combustible material. Placer County Sheriff and North Tahoe Fire have determined the Alpine Meadows ski area parking lot would be a **temporary safe refuge**, only to be used as a last resort.

When you are in your car in an area with fire/ smoke it is important to:

- Turn on your lights, so others can see you (this will illuminate your taillights, daytime running lights will not).
- Leave your windows closed.
- Turn on the air recirculation so that smoke does not enter the vehicle.
- Keep an N95 in your glove box in the event you need more airway protection than recirculation can offer.
- Wear cotton clothing with long sleeves, long pants, boots, goggles and a cap. Synthetic clothes can melt.

Videos and Resources for Evacuation and Emergency Preparedness

In September 2021, Palisades Tahoe hosted a virtual evacuation drill for Olympic Valley. Watch the video for good information for both valleys, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=26EKXBIULsA>, and check out their website for additional information.

<https://www.paladestahoe.com/events-and-activities/events-calendar/fire-drill-alpine-meadows>



August 2023, Eastern Placer County held an Evacuation and Emergency Preparedness Town Hall. You can watch the recording, <https://vimeo.com/855853581?share=copy>, to learn more about the County's Office of Emergency Services, how the local agencies coordinate and cooperate to provide mutual aid, and what you need to do to prepare yourself, your family and your home.