

# EVACUATION PLAN

## Greater Tollgate Canyon Community

### 1. PLANNING:

**1.1 Purpose:** To establish procedures for orderly and coordinated evacuation operations.

In the Pine Meadows Ranch, Forest Meadows, and Greater Tollgate Canyon Area, this document outlines procedures to be used for evacuations, identifying primary evacuation routes and shelter resources, identifying procedures for the security of the perimeter during and after the evacuation, and identifying procedures for allowing evacuees to return to their homes.

**1.2 Scope:** The Fire Safety Committee for the Greater Tollgate Canyon Area has developed this plan to evacuate residents and visitors in the Greater Tollgate Canyon Area in the event of a wildfire incident. The evacuation can be precautionary or ordered due to credible information that a serious emergency may threaten the safety and lives of residents and visitors. The number of affected persons for this evacuation is approximately 2,500 citizens, with approximately 500 year-round residents.

**1.3 Background:** Wildfires are one of the most common hazards in the Western United States. Wildfires can affect local communities, counties, states, or multiple states. Some wildfires develop slowly, over a period of days. Others develop quickly in just a few minutes and without any warning.

**1.4 Hazard Area Map:** A map of the area with evacuation routes, safety zones (gathering points) and evacuation centers. See [Appendix A](#) for a map showing routes.

### 2. TRIGGER POINTS:

**2.1 Wildfire:** Fire threatening communities from open-space, federal or private lands.

**2.2 Fire from structure:** Fire is likely to spread around and from structure to structure presenting threat to life and property.

### 3. NOTIFICATION AND ALERTING:

**3.1 Evacuation orders:** Evacuation orders may be either voluntary or mandatory.

A voluntary evacuation warning is one suggested for precautionary measures, whereas a **mandatory evacuation order is for an immediate threat to life or property.**

#### 3.2 Alerting the public:

- Emergency Alert System (EAS) Broadcast: The County Sheriff or the County EM Director can activate the EAS System to alert residents of imminent dangers **(sign up at [summitcountyalerts.org](https://summitcountyalerts.org)).**
- Tollgate Fire Alert System: Sign up by texting **TOLLGATEFIRE to 77222** to receive emergency alerts.

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- Mobile public address systems and sirens: First responders using vehicle loudspeakers and sirens may slowly drive roads in the affected area announcing the need to evacuate and indicating the best available routes for evacuation.
- Follow color/numbered coordinated signage for designated fire exit, and reference [Appendix A](#) for the map of existing evacuation routes. Please note, evacuation routes will continue to be updated and may change. Visit [pinemeadowranch.org](http://pinemeadowranch.org) to ensure you have the most current version of the evacuation map.

### 3.3 Sources for Information/updates:

- The National Weather Service will issue warnings
  - Red Flag Warning
  - Red Flag Watch
- Social Media (Summit County Facebook page, Twitter, etc.)
- Summit County website: [www.summitcounty.org](http://www.summitcounty.org)
- Local information boards in gathering places.
- News stations: local radio or TV stations (Channels 88.1, 88.5)

## 4. EVACUATION PROCEDURES:

**4.1 Direction and control:** The amount of time it takes to evacuate an area depends on a variety of factors that include the size of the vulnerable population, location of high hazard areas and transportation routes. Do not assume that the evacuation routes shown on the maps will be the best way out. Localized fire and smoke, traffic crashes or incidents, and different scenarios will affect whether roads will be open. Emergency officials will monitor roads and let the public know through checkpoints, signs, social media and the County website if alternate routes should be taken.

**4.2 Evacuation routes:** Evacuation routes will often follow main roadways and routes utilized for daily transportation. See [Appendix A](#) for a map showing routes that are designated as emergency evacuation routes that are not utilized for daily transportation.

### 4.3 Gathering points/Evacuation centers with GPS location/Addresses:

- Winter Parking Lot Safe Zone: **N Latitude 40\*80366 W Longitude -111\*550185** (elv 7831)
- Crow Loop evacuation gate through Stagecoach Estates: **40\*7916, -111513.11** (elv 7860)
- *Additional evacuation routes and locations will be added as agreements with private property owners are finalized*

**4.4 Evacuation guidelines:** The following serves as an aid in reminding the public and responders of some basic guidelines for an evacuation process in the possible case of either evacuation order or evacuation warning.

**IN CASE OF AN EVACUATION ORDER (ORDERS ARE MANDATORY):** This is a mandatory action. Leave now! Evacuate immediately. Do not delay gathering valuables or preparing your home. Follow any directions given in the evacuation order.

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### EVACUATION CHECKLIST:

#### COMMUNICATIONS

- Meet at The Safe Zone (winter parking lot) for updated and relevant information.
- Keep your cell phone fully charged, a portable battery charger or hand-crank charger is recommended
- Notify an out-of-area contact of your phone number, location and status. Update regularly.
- Leave a note with your contact info and out-of-area contact taped to fridge or inside a front window.
- Check on or call neighbors to alert them to prepare at first sign of fire.

#### ON YOUR PERSON:

- Dress all family members in long sleeves and long pants; heavy cotton or wool is best for protection, no matter how hot it is.
- Wear full coverage goggles, leather gloves, head protection.
- Cover faces with a dry cotton or wool bandanna or scarf over an N95 respirator. Tie long hair back.
- Carry a headlamp and flashlight (even during the day).
- Carry car keys, wallet, ID, and cell phone.
- Drink plenty of water, stay hydrated.
- Put "Go Kits" in your vehicle.

#### PETS & ANIMALS:

The HOA is not held responsible for animal evacuation. All emergency exits will be one way and will not allow uphill traffic potentially limiting trailer access onto the mountain. Have a plan for animals if you are not on the mountain. Do not wait for an evacuation to become mandatory. Always evacuate your pets when you are warned of a possible evacuation. Always discuss your emergency plan with neighbors.

#### IF TIME ALLOWS, FOR PETS:

- Gather your pet's "Go Kit"

This should include:

- Seven days' worth of food.

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- Medication
- Vaccination Records
- Leash
- Keep your pet leashed at all times if a carrier is not on site.
- Locate your pets and place in carriers NOW. You won't be able to catch them when the fire approaches. Place carriers (with your pets in them) near the front door, with fresh water and extra food to prepare for evacuation.
- Be sure your pets wear tags and are registered with microchips.

**HORSES AND OTHER LIVESTOCK:** If an evacuation **warning** (warnings are voluntary actions) is in place, remove all horses and livestock from the area.

- Prepare horses and large animals for transport in the possible case of an evacuation.
- Communicate and discuss your livestock evacuation plan with neighbors in the surrounding area in case of an emergency.
- Make sure your vehicle is set up to tow the horse/livestock trailer.
- Make sure your trailer is in road-worthy condition.
- Practice loading your horse/livestock in the trailer prior to an evacuation.
- Gather your horses/livestock "Go Kit" and place in an accessible area.

This should include:

- Flash Drive and/or documentation of ownership and identification.
- Updated vaccination records.
- Updated microchip information.
- Food and water for seven days.
- Medication.

### IF YOU ARE UNABLE TO EVACUATE WITH YOUR LIVESTOCK:

- Use spray paint or a livestock crayon to write your name, phone number and address on the side of the horse and/or livestock.
- Use clippers to shave your phone number into the horse's coat.

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- Braid a temporary ID tag with pre-written contact info into the horse's mane.

**IN CASE OF AN EVACUATION WARNING (WARNINGS ARE VOLUNTARY):** Leave if you feel unsafe or conditions change. A short delay to gather your Go Kit and prepare your home may be OK.

### IF TIME ALLOWS:

#### INSIDE THE HOUSE

- Shut all windows and doors (interior too) and leave them unlocked.
- Remove combustible window shades and curtains; close metal shutters.
- Move furniture to the center of the room, away from windows.
- Leave indoor and outdoor lights on.
- Shut off HVAC and ceiling fans.

#### OUTSIDE & IN NEIGHBORHOOD

- Place combustible outdoor items (patio furniture, toys, doormats, trash cans, etc.) in garage or 30' from structures (optional: place in a pond).
- Shut off gas at the meter or propane tank; move small tanks at least 15' away from combustibles.
- Connect garden hoses with squeeze-grip nozzles to outdoor spigots for use by firefighters.
- Fill water buckets and place around outside of house, especially near decks and fences.
- Clean your gutters and blow leaves away from house.
- Back your car into driveway, loaded, with doors and windows closed.
- Prop open fence and side gates.
- Place ladder(s) at the corner(s) of structures for firefighters.
- Seal attic and ground vents with pre-cut plywood or metal covers (even duct tape will protect from ember entry) if time allows.
- Patrol your property and monitor conditions. Leave if spot fires ignite or conditions change.

### WHEN YOU LEAVE:

- Leave immediately if ordered.

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- Don't wait for an evacuation order if you feel unsafe or conditions change; leave early if unsure.
- Assist elderly or disabled neighbors.
- Carpool with neighbors to reduce traffic.
- Take only essential vehicles with adequate fuel.
- In your car, turn on headlights, close windows, turn on inside air and AC, tune to local radio (Channels 88.1, 88.5)
- Drive slowly and defensively; be observant.
- Follow color/numbered coded fire exit signage for proper fire evacuation route.
- Proceed downhill, away from the fire if possible. Know at least two routes.
- If roads are impassable or you are trapped: take shelter in a building, car, or an open area; park in an outside turn if trapped on a hillside; stay far from vegetation; look for wide roads, parking lots, playing fields, etc.
- If trapped, you are better protected inside a building or vehicle.
- Don't abandon your car in the road if passage is impossible. If you must leave your car, park it off the road and consider other options for shelter.
- Evacuate on foot only as a last resort.
- Don't evacuate by fire road, uphill, or into open-space areas with unburned vegetation.
- Remain calm - panic is deadly.

## 5. SAFETY AND HAZARDS:

**5.1 Emergency responders:** Emergency responders must keep safety as a priority. An injured responder adds a victim to the disaster and decreases the responder pool for the rest of the emergency. In this type of situation, the number of responders will not likely meet the identified need. Basic safety issues include the usual safety hazards from transportation and weather, as well as additional hazards including fire, smoke, intense heat, electrical issues from power lines, and other utilities.

**5.2 Exit route maintenance:** Officials who are assisting with route maintenance must wear traffic visibility vests if they are available.

All appropriate signage should be used as it becomes available.

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Any vehicle collisions on the route will be cleared as quickly as possible and traffic should not be stopped unless critical. Traffic backup and issues can cause evacuees to use alternate routes that may not be safe and/or may hinder evacuation procedures.

**5.3 Perimeter control:** Post-evacuation security and maintenance will be the responsibility of local and regional law enforcement agencies. During mandatory evacuations, residents will not be allowed to re- enter evacuated area.

**5.4 Re-entry:** Re-entry into the area will be allowed only after the proper authorities have deemed the area safe for re-entry. The post-evacuation area will be secured by law enforcement and re-entry without proper approval may be considered a criminal offense. Once re-entry seems likely the Incident Commander, Emergency Manager, law enforcement will meet with representatives of the proper agencies and develop a re-entry plan that will allow for the safest and most organized re-entry possible.

## 6. MISCELLANEOUS:

**6.1 Assignments:** Will be made in conjunction with the County EM, local disaster services such as the Red Cross, and other public and private entities such as school systems and churches. The use of evacuation centers to identify the need for services and shelter assignment is meant to improve accountability and make the transition as smooth as possible for evacuees.

**6.2 Coordination:** All disaster responses need to be coordinated with the County, City Disaster Plans as appropriate and with all responding agencies. Communication among parties will provide the safest and most effective response to the disaster.

## 7. ATTACHMENTS:

**7.1 Attachments:** [Appendix A](#) Evacuation map, including travel routes and evacuation centers.

This will be reviewed by fire and law enforcement agencies which may result in adjustments.

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This plan for The Greater Tollgate Canyon Area has been accepted by:

Summit County Sheriff's Department \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Local Law Enforcement Department \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Local Fire District \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

County Fire Warden \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

*This Plan Should be reviewed every three years with the Community Wildfire Preparedness Plan for any updates.*