



Missoula County Sheriff's Office
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COPY

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Dear Missoula County Cooperators,

The purpose of this letter is to introduce to your agencies the latest, and I believe more robust, three part evacuation protocol that will be used by the Missoula County Sheriff's Office. I believe that simplifying and standardizing the terminology utilized by our deputies when they conduct evacuation operations we provide more concise information that is aligned with both state and federal suggested protocols. Please find attached sample information sheets for our three stages as explained below:

1. **Advisement / "Get Ready"**: This step will be distributed largely as an educational campaign in cooperation with Missoula County Office of Emergency Management, local media, and agencies such as yours, depending on the present threat or hazard. (ie: DNRC and USFS would naturally be involved in spreading the "Get Ready" message in the event that a major wildland season is on the horizon.)
2. **Evacuation Warning / "Set"**: This is the second step in the process and the first step in which MCSO will attempt in-person contact with affected population(s). This step essentially warns affected citizens that an emergency situation is threatening their immediate area and that they should be taking steps to prepare for a short notice evacuation and/or self-evacuate as they see fit.
3. **Evacuation Order / "Go"**: This is the third and final step in the evacuation protocol in which MCSO will either make in-person contact or utilize audible warnings to notify affected citizens that they need to evacuate the area immediately for their own safety and the safety of emergency responders.

Please also know that we plan to work with cooperators and allied response agencies at every level of this protocol to ensure that information regarding evacuations is shared with those in need of that information. We also plan to make use of existing PIO structures, social media, and both broadcast and print media outlets to assist in information dissemination.

We hope to have the opportunity to discuss this protocol with your agencies' key operations personnel who may be involved in the decision process for implementation on a given incident before that incident(s) occur.

Thank you very much and feel free to contact Captain Rob Taylor, Support Services Commander (406-531-0306 or rtaylor@co.missoula.mt.us) with any comments or questions.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "T.J. McDermott".

T.J. McDermott
Missoula County Sheriff

_____ SEASON IS HERE

(GET READY)

Be **ADVISED** that conditions in the area are such that _____ hazards may be forthcoming in the near future.

- NOW IS THE TIME to **PREPARE**: ensure that you are fully prepared with a plan and resources needed to ensure that you and your family can remain safe and informed should conditions change suddenly.
- This is the time to **MAKE A PLAN**: check supplies, review and/or revise family safety plans, and coordinate with authorities about the safety of your family and property.
- Authorities will make every attempt to advise the public as conditions change. Area media outlets will be asked to broadcast updates as they are given to keep the public informed of changing conditions or impending hazards. **STAY INFORMED**
- If you are not enrolled in **SMART 911**, now is the perfect time to do so. Log on to smart911.com and create your safety profile. This service will enhance your ability to receive alerts and provide information to responders to enhance your family's safety.

Take the time NOW to plan for your own safety as well as the safety and security of your property by utilizing the resources available in the community.

EVACUATION WARNING

(SET)

You are **WARNED** that current or projected hazards associated with an emergency in this area may require immediate evacuation.

- This is the time for final preparation, precautionary movement of persons with special needs, mobile property, and perhaps even pets and livestock.
- Authorities will make every attempt to advise the public as conditions change. Area media outlets have been asked to broadcast updates as they are given.
- If you are not enrolled in **SMART 911**, now is the perfect time to do so. Log on to ***smart911.com*** and create your safety profile. This service will enhance your ability to receive alerts and provide information to responders to enhance your family's safety.
- For additional information call 258-INFO (4636)
- **DO NOT WAIT** for authorities to give an evacuation order for your area. Early self-evacuation ensures the safety of you and your family.

*If a slow moving emergency vehicle with lights and alternating siren tones is moving through the area, it is time to evacuate!
See reverse for EVACUATION ORDER instructions.*

Evacuation Warning

Issued on:

Issued By:

EVACUATION ORDER

(GO!)

You are **ORDERED** to immediately leave the area. Incident conditions present an immediate threat to persons within this area. A slow moving emergency vehicle with lights and alternating siren tones, loudspeaker announcements, and/or personal contact from a responder all indicate to evacuate immediately!

- Law enforcement and other emergency responders are working in this area to provide accurate information about routes to take out of the area.
- This is the time for you and your family to GET OUT of the area immediately for safety reasons! This is NOT THE TIME to move personal property or livestock.
- If you choose to ignore this order, you must understand that emergency responders MAY NOT BE ABLE TO assist you and no other persons will be allowed into the area.
- For evacuation information call 258-INFO (4636) THERE MAY BE A CHECK IN CENTER FOR EVACUATED PERSONS, LOOK AND LISTEN FOR INFORMATION REGARDING THIS.
- Drive in a safe and orderly fashion on designated routes only. Be on the lookout for fast moving emergency vehicles. Remaining calm and putting your pre-planned actions in motion will be the best way to keep you and your family safe.

Evacuation Order

Issued on:

Issued By:

Ordering of Law Enforcement for road closures or evacuations

Info to obtain from IC:

Road closures or traffic restrictions

- Safety issues or concerns
- Highway/ Road name
- Mile Marker
- Blockage / reroute / closure actions or information
- Specific placement of signs

Evacuation- Warning or Order

- Time of impact to structures
- Number of homes and general area for evacuation
- Contact information- Dispatch / IC / Shift Commander -- Phone and Radio
- ICP Location or location where IC will be

Info to obtain from Sherriff's Department:

- Response info
 - Point of contact
 - Contact info
 - ETA at ICP or designated location
 - Course of action

Preparedness week
Wildfire awareness month in May

Triggers for activating a warning field portion

National Forest leadership - Chad

April 8 8:30
MFRD

FMD Forest Service
9 mile May Znd

