

Tuolumne County Office of Emergency Services

Wildfire Preparedness Town Hall
June 3, 2021

Welcome

- Introduction and purpose – Supervisor Ryan Campbell, OES Director
- Overview and process for asking questions – Dore Bietz OES Coordinator
- Agenda
 - USFS – Overview of 2021 Wildfire conditions/fire restrictions within the Forest
 - Tuolumne County Fire/Cal Fire – Defensible space, home hardening, ready set go
 - Tuolumne County Sheriff – Emergency Alert Notification and Evacuations
 - Tuolumne County GIS – Map resources prior to and during an emergency
 - Animal Control – Animal evacuations and Team Elite information
 - American Recross – Sheltering and Temporary Evacuation Points
 - Fire Districts : Sonora City, Twain Harte Fire, Mi-Wuk, Tuolumne, Columbia, Groveland
 - Tuolumne County OES – Preparedness, Community Emergency Response Teams
- Public Questions

Tuolumne County Wildfire Preparedness

- Imperative that folks are personally responsible in their preparedness
 - Have a "go bag" and a plan for your family, your pets.
 - Know your routes of egress. Practice if you can.
 - Sign up for Tuolumne County Emergency Alert.
 - Work with your family, neighbors to address elderly or those with access and functional needs to support getting folks out as early as possible.
 - Pay attention to official web pages or official social media
 - Tune into local radio stations or check out mymotherlode.com



Be ready

- Pack a bag ahead of time
 - Backup of important files
 - Necessary medications
 - Initiation
 - Cash/credit cards
 - Cell phone and chargers
 - Contact information for family/friends
 - Food and water
 - Flashlight with batteries
 - Portable radio
 - Seasonal clothing
 - Toiletries
 - N-95 masks
 - Pet food if you have animals
 - First aid kit



<https://www.ready.gov/kit>

Community Emergency Response Teams

- CERT or Community Emergency Teams are trained volunteers that offer professional responders support during disasters.
- Several CERT programs within Tuolumne County
 - Tuolumne Me-Wuk Tribal CERT tuolumnemewukcert@gmail.com
 - Twain Harte Area CERT twainhartecert@gmail.com
 - Groveland CERT grovelandcert@gmail.com
 - Columbia Area CERT c740ferreira@gmail.com
 - Tuolumne County CERT oes@co.tuolumne.ca.us



Tuolumne County Resources

- Emergency Alert Notification
 - <https://member.everbridge.net/1332612387832200/login>
- Community Preparedness Web Map
 - <https://tuolumne.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=243823f4378b48cea33ca44c75c120f1>
- County Evacuation Plan
<https://www.tuolumnecounty.ca.gov/DocumentCenter/View/13426/Tuolumne-County-Evacuation-Plan-Pamphlet>

Tuolumne County Evacuation Plan

BE PREPARED

- Have adequate clearance around structures. With a minimum of 100 feet (including woodpiles), removing all flammable materials.
- Clear pine needles and leaves from gutters and roof. Trim back over hanging branches at least 10 feet
- Replace roofing and siding with nonflammable or fire resistive materials.
- Reduce or remove flammable vegetation, including landscape plants, and replace with less flammable plants.
- Maintain greenbelt fuel modification around developed areas
- Prepare pets and livestock and have a plan to evacuate them
- Collect valuables, medications and other personal items in one place and be ready to evacuate if necessary.
- Have a plan and a designated meeting place for reuniting family members during an evacuation.
- Use the county's community maps

DURING AN EVACUATION

- to familiarize yourself in advance with your travel route options.
- All evacuation activities are a collaborative effort between the fire department, law enforcement, Office of Emergency Services, Animal Control, Red Cross and others.
- The fire department determines the areas to be evacuated.
- Tuolumne County Sheriff's Office will notify residents and conduct evacuations in partnership with fire and other law enforcement agencies.
- Evacuated residents will be given instructions for travel routes and safe locations.
- Law enforcement officers will be responsible for the security of evacuated areas.
- Tuolumne County Office of Emergency Services with Red Cross will decide on shelter and relocation locations.
- California Highway Patrol and Tuolumne County Sheriff's Department will control traffic and maintain access for emergency equipment.

WHAT TO DO IF A WILDFIRE IS APPROACHING

- Park your vehicle facing out. Place keys in your ignition.
- Place your valuable documents and family mementos in your vehicle.
- Secure pets and be prepared for them to be transported.
- Close shutters and heavy drapes
- Leave your electricity on and turn lights on in several rooms. This will make your house more visible in heavy smoke.
- Cover up by wearing long pants, long sleeved shirt, and a bandana to cover your face.
- Shut off liquefied petroleum gas or natural gas valves.

EVACUATION NOTIFICATION

Residents will be advised of potential hazards and the possibility of evacuation through:

- Everbridge—Emergency Response Notification System
- Local radio stations
- Mymotherode.com
- Door-to-Door when feasible

The two types of evacuation warnings are as follows:

Evacuation Warning

Issued when an evacuation order is eminent. It includes the specific geographical area that may be evacuated and procedures that should be followed to prepare for an evacuation.

Evacuation Order

Issued when there is an immediate threat to life and/or property. The evacuation order contains specific geographic areas to be evacuated and procedures to be followed.

The direction of your evacuation route will depend upon the location of the fire in relation to your home. Emergency personnel will direct you to the safest route.

IT IS CRITICAL TO LEAVE WHEN AN EVACUATION IS ORDERED

SHELTERING OPTIONS

- **Shelter in Place:** when the Fire Department feels it is safe to stay in your home during low intensity fire where the structures have a good clearance and are made of fire resistant materials
- **Temporary Refuge Areas:** temporary holding areas for smaller groups of people that can provide a safe haven throughout the county. Fire and Law Enforcement personnel will direct you to Temporary Refuge Areas if they are safe to access and only when appropriate. Not all temporary refuge areas may be available based on the location and intensity of the fire.
- **Shelters:** Tuolumne County Office of Emergency Services works with Red Cross to establish shelters for the immediate and short term housing and care of evacuated residents and animals.
- **Alternative Locations:** Residents who do not use designated shelters should determine alternative housing locations in advance. If you are evacuated and choose not to go to a shelter, you are advised to contact the Red Cross to provide information about your location, in the event of family or friends trying to find you.

PRIMARY TRAVEL ROUTES

- Know and drive your primary travel routes in advance.
- Visit www.tuolumnecounty.ca.gov/communitymaps to print a copy of your community map
- Be prepared to be directed by law enforcement or traffic control personnel. You must follow their directions
- Never block the travel route of the fire department or other emergency responders.

DURING EVACUATION

- If you become trapped by fire while evacuating in your car, park in an area clear of vegetation, close all vehicles windows and vents, cover yourself with a blanket or jacket and lie on the floor.
- If you are trapped by fire while evacuating on foot, select an area clear of vegetation or lie face down in a ditch.

IF YOU ARE UNABLE TO EVACUATE DURING A FIRE

- Stay inside your house and away from walls
- Keep all doors closed but leave them unlocked
- Keep your entire family together and REMAIN CALM. Remember if it gets hot in the house, it is four hotter and more dangerous outside

AFTER THE FIRE PASSES

- Check the exterior and roof immediately, extinguish all sparks and embers. If you must climb on the roof, use caution.
- Check inside the attic for hidden burning embers
- Check your yard for burning wood piles, trees, fence post or other materials.

EMERGENCY INFORMATION

During an emergency residents are encouraged to monitor the following for updated information:



@CALFIRETCU
@TuolumneSheriff
@TuolumneCoFire



CAL FIRE TCU
TCSO
TCFD
TC Animal Control

Residents are encouraged to visit www.tuolumnecounty.ca.gov/oes for more information on how to prepare for an emergency.

Office of Emergency Services -Contact Info

- OES Office
 - OES direct office line 209-533-6395
 - OES@co.Tuolumne.ca.us
- EOC Public information Line
 - 209-533-5151
 - Open when we activate EOC
- OES Webpage
 - <https://www.tuolumnecounty.ca.gov/308/Office-of-Emergency-Services>



Tuolumne County Social Media Resources

- Tuolumne County Sheriff Facebook
 - <https://www.facebook.com/tuolumnecountysheriff/>
- Tuolumne County Fire Facebook
 - <https://www.facebook.com/Tuolumne-County-Fire-Department-2180612105600021>
- Cal Fire TCU <https://www.facebook.com/CALFIRETCU>
- Tuolumne County Animal Control
 - <https://www.facebook.com/tuolumnecountyanimalcontrol>
- OES Facebook
 - <https://www.facebook.com/TuolumneCountyOES/>

