

Cedar Mesa Ranches

Wildfire Evacuation Plan

April 2022

This Plan is intended to assist residents of Cedar Mesa Ranches in the event of a wildfire threatening the subdivision and the Montezuma County Sheriff calling for an evacuation.

Evacuation notifications are of two types:

1. A **Pre-Evacuation Notification**. This notification is to inform residents that a wildfire is in the general area of the subdivision and residents should prepare to evacuate on short notice.
2. An **Evacuation Order**. This order is telling residents that the subdivision is in imminent threat of a wildfire entering or is already in the subdivision and they should leave immediately. An Evacuation Order could be issued without a Pre-Evacuation Notification in a fast-unfolding wildfire situation.

Residents should take action on each of these notifications to ensure they remain safe and have the needed resources to be away from their homes for a period of at least 72 hours.

Pre-Evacuation Notification

Residents need to prepare for leaving their homes on short notice. Specific actions include:

- Prepare a Go-Bag (if you don't already have one) of a 72-hour supply of needed medications and prescriptions, home and vehicle insurance information, a 72-hour set of clothing and toiletries, and any other important information. Keep the Go-Bag in your primary vehicle or close by a door.
- Ensure all family members know an agreed-upon post-evacuation meeting site.
- If you need assistance to move (walker, wheel chair, crutches, etc.) contact someone in the subdivision who is available to assist you. If you don't currently have someone, contact the list of First-Responders below to help you get assistance.
- Have a designated contact person to contact in the event of evacuation who will contact the County Sheriff if they don't hear from you within **12 hours** of an evacuation order.
- Keep pets close by so you are not looking for them at the last second. Keep animal crates out so you can load pets into them quickly. Ensure you have a 3-day supply of pet food and any pet medications in a Go-Bag for them.
- Ensure you have trailers and/or vehicles immediately available to load large animals (horses, goats, etc.) up. Strongly consider moving them to other locations for the duration of the fire danger period so you are not trying to move them and yourself in a full evacuation.
- Move extra vehicles, RV's and trailers outside the fire danger area.

- Move patio furniture, BBQ's and outside containerized plants into a garage or the house.
- If you have a chain or gate on your driveway, keep it unlocked.

Evacuation Order

Residents are being told to get out of the subdivision immediately. It is likely that dense smoke, ash, strong and gusty winds and dust will be present, limiting visibility. Electric power will also likely be off or will be shut down, so water delivery to residences will be limited to what is already in the water lines. Do not set up an outside sprinkler as that will exhaust the water in the lines quickly.

- Turn off propane tank(s) and any outside water faucets. If garden hoses are available leave them attached to faucets, preferably coiled in reach of firefighters.
- Load pets into animal crates, get their Go-Bag(s) and load into vehicles.
- Get your Go-Bag and load into vehicle.
- If you have not already taken large animals out after the pre-evacuation notification, load them up into the trailer or vehicle already on-site. **Do not leave to get a trailer now – you won't be allowed back in.**
- Leave driveway chains or gates open so firefighters can access your residence.
- **Vehicle lights on** as you leave. The primary egress for the subdivision is Road 35, but that is also the primary ingress for emergency vehicles, so expect two-way traffic.
- Follow emergency evacuation route signs and emergency personnel directions for evacuation routes. You may be directed to the emergency-only evacuation routes off Roads J.7 or J.9 (see Emergency Routes Map below).
- Once you are out of the subdivision be sure to notify your contact person(s) so they know you are safe.

Emergency Shelter Sites

Montezuma County has several approved Emergency Shelter Sites. The sites close to Cedar Mesa Ranches are the Montezuma County Fairgrounds to the west and the Mancos Public Schools campus in Mancos to the east. It is good to know the specific locations of both those sites prior to a wildfire emergency. Either or both could be activated in a wildfire situation. The Montezuma County Fairgrounds is the shelter site for livestock such as horses, llamas, goats, etc.

Safe Zone

An area at the intersection of Road K.3 and the driveway into Tract S (Sanders), just to the west of Mud Creek is the designated Safe Zone for the east portion of the subdivision. This area is for use by evacuating residents if Road 35 between Roads K.3 and K.1 is closed to traffic and the

Emergency Route between Roads J.9 and J.8 is unavailable. The Safe Zone is shown on the map below.

Evacuation Routes Map

The Emergency Evacuation route between Roads J.9 and J.8 is not suitable for trailers or RV's. DO NOT try to pull any type of trailer or drive an RV up this route.

