



**Elder Options, Inc.**  
"A Life Lived Fully Every Day"  
Since 1988

## WHAT TO PUT IN YOUR "TO GO" BAG

- \_\_\_\_\_ Change of clothing and sturdy shoes.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Prescriptions, medications, glasses, hearing aids, cane/walker.
- \_\_\_\_\_ ATM/Credit cards & cash on hand.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Important documents i.e., I.D., passport, insurance, medical, legal, banking.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Family/friends contact information.
- \_\_\_\_\_ House keys (**lock house when you leave**).
- \_\_\_\_\_ Bottle Water/energy bars, crackers, packs of tuna & other light snacks/foods.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Hygiene items: toilet paper, wipes, hand sanitizers, toothbrush/paste, shampoo, brush/comb, deodorant, personal items.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Small towel/washcloth/bar of soap, small first aid kit in re-usable plastic bag.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Dust Mask to filter smoke/contaminates; goggles/glasses.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Family pictures/albums.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Cell phone – charged & with charger.
- \_\_\_\_\_ A blanket/pillow/sleeping bag (**if there's room**).
- \_\_\_\_\_ Small flashlight.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Laptop with power cord, battery operated radio.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Small tablet/notebook; pen/pencil; eating utensils.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Pencil/paper/books/games/deck of cards.

**Note: If you have a car and you're prepared to drive out (if possible), pre-pack some of the backup supplies in car's trunk ahead of time so you're ready. Have a printed map with two evacuation routes/sites .**

### Small Pets/Service Animals\*\*\*

1. Food, water, medications, treats/bones, plastic bags, paper towels.
2. Carrier & leash (**must have a carrier for safe evacuations**)
3. License & vet record.
4. Small dish for food/water

\*\*\* IF Can't Take (\*microchip proactively ahead of time)

- a. Make arrangements with ER contact team in case you have to leave them behind
- b. Post a "Rescue Alert Sticker"/ Note on front door informing 1st responders of pets to rescue.

### Questions to Ask Yourself Ahead of Time....

If there is an evacuation order:

1. What routes are there to take out of the house - consider accessibility needs?
2. What routes are there to take out of the neighborhood?
3. What is the form of transportation, enough gas/battery charged?
4. Where are the shelters? **If call comes to "Get Out", leave & emergency services will direct you.**
5. Where are shut-off valves for utilities, do they take special tools? **Do this if you know how & have time.**
6. Designate an out-of-area emergency contact meeting place and tell family/friends ahead of time.

## *Wildfire Emergency Evacuation Checklist*

If you see a wildfire, call 9-1-1. Don't assume that someone else has already called. Describe the location of the fire. Speak slowly and clearly and answer any questions asked by the dispatcher.

### **What You Can Do Now to Prepare**

Have defensible cleared space around your home, off roof & gutters.

Document an inventory of belongings and take pictures/ video of all furnishings. Store off site, send to a family member for safe keeping, safe deposit box, on your phone or "in the cloud".

Post name/address on sign clearly visible from street.

Install smoke detectors and fire extinguisher and test quarterly.

Water: Connect garden hoses. Fill any pools, hot tubs, garbage cans or other large containers with water. If you have gas-powered pump for water, make sure they are fueled & ready.

### **IF YOU HAVE TIME – Before the Fire Approaches Your House**

Evacuate family members & pets that are not essential in preparing the home. This includes anyone with medical or physical limitations, young children and the elderly.

Close/Protect Openings: Close outside attic, eaves and basement vents, windows, doors, pet doors, etc. Close all shutters, blinds to reduce radiant heat.

Close inside Doors: Close all doors inside the house to prevent drafts.

Shut off Propane or fuel oil supplies at the source.

Ladder: Place a ladder against the house in clear view.

Garage Doors: Disconnect any automatic garage door openers so door can be opened manually if power goes out. As you leave, close all garage doors.

Livestock: Any large animals or livestock you have to leave behind, release livestock from barns to pasture. Leave note on door for Animal Rescue re: other animals at the property.

Turn on outside porch/security lights and secure your home appropriately.

**Suggestions taken from emergency responders & residents – Paradise, CA. fire**