

Coping With Evacuation

Some practical advice



Introduction

*“Evacuation is the movement of people and animals to a safe location away from actual or potential danger”
(Cabinet Office, 2013).*

The likelihood of being asked to evacuate your home is very low and will only occur in extreme circumstances. However there several steps you can take, to make it as easy as possible.

How do I prepare for an evacuation?

To be prepared for an evacuation, you should take time to...

- Create an emergency Grab Bag, containing items that you would need if you had to evacuate e.g. essential medication, contact numbers for family and doctors, warm clothes (for more information see the EVAC Cardiff website).
- Find out where and how to turn off water, gas and electricity supplies in your home.
- Agree how your family will stay in contact in the event of an emergency.
- Know the emergency procedures for your children at school and your workplace.
- Find out if there are any elderly or vulnerable neighbours that might need your help.
- Always keep your car with at least half a tank of fuel in case you need to evacuate.
- Plan a few places you could go if you need to evacuate e.g. friends and family and how you will get there. Don't forget about your pets!

Coping with a major evacuation

During an Evacuation

If you are at home and an emergency happens....

- Take your Grab Bag
- Take your home and car keys and lock your house
- Take your mobile phone
- Take spare clothes and blankets
- Turn off electricity, gas and water supplies
- Unplug all unnecessary appliances
- Lock all doors and windows
- Follow all instructions from the emergency services, they are there to help you
- Consider passing on warnings to neighbours who may have missed the information and tell the emergency services about anyone who may need help evacuating. E.g. disabled or elderly
- Tell the emergency services if you are going to the rest centre or a friend/ relative's house, so they know where you are
- If you are evacuating using your car, consider giving your neighbours a lift if you have room

Coping with a major evacuation

After an Evacuation

- You should only return home when you are told that it is safe to do so by the emergency services.
- When you are told that it is safe to return home, open windows to provide fresh air before reconnecting gas, electricity and water supplies.

Shelter in Place

On some occasions the emergency services may decide that it would be safer for people to stay in their homes, rather than evacuating. If this happens:

- Stay indoors and shut all doors and windows
- Follow instructions from the emergency services, they are there to help you
- Tune in to your local radio station and check EVAC Cardiff for updates

Essential Contacts

Please insert additional contact details as required:

Emergency Services: 999

NHS: 111

Local police station: 101

Doctor.....

Work.....

School.....

Family/ Friends numbers

Name.....

Tel.....

Name.....

Tel.....

Name.....

Tel.....

Local Radio Station: BBC Radio Wales: 90.3 to 95.8 FM

BBC Radio Cymru: 93.1 to 104.9

Social Media

Twitter

EVAC Cardiff: [@evacardiff](https://twitter.com/evacardiff)

Cardiff Council: [@cardiffcouncil](https://twitter.com/cardiffcouncil)

Western Power Distribution: [@wpduk](https://twitter.com/wpduk)

Welsh Water: [@DwrCymru](https://twitter.com/DwrCymru)

Facebook

EVAC Cardiff: <https://www.facebook.com/evacardiff/>

Where can I get further information?

For further details on emergency management in Cardiff...

EVAC Cardiff: <http://www.evaccardiff.co.uk/>

Or Contact Us

Address: Cardiff Emergency Management Unit
Room 151
City Hall
Cardiff
CF10 3ND

Email: emergencymanagement@cardiff.gov.uk

Web: <http://www.cardiff.gov.uk/evaccardiff/>

Tel: 02920 871838