

## EVACUATION



Any emergency might require evacuation of some or all City residents. Evacuations may be ordered by the authorities or you may choose to evacuate yourself and family based on your assessment of the threat.

### ORDERED EVACUATION

Evacuation orders are issued by the City or the State when an emergency occurs or is expected to happen. If possible, the orders will be broadcast on radio and television but other warning systems may be used. That is why it is very important to be alert for any instructions. Follow the travel routes outlined by authorities. The extent of any evacuation will be based on the magnitude of a given emergency. There are three general classifications of evacuation. **Evacuate immediately if told to do so.**

#### LIMITED INCIDENT

A limited incident is a natural or technological disaster requiring a short duration evacuation of one hundred or fewer City residents. The decision to evacuate will most likely be made by the senior emergency responder on scene. If the extent or anticipated duration of the event warrants, sheltering may be provided.

#### LOCALIZED DISASTER

A localized disaster is an emergency limited to one neighborhood or scattered neighborhoods where the effect on residents and property is not widespread and only the effected areas require evacuation. This level event will require sheltering operations.

#### MAJOR DISASTER

A major disaster is an event resulting in the general widespread destruction of property throughout the city with the concurrent loss of large numbers of housing units and the need for a general evacuation. This evacuation may be from one section of the City to another or, under State direction, from New Haven to another city. Shelter will be coordinated by the City.

### SELF EVACUATION

Prepare your own evacuation plan in case authorities can not give you instructions right away. Plan where you will go (relative's home, hotel/motel, etc.), how you will get there and what you will bring.



- o Choose multiple destinations in different directions. Remember New Haven is a coastal community and evacuation along the coast to the east and west may not be possible. Get maps in advance and figure out routes and alternate routes.
- o If you do not have a car figure out other types of transportation (such as asking to ride with a neighbor or friend). If time allows, consider using other modes of transportation such as the train.
- o Make sure everyone in your family knows where you are planning to go in case an emergency makes it impossible for everyone to get back to your home or neighborhood. This should be in your community, but outside your immediate neighborhood. For example, it could be the home of a friend or relative in another part of the City.

## IN CASE OF ANY EVACUATION

- o If possible, tell your contact person where you are going. Remember to pick a person who doesn't live nearby, in case local phone service is down. Everyone should know to contact this person immediately. Make sure everyone in your family has your contact person's number and email address. Make sure everyone carries coins, a cell phone or a prepaid phone card.



- o If instructed to do so, turn off water, electricity and gas at the mains in your home. If you turn off gas service it must be turned back on by a professional.
- o Remember to have a Disaster Supply Kit ready and take it with you. Shelters may be able to provide some supplies, but not all. Take cash, identification and prescription medications.

**For more information, please contact the City of New Haven Office of Emergency Management , 200 Orange Street, New Haven, CT 06510 203.946.8224 or [jmoore@newhavenct.net](mailto:jmoore@newhavenct.net)**