



Emergency Preparedness Forum THIRD WALNUT CREEK MUTUAL

Preparing Together for Recovery and Resilience

**TWCM's Emergency Preparedness Forum's Report
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TWCM's July 10 2023 Board Meeting
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Evacuating Rossmoor Safely in Wildfire Conditions

- Be prepared during wildfire season to leave Rossmoor within 15 minutes after receiving a mandatory evacuation order for your evacuation zone number. Your "WCR" zone number can be found on your entry gate. Know your zone number — alerts come by zone number — not by street address.
- Subscribe to Rossmoor Nixle to receive emergency alerts by simply texting "rossmoor" to 333111 — you are opted-in instantly!
- You will receive two types of evacuation alerts: warnings and orders.
- An evacuation warning (or "advisory" or "notice") means there is an impending threat to your life and property.
- An evacuation order (which is mandatory) means there is an immediate threat to your life and property and you must leave Rossmoor immediately. The imminent threat is estimated to be within two hours or less from your Rossmoor home.
- Assume always that a warning alert will be quickly followed by a mandatory evacuation order.
- It is a myth that Rossmoor is a "one way in, one way out" "one Main Gate" community. Rossmoor has nine alternate emergency access points with three serving strongly as possible alternate evacuation exits depending on the geographic location of any wildfire event. These alternate access points serve

in the main as fire roads bringing in heavy firefighting equipment. Many are impassable by civilian cars. They are always locked and civil authorities outside Rossmoor must grant permission for them to be unlocked as needed. Rossmoor Nixle will let you know which alternate exit routes are unlocked to move residents quickly out of an impacted evacuation zone.

- If you cannot self-evacuate, you must contact your family member or friend to come evacuate you **when the evacuation warning is first issued**. You have only a few short hours to be evacuated during the limited evacuation warning time-period.
- No one **except first responders** is allowed to enter your impacted Rossmoor evacuation zone **once the evacuation order is issued**.
- When an evacuation warning is issued, move your household Grab n' Go bags near your front door along with key documents, medications, cash (\$300 per household member in small bills of 1\$, \$5 and \$10 in case we go to a cash-only economy), charging cords, power banks and back-up batteries.
- When an evacuation warning is issued, fill up your gasoline-powered car or fully charge your electric vehicle — mass evacuations mean we will be idling “parking lot style” on roadways plugged for hours with countless other evacuees.
- During wildfire season, keep your gas tank and electric charge 3/4's full at all times — sudden wildfire events will require you to evacuate before alerts are called.
- You can voluntarily evacuate anytime you feel uncomfortable or unsafe. Public safety officials strongly encourage voluntary evacuations before an evacuation warning or mandatory order is issued. It is easier for both residents and first responders when there are less people evacuating at once which reduces roadway congestion and increases evacuation success and firefighting capability.