LAUREL CANYON EMERGENCY PLAN

A Guide to Preparing For and Responding To Natural Disasters and Emergencies

VERSION 2.0

November 2026

LC | ECT

How to Use This Guide

The Laurel Canyon Emergency Plan is an effort to present the current best practices, advisories, protocols, information, and recommendations regarding disaster and emergency preparedness and response. The Plan is not intended to be comprehensive or definitive, but to serve as a starting point for the residents of Laurel Canyon to attain a higher level of emergency and disaster preparedness for their individual households.

The Plan is divided into two main sections: PREPARE and TAKE ACTION. Links are provided at the end of each subsection to Internet sources for more information.

The PREPARE section will help guide you in your efforts to plan and prepare in advance for emergencies and natural disasters.

The TAKE ACTION section offers guidance on what to do when a disaster or an emergency occurs.

There is a lot of information here, but don't be intimidated or get discouraged.

Review the Plan briefly in its entirety in order to know what it contains. Then begin a methodical approach to getting prepared and learning about the actions you can take when a disaster or an emergency strikes. Prioritize your efforts according to the needs of your household, and supplement the information in this guide with your own research.

It is recommended that you print at least one copy of this document in addition to saving an electronic copy to tablets or smartphones. Keep the printed copy where it can be easily accessed during an emergency.

LC | ECT

LAUREL CANYON
EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS TEAM

Updates to this guide will be emailed automatically to members of the Laurel Canyon Emergency Communications Team. If you have a copy of this guide but are not a member of the LC ECT and would like to check to see if you have the most current version, send an email inquiry to: wqwp394@gmail.com

LAUREL CANYON EMERGENCY PLAN

Disclaimer

While effort has been taken to make the information in this document as timely and accurate as possible, the author makes no claims, promises, or guarantees about the accuracy, completeness, or adequacy of the contents of this document and expressly disclaims liability for errors and omissions in the contents of this document. No warranty of any kind, implied, expressed, or statutory, including but not limited to the warranties of non-infringement of third party rights, title, merchantability, or fitness for a particular purpose, is given with respect to the contents of this document, or its links to other Internet resources.

This document is not an official publication of the City of Los Angeles or any of its municipal departments.

Laurel Canyon Emergency Plan, Version 2.0, November 2026

© 2020, 2026 Brian Linse, All Rights Reserved

LAUREL CANYON EMERGENCY PLAN

PREPARE

THE HOUSEHOLD PLAN 1
RESOURCES & CONTACTS 5
HOW TO PLACE A 911 CALL 11

FIRE

HOME SAFETY 13
HARDENING YOUR HOME 21
BRUSH CLEARANCE 25
EVACUATION - GO BAGS 31
EVACUATION - KNOW YOUR ZONE 35
PETS, SERVICE, and LARGE ANIMALS 39

EARTHQUAKE

PREPARE TO SURVIVE 43
SHELTER IN HOME 44
CAR & WORKPLACE KITS 49

GET INVOLVED / GET TRAINED 51

TAKE ACTION

FIRE

A FIRE IN THE HOME 53
RED FLAG ALERTS 55
WILDFIRE EVACUATION 59

EARTHQUAKE

WHEN THE SHAKING STARTS 63
THE FIRST 72 HOURS 64
EXTENDED SHELTER IN HOME 65

EXTREME WEATHER

EXTREME HEAT 67
COLD WEATHER 68
STORMS 68
POWER OUTAGES 69

PANDEMIC 71

TERRORISM 73

BASIC FIRST AID 75

LAUREL CANYON EMERGENCY PLAN

PREPARE — The Household Plan

Emergency preparation begins with the creation of a **Household Communication Plan**. Each household should have a plan for tracking alerts and warnings, reuniting inside and outside the home, reuniting out of the neighborhood and for emergency communications during and after a disaster.

Ideally, each member of your household should sign up for emergency notifications from the Los Angeles Emergency Management Department **NotifyLA system**. At a minimum, designate one family member to be responsible for tracking Alerts and Warnings and informing the rest of the household. **Be sure to add your Watch Duty/Genasys Protect evacuation zone number to your plan**. (See page 35)

Sign up for alerts from NotifyLA at: https://emergency.lacity.gov/notifyla

Contact Information
Collect phone numbers and email addresses for all household members and include other important contacts such as schools, workplaces, doctors, and your in-town as well as out-of-town emergency contacts.

In-home Meeting Place
Designate an area on the lowest level of your home, preferably a small, central, and windowless room where your household members will gather indoors during an emergency. Keep a small flashlight and an N95 particulate mask for each member of your household in this location.

Outside the Home Meeting Place
Choose a safe meeting place outside of your home as the location where your family will reunite if your home is damaged or unsafe to re-enter.

Outside of the Neighborhood Meeting Place
In the event that you are unable to return to your neighborhood after a disaster, designate a location for Out of Neighborhood reunification. This could be a friend or relative's home, a local Fire or Police Station, or a local business. Choose a backup location in case your primary is also damaged or unreachable.

Print out the Household Plan form on pages 2 & 3, fill it in, make copies for each member of your household, and save a digital copy to each member's cellphone. You can use the templates below to create your own customized document.

Download templates: Microsoft Word Google Doc Fillable PDF

In addition to printing a copy of your plan for all household members, remember to save a digital copy to their mobile phones – ideally as an encrypted file. Make sure at least one emergency contact is stored under the name "In Case of Emergency" on each device.

SOURCES:
https://www.ready.gov/plan
https://www.redcross.org/get-help/how-to-prepare-for-emergencies/make-a-plan.html

The Household Plan

Home Address: _____

Home Phone: _____ Watch Duty / Genasys Protect Evac Zone:_____

Household Members

Name	Cell Phone #	Email	Medical /Special Needs

If network congestion makes cell phone calls difficult during a disaster, try sending texts. Email and social networks are a good way to communicate if you have internet access. Conserve cell phone batteries by reducing screen brightness and closing apps you don't need.

Pets

Name	Type	Breed/Color/Description	Registration #

Emergency Contacts

In Case of Emergency

Name	Phone #	Email
1)		
2)		

Out-of-Town Contact:

Name	Phone #	Email
1)		
2)		

Family Reunification Locations

In the Home: _____

Instructions: _____

Outside the Home: _____

Instructions: _____

Outside of the Neighborhood (Primary): _____

Instructions: _____

Outside of the Neighborhood (Secondary): _____

Instructions: _____

School / Childcare Information

Name Phone # Email

Emergency Plan / Pick up Details:

Additional Important Contacts (Doctors, Insurance, Vet, etc.)

Name Phone # Email

Automobile Information

Year/Make/Model/Color License Plate #

Additional Information

NOTES

PREPARE — Resources & Contacts

DIAL 911 to report ALL POLICE, FIRE, and MEDICAL EMERGENCIES

TTY Service: (213) 847-0652

"to protect and to serve"
POLICE

Los Angeles Police Department
LAPD Non-emergency: 877-ASK-LAPD (877) 275-5273
Español: (213) 928-8222

LAPD Hollywood Division
1358 N. Wilcox Avenue
Hollywood, CA 90028
(213) 972-2971 (non-emergency)
(800) 660-4026 TDD/TTY
https://www.lapdonline.org/lapd-contact/west-bureau/hollywood-community-police-station/
File a Police report online:
https://www.lapdonline.org/file-a-police-report/

LAPD West Division Traffic: (213) 473-0222

Los Angeles Fire Department
(213) 978-3800 (General Public Information)
(213) 978-3820 (Public Information Officer)
(213) 485-5162 (Media Desk)
https://www.lafd.org
LAFD Red Flag Information
https://lafd.org/redflag

LAFD Station 41
(Kirkwood Bowl and South Laurel Canyon)
1439 North Gardner Street
Los Angeles, CA 90046
(213) 485-6241 (non-emergency)

LAFD Station 97
(Laurel Canyon north of Kirkwood Bowl)
8021 Mulholland Drive
Los Angeles, CA 91604
(818) 756-8697 (non-emergency)

Office of the Mayor:
(213) 978-0600
https://mayor.lacity.gov/

Emergency Management Department:
(213) 484-4800
https://emergency.lacity.gov/

Notify LA
City of Los Angeles official mass notification system
https://www.emergency.lacity.gov/notifyla

City Services: My LA 311
Dial 311 from your phone for city services. TDD: (213) 473-5990
https://myla311.lacity.gov/

Department of Building & Safety
Dial 3-1-1 (within the City of Los Angeles) or (213) 473-3231
https://dbs.lacity.gov/

Department on Disability
(213) 202-2764
https://disability.lacity.gov/

Department of Aging
(213) 482-7252
https://aging.lacity.gov/

Los Angeles Department of Animal Services
(888) 452-7381
https://www.laanimalservices.com/general-information/emergency-preparedness/

Los Angeles Unified School District
(213) 241-1000
https://www.lausd.org/

Wonderland Avenue Elementary School
(323) 654-4401

California Wildlife Center
(818) 222-265

Department of Transportation: Hollywood-Wilshire Division
6501 Fountain Ave.
Los Angeles, CA 90028
(323) 957-6843
https://ladot.lacity.gov/
ladot.hollywooddistrict@lacity.org
Report Parking Violations: (213) 485-4184
Report Abandoned Vehicles: (800) 222-6366

Department of Public Works
200 N. Spring Street, Room 361
Los Angeles, CA 90012
https://dpw.lacity.gov/
Tree down / debris removal: (213) 473-3231

LA Sanitation
Trash Collection
Sewer / Storm Drain problems
https://www.lacitysan.org/

Department of Recreation and Parks
221 N Figueroa Street Suite 350
Los Angeles, CA 90012
(213) 202-2700
https://lacity.gov/directory/recreation-parks

Utilities:
Los Angeles Department of Water & Power (LADWP)
(800) 342-5397
https://www.ladwp.com/

Southern California Gas
(800) 427-2200 (Emergency and Safety Issues)
https://www.socalgas.com

Hospitals:
Cedars-Sinai Medical Center
Emergency Room - North Tower
8700 Beverly Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90048
800-CEDARS-1 (800) 233-2771

Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center
Saperstein Emergency Department
757 Westwood Plaza, Los Angeles, CA 90095
Hospital Information: (310) 825-9111
Emergency Department: (310) 825-2111

Sherman Oaks Hospital
4929 Van Nuys Boulevard
Sherman Oaks, CA 91403
(818) 981-7111

Providence Saint Joseph Medical Center
501 S. Buena Vista Street
Burbank, CA 91505
(818) 843-5111

Poison Control
(800) 222-1222
https://www.poison.org/

American Red Cross of Greater Los Angeles
(310) 445-9908
https://www.redcross.org/local/california/los-angeles.html

Federal, County, and State
Los Angeles County Emergency Operations
https://www.lacounty.gov/emergency
Sign up for Alerts from LA County
https://ready.lacounty.gov/emergency-notifications/

California Office of Emergency Services
https://www.caloes.ca.gov/

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
https://www.cdc.gov/disasters

Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)
https://www.fema.gov

National Fire Protection Association
https://www.nfpa.org/

Community Organizations

https://laurelcanyoncorridor.com/

https://www.laurelcanyoncorridor.com/patrol

https://www.wearelaurelcanyon.org

Important Community Contacts: https://www.wearelaurelcanyon.org/important-phone-numbers

Sign up for Text Alerts: https://www.wearelaurelcanyon.org/canyon-text-alerts

Lost Pets / Register Pets: SafePaws@wearelaurelcanyon.org

NOTES

PREPARE

How to Place a 911 Call

You will likely find yourself under stress when the need to call for emergency services arises. Being prepared to call 911 in advance can get help to you more quickly.

In a 911 Emergency:

Remain as calm as you possibly can. Speak clearly. Most importantly, listen carefully, answer questions directly, and follow instructions.

When you place a 911 call it will be answered by a dispatcher who will route the call to the proper agency. Tell the 911 Operator what you need:

- Police
- Fire Department
- Ambulance/Medical Emergency

The 911 operator will then route your call to the proper agency.

When the dispatcher comes on the line**, immediately tell them the location of the emergency**. Calls from landlines automatically give dispatchers your location, but the location of the emergency may be different, and calls from cell phones do not give them precise locations. **Always report the address or location of the emergency first**. In the event your call is dropped or interrupted, the dispatcher will at least know that an emergency exists at a given location, and they will send help.

It may seem obvious, but an important detail when calling 911 is to **know where you are**. Make sure all members of your household know your home address, including young children and guests. When away from home, you won't usually know the exact address of your location, but try to always know the street and block number, or the nearest cross street and a landmark. If you are a guest in someone else's home make sure you know the address.

After you have reported the location and the nature of the emergency the best practice is to **listen to the dispatcher and answer their questions as calmly as you can**. They are trained professionals who know what information is most important and helpful. Listen, answer, and follow instructions. Don't think that time is being wasted by questions. The dispatcher has already begun the process of getting help to you using their Computer Assisted Dispatch terminal, and the additional information they gather will be sent to emergency responders who are already on their way to you. **Stay on the line until the dispatcher tells you it is ok to end the call**.

Should you accidentally dial 911, don't hang up. This will be interpreted as "unknown trouble" and the police will be dispatched, wasting the time of emergency services. Stay on the line and explain to the operator that you dialed in error.

SOURCE:
https://www.lapdonline.org/office-of-the-chief-of-police/administrative-services-bureau/support-services-group/communications-division/

NOTES

PREPARE

FIRE — Home Safety

A fire in your home can advance to a life threatening emergency in a matter of seconds, but with proper preparation and safety measures you can reduce the threat of fire, and gain extra time to get your family safely evacuated from your home.

SMOKE ALARMS

Properly installed and maintained smoke alarms play a vital role in reducing fire deaths and injuries. Smoke spreads quickly and can fill a home with deadly poisonous gasses in a matter of minutes. In fact, asphyxiation is the leading cause of fire related deaths. Strategically placed smoke alarms can give you the time needed to evacuate your home before toxic smoke levels become dangerous.

- Install smoke alarms in every sleeping room and outside each separate sleeping area.
- Make sure every level of your home has smoke alarms, including the basement. Larger homes may require more alarms.
- Install specialized alarms if your household includes hearing-impaired members.
- Test your smoke alarms at least once a month by pressing the test button to be sure the alarm is working and the battery is still good.
- Replace batteries at least once a year in battery-powered or hard-wired alarms, even if the batteries seem good when testing. Replace 10-year lithium-powered models every 8 - 10 years, or as directed by the manufacturer.
- Ideally, smoke alarms should be interconnected. When one sounds, they all sound.
- Whenever possible, and especially at night when you are asleep, keep interior doors closed to slow the spread of smoke.

FIRE EXTINGUISHERS

It is important to be able to access a fire extinguisher within seconds of a fire starting in order to be able to safely extinguish the flames. For this reason all fire extinguishers in your home should be placed where they can be easily seen, and within easy reach of where they are most likely to be needed. Mounting them on wall brackets at chest level is recommended, as they are easily accessible and less likely to be moved.

Home fire extinguishers should be rated Class A:B:C in order to handle most types of home fires, from common combustibles to flammable liquids and electrical sources.

Keep a minimum of one fire extinguisher on each floor of your house, and consider strategically placed extinguishers in the following locations:

- **The kitchen** is the place where most home fires start. Since many of these fires involve flammable liquids, water cannot safely be used to extinguish them. Place a fire extinguisher far enough from the cooking area that it can be safely but quickly accessed in the event of a cooking fire.
- **Your garage or workshop** is often a place where flammable liquids such as gasoline, oil, paint, and solvents are stored and used. Consider mounting an extinguisher on the wall near the exit.

- **The laundry room** is a good place to keep a fire extinguisher handy. Failure to clean dryer lint traps and exhaust lines and mechanical or electrical failures in washing machines can both result in home fires.
- **Bedrooms** are where you and your family are most likely to be if a fire breaks out at night. Consider placing a fire extinguisher near the exit in each bedroom of your home.
- **Patios and outdoor decks** should have a fire extinguisher readily accessible if the area is used for cooking, fire pits, or outdoor smoking.
- **Utility room** or any area in the home that contains heat generating appliances such as a furnace or water heater, as well as the location of your main electrical panel should have an extinguisher nearby.

Remember the acronym P A S S



Whenever you have used an extinguisher, whether or not it is completely empty, you must replace or refill it as soon as possible. Check your extinguishers regularly, and refill or replace any extinguisher when the pressure gauge moves out of the green zone and into the red. Fire extinguisher companies can refill an A:B:C extinguisher if it has a metal valve. Extinguishers with plastic valves are not refillable and should be discarded safely after use.

CARBON MONOXIDE DETECTORS

Carbon monoxide is a colorless, odorless, tasteless gas produced by burning gasoline, wood, propane, charcoal, or other fuels. When improperly ventilated, the use of certain appliances and engines may allow carbon monoxide to accumulate at dangerous levels inside the home.

The National Safety Council recommends you install battery-operated carbon monoxide detectors near all bedrooms. Replace batteries at least once a year and replace the detector every five years. Combination smoke and carbon monoxide alarms are also available.

In addition to installing detectors, follow these guidelines:

- Have your heating system, water heater, and any other gas or coal-burning appliances serviced by a qualified technician every year.
- Do not use portable flameless chemical heaters indoors.
- Never burn charcoal indoors.
- Never use a generator inside your home, basement, or garage, or less than 20 feet from any window, door, or vent. Fatal levels of carbon monoxide can be produced in just minutes.
- Have your chimney checked and cleaned every year and make sure your fireplace damper is open before lighting a fire. **Leave the damper open well after the fire is extinguished.**
- Make sure your gas appliances are vented properly.
- Never use a gas oven for heating your home.
- Never let a car idle in the garage.

Symptoms of carbon monoxide poisoning:

- Dull headache
- Weakness
- Dizziness
- Nausea or vomiting
- Shortness of breath
- Confusion
- Blurred vision
- Loss of consciousness

Irreversible brain damage or death can sometimes occur before the victim even knows anything is wrong. Never ignore a carbon monoxide alarm and do not try to find the source of the gas. Instead, follow these steps:

- Immediately move outside to fresh air.
- Call the fire department or 911.

- Do a head count to check that all persons and pets are accounted for.
- Do not re-enter the premises until emergency responders have given permission to do so.

FAMILY ESCAPE PLAN

Knowing in advance how you and your family will escape from your home in the event of a house fire is essential to maintaining proper home safety. Use the grid provided on page 20 to draw a floor plan of each level of your home. Follow these guidelines when creating your plan:

- Identify and label each room on the plan.
- Identify and mark two exits from each room.
- Mark the location of each smoke alarm & fire extinguisher.
- Identify a safe location outside the home as a meeting place.

Gather all members of your household together and go over the plan, making sure that everyone is aware of all possible exits. Do a walk-through and make sure that all exit paths are clear. If a designated exit is a window make sure it is not obstructed by heavy furniture. Check all exit windows to confirm that they open easily, and if windows or doors in your home have security bars make sure that the bars have emergency release devices inside.

If your home has two or more floors, every family member (including children) must be able to escape from the rooms above the first floor. Escape ladders can be placed in or near windows to provide an additional escape route. Review the manufacturer's instructions carefully so you'll be able to use a safety ladder in an emergency. Practice setting up the ladder from a first-floor window to make sure you can do it correctly and quickly. Children should only practice with an adult, and only from a first story window. Store the ladder near the window in an easily accessible location.

If there are infants, older adults, or family members with mobility limitations, make sure that someone is assigned to assist them in the event of an emergency. Assign a backup person in case the designee is not home.

Go outside to see if your street number is clearly visible from the road. If not, paint it on the curb or install house numbers to ensure that responding emergency personnel can easily find your home.

Tell guests or visitors to your home about your family's fire escape plan. When staying overnight at other people's homes, ask about their escape plan. If they don't have a plan in place, offer to help them make one. This is especially important when children are permitted to attend "sleepovers" at friends' homes.

Be fully prepared for a real fire. When a smoke alarm sounds, get out immediately. **Once you're out, stay out. Under no circumstances should you ever go back into a burning structure.** If someone is missing, inform the fire department dispatcher when you call. Firefighters have the skills and equipment to perform rescues.

Family Escape Drills

Practice your home fire escape plan twice a year, making the drill as realistic as possible. Allow children to master fire escape planning and practice before holding a fire drill at night when they are

sleeping. The objective is to practice, not to frighten, so telling children there will be a drill before they go to bed can be as effective as a surprise drill.

Make sure each sleeping room has a flashlight available and instruct each family member to take it with them when escaping the home. An N95 particulate mask for each member of the household should be available in all sleeping rooms, but will only filter particulates, not toxic gasses. Instruct young children in the proper way to use the mask.

It's important to determine during the drill whether children and others can readily awaken to the sound of the smoke alarm. If they fail to wake up, make sure that someone is assigned to awaken them as part of future drills, and in the event of a real fire scenario.

Practice using all designated exits. Always choose the escape route that is safest – the one with the least amount of smoke and heat – but be prepared to escape low under toxic smoke if necessary. When you practice your fire drill everyone in the family should practice getting low and going under the smoke to all exits. Closing doors on your way out will slow the spread of fire and smoke, giving you more time to safely escape. Instruct all household members to meet at the designated place outside the home.

Sealing In

In some cases, smoke or fire may prevent you from exiting your home. To prepare for an emergency like this practice "sealing yourself in" for safety as part of your home fire plan. Close all doors between you and the fire. Keep a roll of duct tape in each sleeping room and use the tape or towels to seal the door cracks and cover air vents if necessary to keep smoke from coming in. Put on an N95 particulate mask and wait for firefighters to execute a rescue. If possible, open your windows so fresh air can get in. If you have a phone, call 911 to report your exact location in the home. Wave a flashlight or light-colored cloth at the window to let the firefighters know where you are located.

UTILITY SHUT OFFS

When you need to turn off a utility it will often require more than just your hands and a bit of patience. Here are some items you might want to keep handy: a large adjustable wrench, pliers, a cloth rag, and a pair of work gloves.

Water

Follow these simple steps whenever you have to turn off your water:

- **Identify your main water shut off valve**, usually located on the exterior next to the side or rear of your house where the water line enters the structure. The water shut off valve is usually a wheel located on a riser pipe.

- **Turn the main wheel on the riser pipe clockwise to shut it off.** If you live in an apartment and don't have access to the main shutoff valve, you can turn off the water to specific appliances such as dishwashers, refrigerators, and even sink faucets. These are usually located on lines attached to the appliances and can be turned off with a clockwise twist of the valve or wheel.

When a major disaster occurs leaks can turn into something much bigger and much more costly. After events such as major earthquakes it's a good idea to temporarily shut off your water supply to protect it from contaminants and to prevent it from bursting through cracked pipes.

Natural Gas

- **Locate your natural gas meter**. It's important to know exactly where your natural gas meter is so you can find it in case of an emergency.

- **Find the natural gas shut off valve**. As you face the meter you'll see a pipe running from the ground to the meter. The shutoff valve is usually located in this pipe, about 6 to 8 inches above the ground. Turn the valve off only if you smell gas or suspect a leak.

- **Using a 12-inch or larger adjustable wrench, turn the valve 1/4 turn in either direction**, until the valve is crosswise to the pipe.

TIP: Keep a 12-inch or larger adjustable wrench with your emergency supplies, or next to your valve. Do not store the wrench on the meter, other natural gas piping, or related equipment.

If you turn off your natural gas at the meter, leave it off. Do not turn it back on yourself. Contact the Gas Company to turn the meter back on and check pilot lights.

Electrical

Electrical safety should be basic household knowledge. Even your children should know the potential dangers, and adults should know where your home's electrical panels are located. When you do suspect an electrical problem, here's what to do:

- **Go to the main electric box**, normally located in the garage or on the exterior of your home.

- If your home has circuit breakers, open the metal door of the breaker box and turn the SMALLER breakers off first, then flip the "Main" electrical switch to "Off."

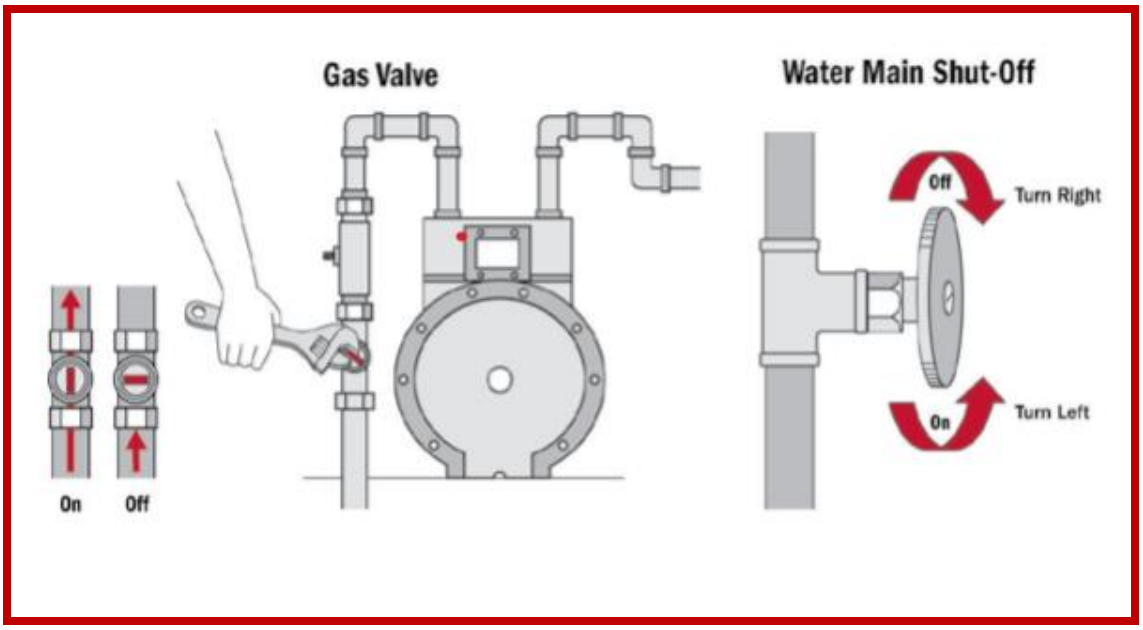
- If your house has fuses, there should be a pullout fuse marked "Main." Remove all the small fuses first, and then remove the "Main" fuse.

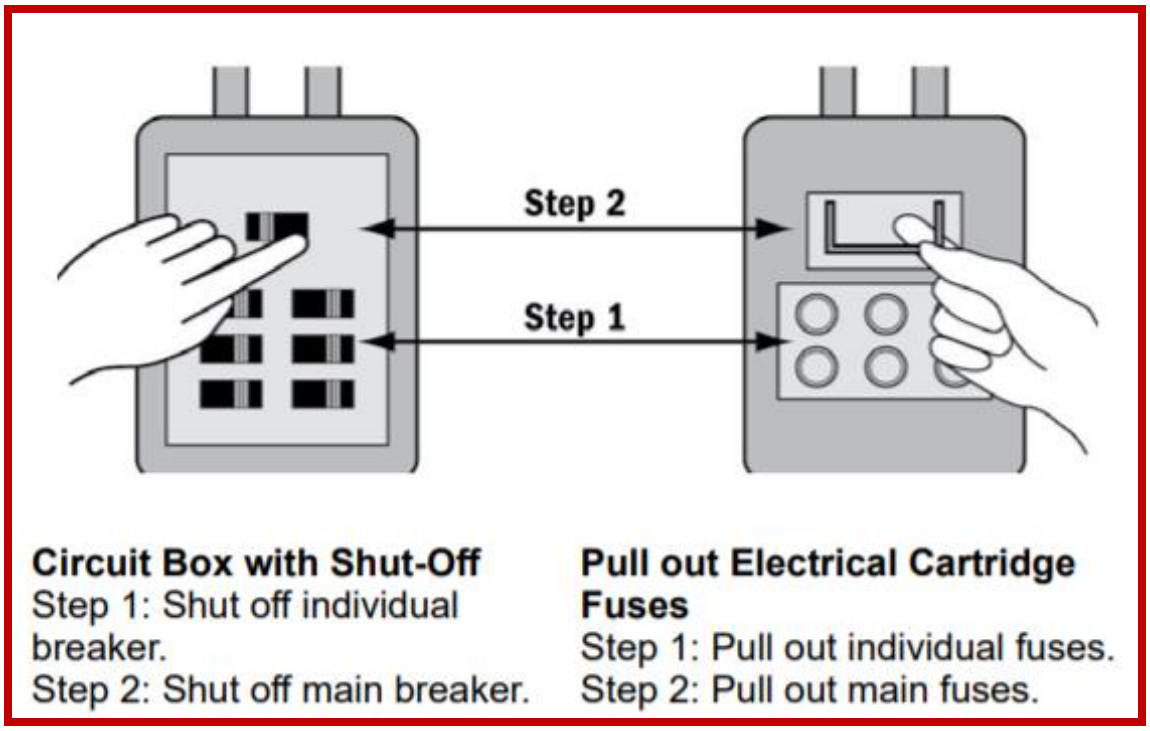
- When restoring electrical power, turn on the main breaker or fuse first, then restore the smaller circuits.

When to Shut Off Electric Power:

- You smell burning insulation.
- There is a fire or major water leak.
- You suspect a gas leak.
- Arcing or burning occurs in electrical items.
- Switches or plugs become blackened or hot.
- Power loss, accompanied by burning smell.

UTILITY SHUT OFFS





When restoring power, reverse the order: Mains first, then individual breakers.

Print this page and draw your Household Escape Map

PREPARE — FIRE — Hardening Your Home

Wildfire behavior is influenced by three main factors:

- Topography (terrain, steepness of slopes)
- Weather (wind speed, relative humidity, air temperature)
- Fuel (vegetation and man-made structures)

The only factor we can control is fuel. By removing enough fuel from its path you can significantly decrease the chances of a wildfire igniting your home. Research has shown that in typical wildfires most houses ignite and burn not from the actual wildfire, but from flying embers that sail through the air ahead of and around the fire. These embers, which can travel from as far away as a mile, may land on your roof, fall to the ground around your home, or collect under the eaves and ignite flammable materials such as leaves or dry vegetation. Flying embers can easily ignite dry material in rain gutters and leaf litter around the outside walls of a home. These small fires can ignite the whole house in a matter of minutes.

Fire science experts talk about the need to manage the "home ignition zone." This zone is the home itself and its immediate surroundings out to 200 feet. When you harden your home you take steps to raise the defensibility of your home's ignition zone to about 30 feet from the outer walls of the structure. For guidance on Brush Clearance requirements out to 200 feet, see the section on page 25.

Basic Home Hardening

- ROOFING - Have a fire resistant roof, such as tiles, Class A asphalt shingles, or metal. Repair or replace any broken or missing roofing material. Use the same ignition-resistant materials for patio coverings as you would for a roof.
- ROOF OPENINGS - Close off any gaps or openings in roof shingles or tiles, such as the open end of barrel tiles.
- ROOF DEBRIS - Keep dead leaves and flammable materials such as pine needles off the roof year-round.
- SKYLIGHTS - Replace plastic skylights with double-paned, tempered glass models. Close skylights during Red Flag weather conditions (see page 55).
- SPARK ARRESTOR - Install an approved spark arrestor on the chimney top.
- RAIN GUTTERS - Keep gutters free from plant debris. Consider installing gutter fill coverings.
- EAVES - Keep eaves clear of bird's nests, spider webs, and other flammable material.
- WINDOWS - Replace single pane glass with double-paned, tempered glass. Close windows during Red Flag weather conditions.
- VENTS - Cover vents with 1/8-inch metal screen, sometimes called hardware cloth (the builder's standard ¼ inch screen found on most homes will not stop embers).

- SIDING AND TRIM - Fill gaps larger than ¼ inch with caulk or other material. Replace any material that is in poor condition, and remodel with ignition resistant building materials, such as stucco, fiber cement, fire retardant wood, or other approved materials.
- WOODPILES—Move firewood and scrap lumber piles at least 30 feet from the house or other structures.
- PATIO FURNITURE - During Red Flag conditions move combustible furniture, pads, doormats, hammocks, and anything flammable inside the house or garage.
- WOOD DECKS - Keep wood decks in good condition. Keep plant debris off of decks and clear all flammable materials from underneath the deck. Consider enclosing open sides of decks with non-flammable material to keep windblown debris from collecting underneath.
- PORCH AND DECK DECORATIONS - During Red Flag conditions move combustible plants, brooms, doormats, wicker baskets, pine cones, and flower arrangements away from or into the house.
- FLOWER BOXES - During Red Flag conditions move wooden flower boxes and hanging pots with coco fiber liners away from or into the house.
- FLOWERBEDS - Replace wood mulches such as bark with noncombustible material such as gravel or stones. Rake up leaf litter and keep dead branches trimmed from plants. Maintain space between plants.
- VEHICLES - During Red Flag conditions (see page 55) close vehicle windows and position cars facing out for quicker exit.
- GARAGE - Adjust or shim door to achieve a tight fit with no gaps where embers could enter. Have a fire extinguisher and tools such as a shovel, rake, bucket, and hoe available for fire emergencies. Store all combustible and flammable liquids away from ignition sources. During Red Flag conditions, keep door closed.
- GARBAGE AND RECYCLING BINS - During Red Flag conditions move plastic bins away from structures. Secure lids so they can’t blow open.
- FENCES - Maintain wood fences in good condition. If your wood fence connects to your house, replace at least the five feet next to the house with non-combustible material such as wire or metal.
- TREES & VINES - Go beyond the minimum brush clearance requirements and prune all trees and vegetation away from the house. Ideally, you don’t want tree limbs touching the structure anywhere. Vines growing up walls are a potential “ladder” that a fire can climb up and into the home. Trees should be limbed up year-round so branches are not near the ground, per brush clearance requirements.
- PROPANE - Keep the area around, under, and over propane tanks clear of tree branches and leaves. Home propane tanks should be located at least 10 feet from the house.
- WATER SUPPLY - Consider having multiple garden hoses that are long enough to reach all areas of your home and other structures on your property. If you have a pool or well, consider getting a pump.

Driveways and Access Roads

- Driveways should be built and maintained in accordance with state and local codes to allow fire and emergency vehicles to reach your home. Consider maintaining access roads with a minimum 10 feet of brush clearance on either side, allowing for two-way traffic if possible. Maintain 15 feet of vertical clearance.
- Ensure that all gates open inward and are wide enough to accommodate emergency equipment.
- Trim trees and shrubs to allow emergency vehicles to pass.
- Make sure your address is clearly visible from the road.

Help Protect Your LAFD Firefighters

Hardening Your Home not only gives it a better chance of surviving a wildfire, but also helps to protect firefighters on scene who are working to defend your home.

SOURCES:
https://www.lafd.org/safety/fire-safety/fire-what-to-do/how-have-firewise-home
https://www.nfpa.org/Public-Education/By-topic/Wildfire/Firewise-USA

NOTES

PREPARE — FIRE — Brush Clearance

Wildfires are a year-round threat to residents of Laurel Canyon, but there are certain times when hillside communities within the Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone are more susceptible to brush fires that can quickly spread out of control. These “fire season” conditions generally exist between September and December when the potent combination of dry brush, strong Santa Ana winds, and low relative humidity are more common. In the Santa Monica Mountains, however, these conditions can arise almost any time of year. For this reason, the City of Los Angeles and the LAFD have established residential brush clearance requirements, as well as inspection and enforcement policies, designed to reduce the risks from wildfires.

CLEARANCE REQUIREMENTS

All of Laurel Canyon is located in the Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone. Owners of property located in the Canyon are required to maintain their property in accordance with the Fire Code. Year-round compliance shall be maintained on all native brush, weeds, grass, trees, and hazardous vegetation within 200 feet of any structures/buildings, whether those structures are on the owner’s property or adjoining properties, and within 10 feet of any combustible fence or roadway/driveway used for vehicular travel.

Create a Defensible Home

- Maintain all weeds and grasses at a maximum height of 3 inches. Due to soil erosion, the Brush Clearance Unit does not require or recommend the removal of roots or the practice of raking the soil (cutting the vegetation down below the soil surface).
- Maintain the lower 1/3rd of trees and shrubs by removing all leafy foliage, twigs, and branches up to a maximum of 6 feet from the ground (i.e., any tree 18 feet or higher requires only 6 feet of clearance). This requirement does not apply to fruit trees, privacy hedges, and ornamental shrubbery (e.g., Italian cypress trees) provided they are well maintained and free of all dead and dry material.
- Remove all dead trees and shrubs.
- Maintain 5 feet of vertical clearance between roof surfaces and portions of overhanging trees and shrubs (i.e., any overhanging foliage must be at least 5 feet above the roof).
- Remove any portion of a tree or shrub within a 10-foot radius of a chimney outlet.
- Maintain the roofs of all structures free of leaves, needles, twigs, and other combustibles.
- Remove all dead/dry undergrowth and material within trees and shrubs, including all dead or dry palm fronds/branches.
- Once brush clearance is conducted, remove and safely dispose of all cut or bagged vegetation, all dead trees, and all debris. This includes all combustible junk, trash, or debris that may be on your property, regardless of how it got there. Combustible debris may include, but is not limited to, paper trash, cardboard boxes, household trash, fabric/clothing, plastic, rubber/tires, or piles of yard waste.

- Cut vegetation may be machine processed (chipped) and spread as ground cover (mulch) so it does not exceed 3 inches in depth within 30 feet of structures and no more than 6 inches in depth 30+ feet from structures/buildings. Machine processed/chipped material shall not be placed within 10 feet of combustible fences or road surfaces.
- Trim native shrubs/brush so foliage is removed from the lower third up to a maximum of 6 feet. Native shrubs shall be spaced not less than 18 feet from the edge of any other native shrub, building or structure, and not less than three times the shrub's maximum diameter from other native shrubs. Native Shrubs/Brush are indigenous plants that mostly grow wild without any watering or care. High Energy Release Shrubs/Brush include, but are not limited to, Junipers, Spanish or Scotch Broom, Manzanita, Service Berry, Mountain Mahogany/Whitethorn, Sage, and Rabbit Brush and as determined by the Fire Chief.
- Maintain all other landscape vegetation, including, but not limited to, conifers (e.g., cedar, cypress, fir, juniper, and pine), eucalyptus, acacia, palm and pampas grass in such a condition as not to provide an available fuel supply to augment the spread or intensity of a fire or impede egress of emergency vehicles. This includes trimming up and removing all dead and dry material as required above.
- Firewood shall be located 30 feet away from any structure or shall be completely enclosed within a fire resistive closed container.
- LAFD requires that vegetation be trimmed back and a 3 foot radius clearance be maintained around fire hydrants.
- LAFD requires that vegetation/branches extending past a curb and over the street be trimmed back to the curb line and up a minimum of 14 feet vertically from the roadway surface to the lowest overhanging branch to provide clearance for emergency vehicles. Vegetation/branches extending over the sidewalk shall also be trimmed up a minimum of 9 feet vertically from the sidewalk surface to the lowest overhanging branch so as not to obstruct or interfere with the free passage of pedestrians.

Before you clear, know where your property ends. Verify your parcel boundaries at zimas.lacity.org. If your parcel abuts public land managed or owned by the MRCA, contact them if you have any issues or questions: (323) 221-9944.

PROTECTED TREES AND SHRUBS

Brush clearance does not override the City's tree protections. The LAFD now states plainly that all fire clearance shall be performed in compliance with the ordinance governing native protected trees and shrubs.

Protected species are the Valley Oak, the California Live Oak and other oaks indigenous to California (except the Scrub Oak), the Southern California Black Walnut, the Western Sycamore, the California Bay, and two shrubs — the Mexican Elderberry and the Toyon. A specimen is protected once it reaches four inches or more in cumulative diameter, measured four and a half feet above the ground

at the base. Coast live oaks and sycamores are common on Canyon parcels. Toyon and elderberry are common in the brush behind them.

Removing a protected tree or shrub without a permit is a violation. “Removal” is defined broadly. It includes any act that causes the plant to die — cutting it, damaging the roots, running equipment over the root zone, changing the grade around it, applying chemicals, or burning it. A permit to remove or relocate a protected tree is issued by the Board of Public Works through streetsla.lacity.org. Thinning and limbing are not removal, and the brush clearance requirements above can be met on a parcel with protected trees on it. But identify what you have before the work starts, and tell your contractor. A crew working by the hour will not stop to ask whether that oak is protected.

ZONE 0 — THE FIRST FIVE FEET

Everything above concerns the 200 feet around your home. The first five feet (the ground and structures within five feet of your exterior walls) is covered by a new separate state ember-resistance requirement known as Zone 0.

As of the publication of v2.0 of this document Zone 0 regulations are being reworked. Its requirements and its dates are not settled, and nothing in this Plan should be read as a Zone 0 rule. Before you spend money on it or remove anything you cannot put back, check for updates to brush clearance regulations: https://lafd.org/fire-prevention/brush

BRUSH CLEARANCE OPERATIONS

Amendments to the Los Angeles Municipal Code govern how clearance is performed, whether the work is done by the homeowner or by a hired professional. These rules exist because brush clearance operations can start fires:

- Brush clearance cannot be done on LAFD Red Flag days, when fire weather conditions are at their peak.
- Use of metal cutting blades for grass or brush clearance shall be limited to those which are non-ferrous/non-sparking.
- Individuals engaged in brush clearance operations shall not engage in any other activities during their actual clearance of grass or brush.
- An approved fire extinguisher, or a pressurized garden hose with attached nozzle, shall be within 10 feet of any grass or brush clearance operation, to quickly extinguish a small fire before it burns out of control.
- A cell phone capable of dialing 9-1-1 shall be charged and readily accessible to the grass or brush clearance operation.
- All fires, regardless of size, shall be reported immediately via the 9-1-1 system to the Fire Department.

- Where a gasoline container is present at the site of a brush or grass clearance operation, a minimum 4A 60BC dry chemical fire extinguisher shall be within 10 feet of the clearance operation.
- A safety strap shall be used at all times for any tool or appliance with hot exhaust. Hot exhaust shall not come into contact with any brush, grass, flash fuels, or other flammable material.

A first violation may result in a fine of up to 250 dollars. Subsequent violations may result in fines up to 1,000 dollars and/or imprisonment in County Jail for up to six months. If the violation causes a fire, you may also be held liable for the cost of suppressing it. Confirm that your contractor knows these rules. You are the property owner, and the citation comes to you.

BRUSH CLEARANCE INSPECTION PROCESS

Bring your parcel into compliance by **May 1st of each year**. The LAFD assesses no initial inspection fee against a parcel that is compliant when it is first inspected. If you are not able to clear your property yourself, hire a professional who can both understand the requirements and apply them to your property. It is not necessary to notify the LAFD of compliance once your property is cleared. Every property owner in the Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone receives an annual notification mailer in March. It carries your Assessor Parcel Number. Keep it.

1st Inspection

Inspection of government-owned land begins in March. Inspection of private parcels begins on May 1st and continues until all parcels have been inspected — in 2026, through June 30th.
Parcels found in violation are issued an F-1308 Notice of Non-Compliance and assessed the initial inspection fee. The homeowner or person responsible has **20 days** to comply with the notice of violation. Do not contact the Fire Department when you are ready for re-inspection. All inspections are scheduled automatically.

2nd Inspection

Property owners issued a notice of violation on the first inspection will have their property inspected a second time after the 20 day period. If the property is found compliant upon re-inspection, no additional fees are assessed. If the property is found non-compliant upon re-inspection, a second fee is assessed and a Second Notice is issued to the property owner. A Red Card is then posted on any property still not in compliance, informing the property owner that a Certified Private Contractor, hired by the City, will be on the property to begin work in 10 to 15 days or more. All property owners whose property is cleared by the City through Certified Private Contractors are sent an invoice including the cost of the work performed, an administrative fee, and a non-compliance fee.

FEES

Fees are set annually. The 2026 schedule:

Parcel compliant at initial inspection	No fee
Fails initial inspection	$31.00
Fails second inspection	$31.00 + $758.00
Cleared by City contractor	$1,740.00 administrative + contractor bid + $31.00 + $758.00
Not paid by the due date	200% penalty on the amount owed

Billing is mailed beginning in August. Direct billing questions to lafd.brushacctg@lacity.org.
The arithmetic is worth stating plainly. A day of your own labor, or a few hundred dollars paid to a crew you chose yourself, against a City contractor's bid plus $2,529 in fees on a parcel you no longer control. Clear before May 1st.

CHECK YOUR PARCEL STATUS

Register an account at https://fims.lafd.org/ using your Assessor Parcel Number. Your APN can be found on the annual owner notification mailed to you in March, on a Notice of Violation, or on your property tax statement. A registered account lets you view the photographs the inspector took of the hazards on your parcel and receive notification of your inspection results by email. If you were flagged and do not understand why, the photographs are the fastest way to find out. Parcel status can also be viewed at https://vms3.lafd.org/.

REPORT A HAZARD

The Fire Department wants to hear your concerns so that they can provide the clearance necessary for firefighters to protect your property and your neighborhood. Report hazardous brush conditions:

- **By Email** — send specific details to LAFDBrush@lacity.org.
- **By Phone** — (800) 994-4444, Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.
- **In Person** — report the hazard to your local Fire Station.

HOMELESS ENCAMPMENTS

Homeless encampments in the Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone present an extreme danger to hillside communities due to cooking and warming fires. Report all encampments in the hillsides through MYLA311 at https://myla311.lacity.gov/, or by calling 311 from your phone. The LAFD directs the public to 3-1-1 for these reports, and routes them to the Brush Clearance Unit. Follow up with a report to the Laurel Canyon Fire and Crime Patrol at: (833) 888-5272. If the situation poses an immediate danger, such as observed active cooking or warming fires, dial 911 and report it as an emergency.

SOURCE:
https://lafd.org/fire-prevention/brush

NOTES

PREPARE FIRE Evacuation — Go Bags

PREPARING YOUR GO BAGS

While there are a number of disaster scenarios that may require evacuation of your home, all have in common the need to prepare to have only minutes, maybe less, to safely leave your home. The preparation of "Go Bags" can provide you and your family with the necessities to get through the immediate emergency and allow you to preserve important documents and valuables if your home is severely damaged or destroyed.

PRIMARY GO BAG

Every household should prepare a Primary Go Bag**,** stored in an easily accessible location known to all family members. If only one family member is home during an evacuation, or if there is only time to grab one bag, the Primary Go Bag is the one that goes with you.

In a worst case scenario the contents of your Primary Go Bag may be all you have left from your home after a disaster. With that in mind, your Primary Go Bag should contain only the most essential items, remain packed and ready at all times, and be stored in your bedroom or near the primary exit.

Your Primary Go Bag should be light enough to carry in the event that you must evacuate on foot. Backpacks are a very good option, as they allow you to carry more weight while keeping your hands free.

Everyone's Primary Go Bag will contain different items, so when planning and packing yours, ask yourself, "If all I will have left from my home tomorrow will be this bag, what would I want in it?" Put some thought into this, and customize your Go Bags to meet your family's needs.

Primary Go Bag Essentials:
Identification (driver's license, passport)
Important family documents (insurance policies, medical records, wills, deeds, etc.)
A current family photo or photos of each family member
A copy of your family emergency contact plan
A printed map of the area
Prescription medications (7 day supply) and eyeglasses/contact lenses
Credit cards and cash in small denomination bills
Cell phone and charger
Computer backup drive
First Aid kit
N95 particulate dust masks
An emergency whistle
Emergency mylar or light blankets

A multitool or small knife
A flashlight with extra batteries
Chemical light sticks
A small battery operated AM or NOAA radio
Personal daily hygiene items
A complete change of clothes suited to the weather
Water and protein bars

GRAB LIST

In addition to the permanent items in your Primary Go Bag, keep a **"Grab List"** of the things you use on a daily basis that will be grabbed at the last second and tossed in: wallet, keys, cell phone, etc. Try to keep these items in one place where you can grab them on the way out.

SECONDARY GO BAGS

In addition to the Primary, each member of your household should have their own Go Bag. Ready one Go Bag per family member, packed light enough to carry if you have to walk out. Each bag should include a small flashlight with extra batteries and a full change of clothes, updated as needed for growing children. Clothes should also be swapped out to match the season. For small children, consider including games, crayons, books, or other means of entertainment. Put a small bottle of water and some snacks in each bag.

If you feel that you can carry more than one bag, you can prepare Secondary Go Bags with items that didn't make the cut for your Primary bag. If the evacuation is by car and you have time to grab them, Secondary Go Bags may also allow you to preserve more valuable property and additional helpful supplies.

Some items to consider:

Extra batteries
FRS two-way radios (walkie talkies)
A headlamp flashlight
Heavy work gloves
Sturdy shoes or boots
Duct tape
Rain gear
A tarp
Sleeping bags
Blankets
Canned food and a can opener
Eating utensils
Paper towels
Food storage bags
Trash bag

INFANT GO BAG

If your family includes an infant, you must either include all necessary supplies in your Primary Go Bag, or prepare a separate Infant Go Bag. Make sure you have all necessary items to care for your infant for a minimum of three days.

Plan for carrying your infant in the event you cannot evacuate by car. If your walk-out route is paved roads and sidewalks, a wheeled stroller may work. If escape routes include substandard roads or walking through brush, consider a chest sling.

With infants and small children, the priority must always be to get them quickly away from any source of danger, which includes toxic smoke. Leave everything behind if you must, but get infants and small children away from smoke as quickly as possible. The same emphasis on avoiding exposure to smoke applies to pregnant women, the elderly, and people with respiratory ailments. For guidance on evacuating with pets or animals see page 39.

ADDITIONAL TIPS

One way to make more room for essentials and valuables in your Primary Go Bag is to pack a separate bag with food, water, blankets, clothes, and first aid items, and leave it in the trunk of your car at all times. Remember to check and replace perishable items regularly.

For evacuation the Red Cross recommends 1 gallon of water per person for 3 days. That's too much water to carry, even for one person, so keep a small amount in your Go Bag - enough to get you through the first hours of an evacuation - and store the rest in a secure location where it can be quickly loaded into your car.

Consider a fireproof safe in your home for additional valuables and documents. If you have encrypted internet cloud storage consider scanning and backing up important documents and irreplaceable family photos there or on a USB flash drive you can keep in your Primary Go Bag.

PRACTICE

Once you have prepared your family Go Bags, practice evacuating your home. See how long it takes to get everyone out of the house and safely into the car with their Go Bags. Also practice evacuating by foot, and walk a block or two with your bags to test their weight. Make any necessary adjustments until you feel secure in your family's ability to safely evacuate your home as quickly as possible.

SOURCE:
https://www.redcross.org/get-help/how-to-prepare-for-emergencies/survival-kit-supplies.html

NOTES

PREPARE — FIRE — Evacuation Zones

EVACUATION ZONES

Evacuation Warnings and Evacuation Orders for the City of Los Angeles are now issued by geographic zone. The Los Angeles Fire Department, the Los Angeles Police Department, the Emergency Management Department, and the news media all use the same set of pre-drawn zones to describe exactly which areas are being warned, which are under mandatory evacuation, and which have been cleared for return. The zone system does not replace the alerts you already receive. It is the map those alerts refer to.

Three systems now work together, and you should understand all three:

- **Wireless Emergency Alerts (WEA)** — the loud, automatic alert that arrives on your phone. No sign-up is required. A WEA is broadcast by cell tower to every compatible handset in a targeted area, and it works even when the network is too congested to place a call.
- **NotifyLA** — the City's opt-in mass notification system, operated by the Emergency Management Department. You must register your address to receive calls, texts, and emails for your location. (See page 6)
- **Genasys Protect zones** — the geographic zone designations the City uses to define the boundaries of a Warning or an Order. Zone status is published publicly and in real time and is visible in the Genasys Protect app and in the Watch Duty app.

An alert that reads "Evacuation Order issued for zones LFD-0815 and LFD-0817" is useless to you if you do not know your zone. **Learn it now**.

HOW THE ZONE SYSTEM WORKS

The City and County of Los Angeles have been divided into several thousand small zones, each bounded by roads, ridgelines, and other features that emergency responders can actually hold as a line. City of Los Angeles zones carry the LFD prefix. The full identifier takes the form **US-CA-XLA-LFD-0815** and is commonly written and spoken in its short form: **LFD-0815**, with the last four numbers indicating the zone number.

Each zone carries a status that is updated by the agency with authority over the incident:

- **Normal** (white) — no active hazard.
- **Advisory** (blue) — be on alert and follow the direction of the agency handling the incident.
- **Evacuation Warning** (yellow) — prepare to leave.
- **Evacuation Order** (red) — mandatory, leave now.
- **Shelter in Place** (purple) — remain indoors; evacuation has been judged more dangerous than staying.
- **Evacuation Order Lifted** (light green) — the zone has been reopened to residents.
- **Training** (dark green) — an exercise, or a test of the warning system. No action is required.

Zone boundaries and zone numbers are not permanent. City of Los Angeles zone labels were renumbered in February and March of 2025, which left older evacuation records referring to zone

names that no longer exist. **Re-check your zone at the start of each fire season and any time you hear that zones have been re-drawn.** A zone can also be split during an incident, with a letter added to its label: the LFD-0815 you memorized may appear in an alert as LFD-0815-A. Treat any alert carrying your zone number as applying to you unless you are told otherwise.

KNOW YOUR ZONE

Look up your home address at **protect.genasys.com**. No account, log-in, or payment is required; the site will ask you once to accept its terms before the map will load.

- Write your zone number on your Household Plan (p. 2). Have each member of your household memorize your zone designation.
- Learn the zones that surround you. A fire in an adjacent zone is an early warning, whether or not your own zone has been upgraded yet.
- Learn the zones along every one of your evacuation routes — south out of the canyon toward Sunset, north over Mulholland to the Valley, and east and west along your secondary routes. An Order covering a zone between you and safety tells you that route may be compromised.
- Learn the zones for your workplace, your children's school, and the homes of any family members.
- A map showing all Genasys zone boundaries within Laurel Canyon is included on page 38 of this guide. Use it to identify your zone and the zones around you and then verify it against the current data at protect.genasys.com. The included map is a reference, not a live source. Having both the Watch Duty and Genasys Protect apps on your phones will give you a good visual picture of the impacted zones.
- **As always, when evacuating during a wildfire follow the directions of emergency responders if they are on scene. Conditions can change quickly, and emergency responders will have the latest information on the safest routes out of the Canyon.**

THE APPS

Download both. They do different jobs, and both are worth the space on your phone.

Genasys Protect (free, iOS and Android)

This is the official source of zone status. Search any address, save your home and the locations that matter to you, and receive a push notification when the status of a saved zone changes.

Watch Duty (free, iOS and Android, with optional paid tiers)

Watch Duty is a non-profit service staffed by trained reporters who monitor fire radio traffic and post incident updates, frequently minutes ahead of official channels. The map carries fire perimeters, satellite hotspots, live camera feeds, power outage data, and red flag warnings.

- **Standard (Free).** Alerts for up to four counties, one saved place, and the map layers above. When there is an active fire or flood in a county Watch Duty displays all evacuation zones in that county, and that display cannot be turned off. For a Laurel Canyon resident during an active incident, the free tier shows you what you need.

- **Basic, $24.99/year.** Unlimited counties and saved places and firefighting aircraft flight tracking. Recommended for anyone who tracks fire activity across the region or who has property or family elsewhere in the state.
- **Pro, $99.99/year.** Adds the pre-planned evacuation zone layer, visible at all times rather than only during an active incident, plus fire progression modeling, GIS import, and access to the Broadcastify scanner feed catalog. Aimed at professional responders. Residents do not need it — the free Genasys Protect app shows you your zone any day of the year.

Watch Duty consolidates its zone data from the responsible agencies, and during a fast-moving incident it can lag or differ from the official source. **If the two disagree, follow the direction of emergency responders on scene.**

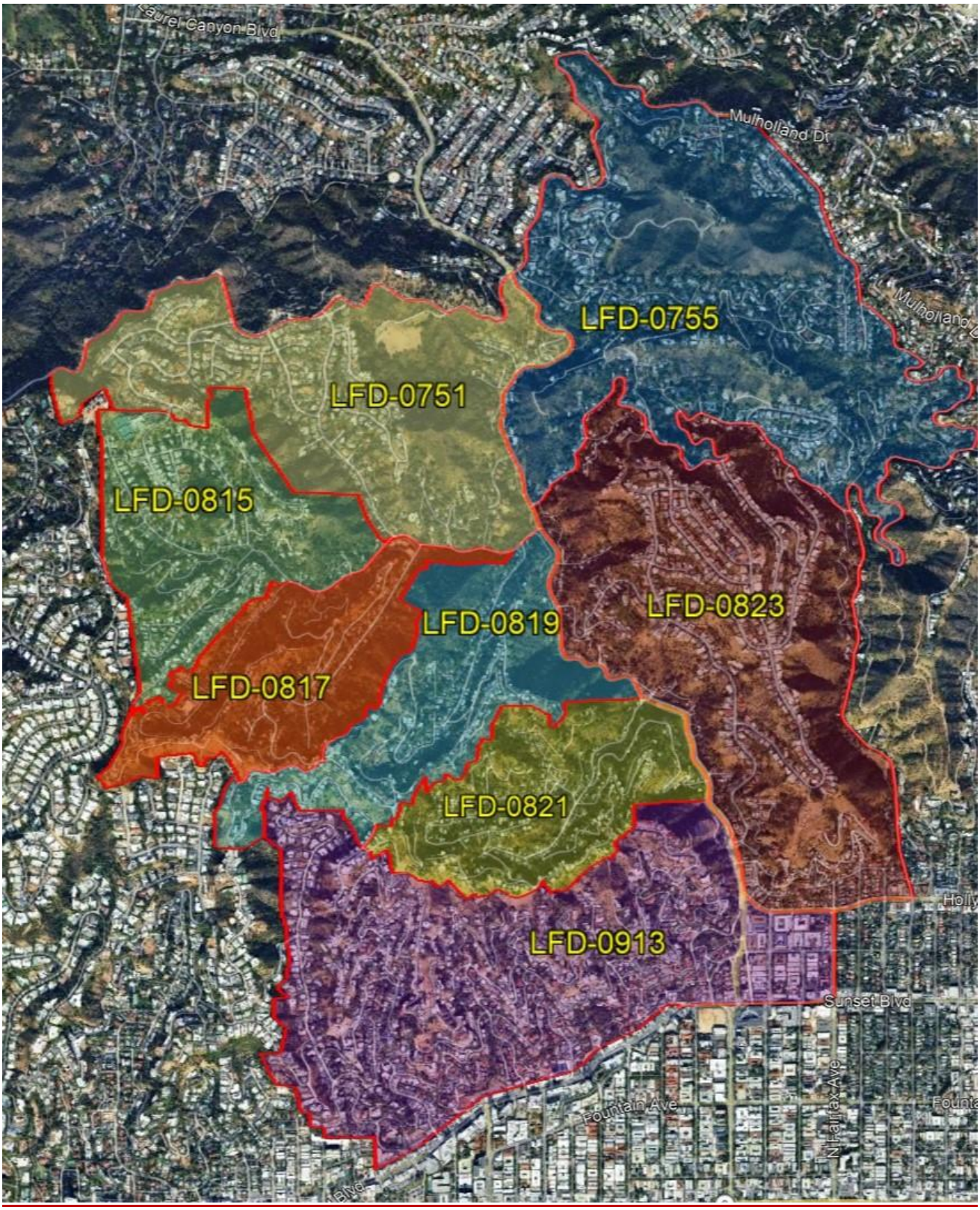
REGISTER AND VERIFY

- **Sign up for NotifyLA** at emergency.lacity.gov/notifyla. Register every address you care about, and register each member of your household separately. NotifyLA is opt-in; if you have not registered, you will not get the alerts.
- **Confirm WEA is enabled on every phone in your household.** On iPhone: Settings > Notifications > scroll to the bottom > Government Alerts. On Android: Settings > Safety & Emergency > Wireless Emergency Alerts (the path varies by manufacturer). Emergency Alerts and Public Safety Alerts should be on. Do not disable them because a test alert woke you up.
- **Download and configure both Watch Duty and Genasys apps** with your home zone and surrounding zones saved.
- **Re-verify all of the above every year before fire season** when you check your Go Bags and your smoke alarms.

Every one of these systems depends on power and a working cellular data connection. Both are among the first things lost in a wildfire. Zone alerts are a supplement to your own eyes, your battery-powered radio, and your neighbors, not a substitute for them. **If conditions appear to be dangerous do not wait for your phone to tell you to leave.**

SOURCES:
https://protect.genasys.com/
https://lafd.org/alerts
https://lafd.org/news/public-notice-genasys-zone-changes-regard-archived-evacuation-orders
https://emergency.lacity.gov/notifyla
https://www.watchduty.org/join
https://support.watchduty.org/hc/en-us/articles/29011343892237-Where-can-I-find-my-evacuation-zone
https://support.watchduty.org/hc/en-us/articles/34007202081549-How-do-I-turn-off-or-hide-evacuation-zones
https://www.ready.gov/alerts

Laurel Canyon Corridor Evacuation Zones



PREPARE FIRE — Pets, Service, and Large Animals

Your pets and animal loved ones depend on you for their safety and well-being, so when planning for emergencies it helps to think of your pets and animals as small children.

If your family includes pets, service animals, or livestock, develop special plans to meet their needs and ensure their safety during shelter in place and evacuation scenarios. They are depending on you to be prepared.

SHELTER IN PLACE

When stocking up on supplies for an extended shelter in place don't forget to prepare for the needs of your animal household. You may not be able to run out to buy pet food, medicines, litter, and treats for your animals, so make sure your plans include a 30 day supply of:

- Water
- Food
- Medicine / First Aid
- Litter / bedding

Remember to check dates on all medications and replace them when they are nearing expiration. Consult with your veterinarian about what medications and first aid supplies you should have on hand.

EVACUATING PETS & ANIMALS

Small Pets and Service Animals

In a wildfire or other emergency there are unfamiliar sounds, smells, panicked humans, and scenes of chaos. Animals may quickly become stressed, have difficulty breathing, overheat, or behave erratically. Never allow pets outside during a disaster unless they are crated or on a secure leash. During an evacuation you may not have time to find and recover them. Households with pets should always evacuate early whenever possible. Evacuation with pets by automobile is far easier than evacuation on foot.

Whether you are away from home for a day or a week, you'll need to take essential pet supplies with you in an evacuation. Just as you have prepared Go Bags for the humans in your family, you should have Pet Go Bags ready in advance.

Pet Go Bags

Your Pet Go Bag kit should include:

- Microchip information, medical records - including current vaccination records - and a first aid kit. It's recommended that you have a one-week supply of pet medications in your kit.
- Leashes, harnesses, and/or carriers to transport pets safely and ensure that your animals can't escape. (Pets are not allowed at shelter sites unless they are leashed or crated.)
- Current photos of you with your pets.
- Food, potable water, bowls, cat litter and pan, and can opener.
- Information on feeding schedules, medical conditions, behavior problems, and the name and number of your veterinarian in case you have to foster or board your pets.
- Pet beds and toys, if easily transportable.

Boarding Your Pets

Know where you can take your pets safely if you have to evacuate the Canyon:

- Make a list of hotels and motels outside your immediate area that accept pets. Note any restrictions on number of animals, size, and species.
- Ask friends, relatives, or others outside the affected area if they can shelter your animals.
- If you have more than one pet, they may be more comfortable if kept together, but be prepared to house them separately.
- Prepare a list of boarding facilities and veterinarians who could shelter animals in an emergency (include 24-hour phone numbers).
- Service Dogs are allowed to accompany you to a shelter as long as they are at all times under your direct control by leash, harness, or secured in a carrier.
- Train your pets to be comfortable in transport carriers.

Pet Identification

Pet identification is critical during chaotic times when you are away from home:

- Make sure all dogs and cats are wearing collars with securely fastened and current identification.
- Attach the phone number and address of your temporary shelter, if you know it, or of a friend or relative outside the disaster area. You can buy temporary tags or put adhesive tape on the back of your pet's ID tag, adding information with an indelible pen.

Los Angeles County law requires dogs to be microchipped. Though not required by law, cats should also be microchipped. It can save your pet's life if you are separated in an emergency.

Every household with pets should have a "Pets Inside" decal posted either on the front door or in a window clearly visible to firefighters at the front of your home. In the event that pets are home without you during an evacuation, firefighters will know that they are inside and in need of rescue. If you evacuate with your pets be sure to take the sign down before you leave.

Animals Other Than Cats and Dogs

BIRDS should be transported in a secure travel cage if you evacuate, with a blanket for cold weather or a plant mister for hot weather. Give them some fruits and vegetables with high water content. Bring extra cage liners and change them frequently. Have leg bands on your birds, and keep a photo of each in your wallet and phone.

SNAKES can be transported in a pillowcase, but must be transferred to more secure housing when you reach the evacuation site. Take a water bowl large enough for soaking and a heat source. Bring food if they need to eat often. When transporting HOUSE LIZARDS follow the instructions for birds.

SMALL MAMMALS (rabbits, hamsters, gerbils, etc.) and CHICKENS should be transported in secure carriers suitable for the animals to live in while they are being sheltered. Take bedding materials, cage liners, food bowls, and water bottles.

FISH should be transported in a shatterproof container with a lid, such as an insulated ice chest. Fill only 1/2 to 3/4 full of water and avoid overcrowding. Take food and any equipment needed to keep the water circulated, oxygenated, heated, and cleaned as necessary.

Horses and Large Livestock

Owning horses in Laurel Canyon has its special challenges, particularly when it comes to emergency preparedness. It is every horse owner's responsibility to have a Large Animal Emergency Plan in place. Plan ahead with your neighbors to help ensure that you get your animals out early.

- Have a halter and rope readily available for each horse. Make sure halters are marked / engraved with your contact information.
- Take photographs and prepare a written description of each horse including vaccination and medical information.
- Microchip your horses. This is an effective way to identify ALL of your animals.
- Keep trucks and trailers well-maintained and ready to move.
- Make sure your gas tank is at least ½ full, particularly during Red Flag Warning days.

Plan NOW for horse and livestock emergency sheltering. Make plans with a friend, commercial stable, or other suitable facility outside of Laurel Canyon where you can take your animals if you must evacuate.

If your horse is not trained to load into a trailer easily or safely you must work in advance to make your stable area as safe as possible to shelter in place. This also applies to livestock such as cattle, llamas, and pigs.

If sheltering your animals in place is your only option:

- Make sure there is adequate clearance by removing hay and brush from the corral or pen environment.
- Provide sufficient food and water for at least 3 days.
- Suggested water supply is 10 to 12 gallons per animal per day.

  RESOURCE: For more information on emergency preparedness for horses, download the FREE comprehensive emergency response booklet from https://etinational.com/ (click on the "Docs & Forms" link)

Assemble your Large Animal Disaster Supply Kit

Store non-perishable supplies in a portable container such as a trashcan or duffle bag. At a minimum, your kit should include:

- Feed/feed buckets
- Medications
- Photo identification/information for each horse
- First Aid kit with leg wraps
- Flashlight
- Duct tape

EVACUATE LARGE ANIMALS EARLY
Leave the Canyon as soon as you hear an Evacuation Warning (or before) — do not wait for an Evacuation Order.

DO NOT turn your horses loose! Although your instinct may be to let your animals loose, they are safer in their corrals. Loose horses can pose a life threatening danger to themselves, the public, and emergency responders.

For more information visit the Los Angeles Animal Services website:
https://www.laanimalservices.com/general-information/emergency-preparedness/

PREPARE EARTHQUAKE

Southern California is earthquake country. It is not a question of "if" a major earthquake will occur, but rather a question of "when."

The 1994 Northridge quake was a magnitude 6.7 event. It killed 57 people, with more than 9,000 injured. It caused more than 20 billion dollars in damage, 40 billion in economic loss, and was considered to be just a *strong* earthquake. A 7.8 magnitude earthquake, generally considered the minimum to qualify as "The Big One," would release 45 times the energy of the Northridge quake. The expected devastating impacts of a major Southern California earthquake include:

- Direct structural damage to homes and businesses.
- Landslides that could make roads impassable.
- Loss of natural gas, water, and sewage services.
- Power and communication outages.
- Structure fires from broken propane and natural gas lines and damaged appliances.

In the immediate aftermath of a large earthquake, it is likely that first responders, including the LAFD and LAPD, will be overwhelmed dealing with triage in the more densely populated areas of the Valley and the Westside. It could be days before any significant help arrives in hillside communities.

Being prepared for a major earthquake in Laurel Canyon means knowing how to survive the initial quake and aftershocks, as well as having the supplies on hand to shelter in home for an extended period of time.

PREPARE TO SURVIVE THE QUAKE

Know how to react when the shaking starts. Identify safe spots in each room of your home, away from windows, mirrors, hanging objects, and fireplaces. Practice **Drop, Cover, and Hold On**:



- **Drop to the floor where you are**, onto your hands and knees. Do not try to walk to a safer spot.

- **Cover** your head and neck with one arm and hand. If a sturdy table or desk is nearby, crawl to it and get underneath. Lacking sturdy furniture for cover, crawl to the nearest interior wall without windows. Remain on your knees.

- If under shelter, **Hold On** to it until the shaking stops. If exposed, keep both arms over your head and neck.

Keep shoes, clothing, an emergency whistle, and a flashlight by each bed in your home. The number one injury after an early morning earthquake is cut feet, as people jump out of bed and step on broken glass. Put your items in a bag and tie it to the bed frame so if the bed moves, your supplies move with it.

Check the structural integrity of your home. Have a contractor check your chimneys, roof, walls and foundation to make sure everything is up to the latest codes for earthquake safety.

Secure large household items. Strap down water heaters and major appliances, along with TVs, tall furniture, mirrors, picture frames and anything that could fall and cause injury.

Store hazardous items safely. Keep breakable items, heavy objects, and flammable or hazardous liquids such as paints, pest sprays, and cleaning products in secured cabinets, or close to the floor.

Know proper utility shut off procedures. Learn how to shut off natural gas, propane tanks, water mains, and electrical breakers. (see page 19)

Stock a roll of plastic sheeting and duct tape to be used to cover broken windows.

SHELTER IN HOME

Preparing supplies for an extended shelter in home involves five main areas: water, food, medical, sanitation, and power. Plan to be self-sufficient in these areas for a minimum of three weeks.

Water

Nothing is more important than having sufficient potable water on hand. The average person can only survive three to five days without water before serious organ damage or failure can occur from dehydration. When preparing your earthquake survival supplies, attend to your emergency water first.

With a recommended 1 gallon per person per day it quickly becomes clear that some effort may be required to secure a sufficient supply. A family of four would need 84 gallons to cover 3 weeks. Add

a gallon per day for each pet and it begins to require significant storage planning. Options include 55 gallon plastic drums, 1 to 5 gallon stackable containers, and commercial bottled water. Pay attention to expiration dates on bottled water and replace your stored tap water supplies every 6 months. Make sure your water storage area has a likelihood of surviving the initial damage caused by an earthquake. The water in your hot water heater may be accessed in an emergency, but use caution. Turn off the cold water supply to the tank, turn the thermostat off, let the water cool, then open the drain valve at the bottom and save to a clean container. Some sediment may need to be strained out.

Keep a bottle of plain bleach with no additives that contains a 6% or greater concentration of sodium hypochlorite. Bleach can be used to disinfect water when boiling is not an option in the event you are forced to use water of uncertain purity. If the water you are using is cloudy or contains visible particles, filter it through a paper coffee filter first. Add ⅛ teaspoon of bleach (about 8 drops from an eyedropper) per 1 gallon of water in a clean, disinfected container. Mix well and let stand for 30 minutes before using. The water should have a slight bleach smell. If it doesn't, repeat the process. If the water still doesn't have a bleach smell after two treatments, discard it.

Food

Refrigerated food will spoil in about 4 hours without power. A full freezer will maintain a safe temperature for about 48 hours. Keep gel packs in the freezer that can be transferred to the refrigerator to keep it cold for a longer period. Your refrigerator and freezer should both have thermometers so you can monitor the temperatures.

Use perishable food first, but stock an emergency supply of canned and packaged foods that will support your household for up to 3 weeks. Many people choose to stock up on foods that they regularly use and then rotate the stock to keep it within expiration dates. Make sure you have a manual can opener.

Freeze-dried foods with long shelf life are also a good option, but will require the ability to boil water. Include some comfort foods like cookies, especially if you have small children.

Inspect all emergency food supplies before using, and throw away cans that show signs of swelling or corrosion. Discard all perishable cooked food after more than 2 hours at room temperature.

Medical

Keep a minimum 21 day emergency supply of all required prescription medications on hand. Maintain an up-to-date list of all prescriptions, including dosage amounts, generic equivalents, medical supply needs, and known allergies. If any medications require refrigeration keep a small cooler and a supply of chemical cold packs on hand for storage during power outages. Store your emergency supply somewhere consistently cool and always out of the reach of children.

Maintain a well-stocked medicine cabinet with all over the counter medications and supplies you may need, including:

- Pain relievers such as aspirin, acetaminophen, and ibuprofen
- Antidiarrheal
- Antihistamine
- Diuretics / laxatives
- Cold & flu treatments, plus electrolyte hydration formula
- A digital thermometer
- Hand sanitizer (minimum 60% alcohol based)
- Non-latex gloves
- A variety of bandages, gauze, and wound dressings
- Medical adhesive tape
- Elastic bandages and wraps
- Disposable chemical hot and cold packs
- Emergency dental kit
- Antibacterial wound ointment
- Antiseptic wipes
- Betadine
- Hydrocortisone
- Saline solution or eye drops
- Isopropyl alcohol

As with prescriptions, store all medications safely out of the reach of children. Monitor expiration dates and replace supplies as needed.

Consider obtaining electronic copies of all medical records for each household member. In an extended power out disaster it may be difficult, or impossible, for medical staff to obtain your records to aid in treatment. For guidance on obtaining health records go to: https://www.healthit.gov/how-to-get-your-health-record/

Sanitation

Often overlooked in emergency preparedness is the crucial need to be prepared to handle sanitation and hygiene challenges during an extended shelter in home event. Toilets will not work if water or sewage services are interrupted. Showers and baths are no longer an option. Even the simple need to wash your hands can become a challenge, as water may be in short supply. Serious health risks can result from improper sanitation, so prepare in advance to meet these needs.

Personal Hygiene

If you have put up the recommended 1 gallon of water per person per day, you will have water available for hygiene, but remember that some of that water will also be used for cleaning dishes and preparing food.

Stock up on packaged baby wipes, toilet wipes, and liquid hand sanitizer. One area where you don't want to skimp is keeping your hands clean. Isopropyl alcohol and cotton pads can also be used to freshen up hands, faces, and underarm areas, saving your water supply for drinking.

Be sure to also keep a supply of paper towels, toilet paper, and feminine hygiene products. If you wear contact lenses don't get caught short on supplies for maintaining them.

Bio Waste

Pre-made **Honey Bucket** kits are widely available, but it is easy and inexpensive to prepare your own. If your home toilets are unusable due to water supply or sewer damage, a pair of Honey Buckets is essential.

Two sturdy, five gallon plastic buckets with covers will do the job. Attachable toilet seats made to fit the standard buckets are available online or at emergency supply stores. Stock a supply of heavy duty trash bags with twist ties and a large bag or two of cat litter.

Designate one bucket for liquid waste, and the other for solids. **All paper waste goes in the solids bucket**. Line each with a plastic bag and add cat litter. After each use, add more litter and cover with a tight fitting lid.

To store the waste, carry the covered bucket outside to a designated bin used only for bio waste. Close the bag securely with a twist tie, then remove from the bucket and place it in the bin. Secure the bin so pests can't get in, and always wash your hands after handling the buckets.

Some Canyon residents may have room on their property to dig an old fashioned latrine, but it is not recommended. It is unlikely that you would be able to locate the latrine far enough away from your home to mitigate the problem of attracting pests. For the same reason, do not try to compost solid human waste.

Power

Never use candles for light during any power outage. The fire risk is too high. Chemical glow sticks are inexpensive and widely available and will provide up to 12 hours of constant light for

illuminating rooms and stairwells. Keep a couple dozen on hand and use them to help preserve your flashlight and lantern batteries.

Got spare batteries? Get more. You can never have enough spare batteries. Make sure you have all sizes and types needed for flashlights, lanterns, smoke detectors, hearing aids, toys for children and anything you may need that requires battery power. Lithium disposable batteries are a bit more expensive, but they offer a much longer shelf life. Rechargeable batteries have become popular, but you may not be able to recharge them in an extended emergency. If you've switched to rechargeable for daily use, maintain a solid supply of disposables for emergencies.

The 9 volt batteries used in many smoke detectors and transistor radios require special handling. Their design places the positive and negative posts near each other, making short circuits and fires more likely than with other batteries. Keep them stored in their original packaging until needed. If you have unpackaged 9 volt batteries cover the posts with masking or duct tape to prevent them from coming into contact with metal, even if they are used or appear dead.

Have a backup plan for power if you have any required home use medical equipment. Consider informing your LAPD Senior Lead Officer and local Fire Station of your powered home medical equipment needs.

A backup charging pack for cell phones and tablets is also a good idea, but remember to charge the backup every month or so. Make sure you have chargers, cables, and adaptors to allow you to charge your devices from the 12 volt outlets in your car.

Portable gas or propane generators can come in handy and provide you with limited power, but they can be dangerous to use and require the stocking of fuel. Never use a generator indoors and keep them 20 feet or more from open doors, windows, or vents when operating. Carbon monoxide poisoning is a silent, odorless killer, so follow the manufacturer's instructions carefully. Generators also present a fire hazard, making it essential to never leave a running generator unattended. Keep additional fuel at least 20 feet away from a running generator, and have a fire extinguisher nearby.

It may seem like a lot of work, but once you are prepared to be self-sufficient after an earthquake you are also ready for all shelter in home situations.

If you have a smartphone, consider downloading the ShakeAlert app:
https://www.shakealert.org/

SOURCES:
https://readyla.org/
https://www.redcross.org/get-help/how-to-prepare-for-emergencies.html
https://www.earthquakecountry.org/prepare/
https://www.shakeout.org/dropcoverholdon/

PREPARE EARTHQUAKE — Car & Workplace Kits

You may not find yourself at home when an earthquake strikes. To be fully prepared you should have disaster kits ready in your car and at your workplace. Make sure you have a copy of your Household Plan in both kits. Choose a bag like a backpack that is small and easy to carry. Remember, you may not be able to drive home.

Consider these basic items for your car and workplace kits:

- A pair of comfortable walking shoes
- A bottle of drinking water
- Protein or energy bars
- A small flashlight and extra batteries
- N95 particulate dust masks
- Safety goggles
- A small First Aid Kit
- An emergency whistle
- A reflective safety vest
- A foldable paper map of your area
- A Mylar emergency blanket
- A pair of utility work gloves
- 20 dollars in single bills

Gas stations are likely to be disabled for days or even weeks after a major earthquake, so try to maintain at least a half tank of gas in your vehicles at all times.

NOTES

PREPARE Get Involved / Get Trained

The effectiveness of Emergency Preparedness begins at home with each resident's efforts to secure and prepare their household for disaster but can be amplified greatly when citizens decide to become involved in preparation and training within their communities.

There are many resources available to Laurel Canyon residents from a number of Los Angeles City agencies and local community groups. Try to set some time aside to get involved and get trained. Remember, in a major disaster the first responders are likely to be you and your neighbors.

LAFD-CERT

CERT stands for Community Emergency Response Team and is a FEMA program sponsored and administered in Los Angeles by the Los Angeles City Fire Department. CERT courses are the most comprehensive disaster training available to all citizens of Los Angeles. The CERT Basic curriculum is taught by LA City Firefighters at regular intervals in locations throughout the city. Check their website. Highly recommended for all residents of the hillside communities.
https://www.lafd.org/join/volunteer/cert
https://www.cert-la.com/

LAFD Community Risk Reduction

The LAFD offers a variety of courses and guidance on community risk reduction. Hands-Only CPR and Bleeding Control are two valuable courses that are frequently available. Check their website for class offerings.
https://www.lafd.org/about/community-relations/community-risk-reduction

The Mayor's Crisis Response Team (CRT)

The Mayor's Crisis Response Team was established in 1998 to assist the Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD) and the Los Angeles Fire Department (LAFD) in crisis situations. The CRT responds to homicides, suicides, death notification assistance, domestic violence support, officer involved shootings, infant deaths, and serious traffic collisions. With over 250 screened and highly-trained volunteers, the CRT works in collaboration with many city, county, and community-based organizations.
https://lacrt.org/

City of Los Angeles ACS

The Emergency Management Department of the City of Los Angeles has designated the Los Angeles Fire Department to manage its Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service program under the Auxiliary Communications Service agreement with CalOES. ACS members are used to facilitate auxiliary communications during brush fires and other disasters. If you are a licensed amateur radio operator, or interested in becoming one, check the ACS website for more information.
https://www.lafd.org/join/volunteer/lafd-acs
https://lafdacs.org/

The American Red Cross

The Los Angeles Regional Red Cross provides training in CPR and First Aid, as well as offering opportunities for volunteer work and blood donations.
https://www.redcross.org/local/california/los-angeles.html

Public Safety: We Are Laurel Canyon

Whatever your local public safety concern may be, We Are Laurel Canyon, a community 501c3 organization, has a way for you to participate and contribute. Find out more at:
https://wearelaurelcanyon.org
https://www.facebook.com/groups/laurelcanyonpublicsafety/

LC | ECT

The Laurel Canyon Emergency Communications Team is a volunteer group of residents who use Walkie Talkies and Amateur "ham" radios to form local networks in the event of an emergency. Find out more at: https://www.lcect.org, or email: wqwp394@gmail.com.

TAKE ACTION — A Fire in the Home

When a fire breaks out in your home it can escalate to a life threatening situation very quickly. Toxic smoke can engulf a room, or even an entire home, within seconds. Flames can spread throughout the structure in minutes. You must take action immediately.

EXTINGUISH IF POSSIBLE

If you are nearby when a home fire ignites, such as a kitchen stove or an appliance fire, you may be able to extinguish it if you act quickly. If you have prepared your home for Fire Safety (p. 13) you should have a fire extinguisher nearby. Grab the fire extinguisher and remember **PASS** - **P**ull the pin, **A**im at the base of the fire, **S**queeze the handle, and **S**weep from side to side until you are certain that the fire is extinguished.

If you are unable to extinguish the fire quickly and completely, evacuate immediately and call 911 from outside your home.

ESCAPE

If you become aware of a fire in your home do not hesitate. Do not try to find the source of the fire. **Execute your Family Escape Plan immediately** (p. 16). If possible, close all doors on your way out to slow the spread of smoke and flames. Bend low or crawl to stay below smoke and gasses that may collect near ceilings.

If you must open a door to escape, first feel the door and the doorknob. If either is hot, or if smoke is already coming around the door, leave it closed and use an alternate escape route. When you do open a door, open it slowly at first. Close it immediately if heavy smoke or fire is present on the other side, and use an alternate exit.

Once you are safely outside your home, move to your designated outdoor family meeting place and call 911. Confirm that every member of your household has evacuated. If someone is missing, **never go back inside**. Tell the 911 operator that someone is still inside and let the first firefighters on scene know where they are likely to be located. LAFD firefighters have the training and equipment to make this kind of rescue safely and successfully.

SEAL IN

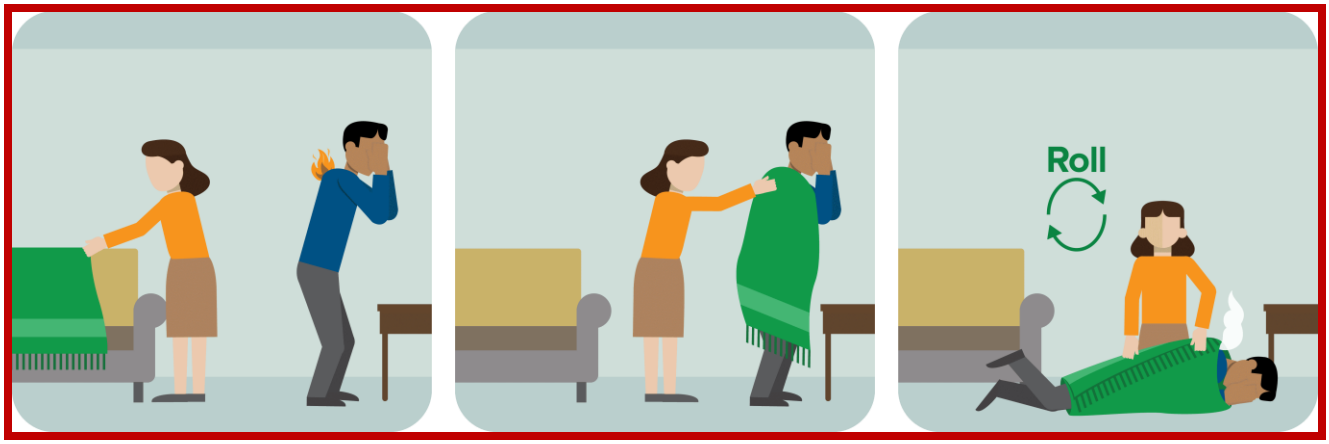
If you are trapped in a room without an alternate exit you must seal in and wait for help from firefighters. Close all doors and seal any spaces below and around them with cloth or tape to help keep smoke and toxic gasses out. Cover vents with blankets or towels and wet them down if possible. If you have access to a phone call 911 and tell the operator where you are in the home.

Stay as low to the floor as possible if the room begins to fill with smoke. Put on an N95 particulate mask if you have one in the room with you. The mask will filter larger particulates but will not filter out toxic gasses. Stay low even with an N95 mask on! Open a window if it will allow smoke-free air into the room. Once firefighters arrive, signal to them by waving a flashlight or a light colored cloth at a window. Remain in the room until firefighters come for you.

If under any circumstance your clothes catch fire, **Stop, Drop, and Roll:**

- Stop immediately
- Drop to the floor and cover your face with your hands
- Roll on the floor to extinguish the flames

Use a towel or blanket to smother flames on someone else whose clothes have caught fire. Seek medical treatment immediately by calling 911.



SOURCE:
https://www.ready.gov/home-fires

TAKE ACTION — Red Flag Alerts

NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE ALERTS

The National Weather Service (NWS) issues Fire Weather Watches and Red Flag Warnings to aid local fire departments in allocating resources and planning for weather conditions that are likely to elevate fire dangers. Low humidity and high winds can result in conditions that contribute to extreme fire behavior and the rapid spread of brush fires. A **Fire Weather Watch** is issued when dangerous conditions may exist within the next 12 to 72 hours. A **Red Flag Warning** is issued when extreme conditions are forecast within 24 hours. In October of 2019, the NWS added **Extreme Red Flag Warning** for when forecast conditions include dry fuels and long durations.

How to Find Out if There is a Fire Weather Watch or Red Flag Warning

- Check local radio and television weather reports.
- Visit the National Weather Service Los Angeles page: https://www.weather.gov/lox
- Listen to NOAA All Hazard Radio on your emergency radio.
- Download the Watch Duty app for your phone: https://www.watchduty.org/

Facebook:
@NWSLosAngeles
@Laurel Canyon Safety and Emergency Preparedness

What to Do When the NWS Issues a Fire Weather Watch or Red Flag Warning

Fire Weather Watch
Monitor local media and the NWS so you will know if the threat is raised to Red Flag Warning. Historically, it often is. Check your primary Go Bag and make sure everyone in your household is aware that a Fire Weather Watch is in effect.

Red Flag Warning
Once a Red Flag Warning is issued by the NWS you should immediately activate your Red Flag Protocol:

- Stage your Go Bag(s) near your exit.
- Park cars in driveways and garages “heads out,” windows closed, and have your keys ready.
- Disable automatic garage door openers and use manual mode so you can exit quickly if there is no power.
- Do not allow pets outside unless on leash or in a carrier.
- No outdoor wood/charcoal BBQ or fire pit burning. Propane or gas only.
- Do not use lawn mowers on dry grasses.
- Review your basic home hardening (p. 21).

- Stay alert to your immediate surroundings. At the first sign of fire or smoke call 911.

A detailed explanation of how the NWS determines Fire Weather and Red Flag conditions can be found at: https://www.weather.gov/media/lox/LOX-Red-Flag-Criteria.pdf

LAFD RED FLAG ALERTS

In addition to the NWS warnings, the City of Los Angeles has its own Red Flag Alert issued by the Los Angeles Fire Department. When the LAFD issues a Red Flag Alert, parking restrictions go into effect on designated streets in the Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone. These streets were identified in surveys by LAFD commanders as critical areas where legally parked cars would create a hazard for evacuating residents and could impede LAFD apparatus trying to reach active brush fires. Restricted areas include narrow streets, tight curves, and key intersections that could create choke points if not cleared of parked vehicles. Many, but not all, restricted areas are marked by signs.



Not all NWS Red Flag Warnings will be accompanied by an LAFD Red Flag Alert.
If the NWS has issued a Red Flag Warning you should check with the LAFD to find out if they have also issued an Alert.

Visit the LAFD Red Flag Alert status page: https://www.lafd.org/redflag

If you don't have internet access, call 311 and ask for Red Flag Alert status.

When the LAFD does issue an alert, move cars parked in Red Flag zones <u>prior to the start time</u> of the Red Flag Alert. LAPD will start towing immediately at the designated hour.

LAFD RED FLAG RESTRICTED PARKING

Check the map link below for designated LAFD Red Flag Streets

City of Los Angeles Red Flag Streets:
https://lafd.maps.arcgis.com/apps/instant/basic/index.html?appid=dc0a34ba301c4bbab5c5c050ae5e43f3

Get text alerts from We Are Laurel Canyon:
https://www.wearelaurelcanyon.org/canyon-text-alerts

SOURCES:
https://www.lafd.org/fire-zone
https://lafd.org/redflag

NOTES

TAKE ACTION Wildfire Evacuation

If Laurel Canyon is threatened by wildfire it may become necessary for residents to evacuate. An evacuation scenario may come with hours of warning, or with only minutes, so knowing in advance what actions you should take is essential.

Whenever wildfire becomes an active threat the most important things to remember are:

- **Evacuate as early as possible.**
- **Follow the directions of the LAPD, LAFD, or any emergency personnel on scene.**
- **Call 911 if you are unable to evacuate.**

Don't wait to be told by authorities to leave. If you think it's time to leave, don't hesitate - EVACUATE. By leaving early, you will give your family the best chance of surviving a wildfire. You also help firefighters by keeping roads clear of congestion, enabling them to move apparatus in and out of your neighborhood.

Residents on narrow, substandard streets, or in areas with only one evacuation route are especially vulnerable to road congestion during an evacuation. Getting out early means you can drive out. Leave late and you may have to walk out.

Every wildfire evacuation scenario will be unique, so it is important to follow the directions of any on scene emergency responders. They will be executing the coordinated plan of the Incident Commander, and will direct you to the safest possible location.

Evacuation May Be Necessary

If you become aware of a wildfire in the area that might threaten Laurel Canyon there are some actions you can take immediately:

- Park cars facing out of the garage or driveway. Have keys ready.
- Stage your Go Bags near the exit.
- Disable automatic garage door openers and use manual mode so you can exit quickly if there is no power. Have your AM battery-powered radio at hand for alerts.
- If you have fire resistant window coverings, close them. Close all windows and doors.
- Move combustible outdoor furniture inside.
- Attach garden hoses to faucets and place them so they can reach all areas of your home.
- Place a ladder against the house on the opposite side of the approaching fire for access to the roof.
- Shut off propane or natural gas valves to outdoor grills and fire pits.
- Cover attic openings, eaves, and vents with less combustible material, such as 1/2-inch or thicker plywood.

Evacuation Warning

An Evacuation Warning is an urgent call for residents to immediately prepare for possible evacuation due to a wildfire in the area. Evacuation Warnings will be issued for specific areas with defined boundaries using the Genasys Protect zone system (See page 35). **When a Warning is issued for your area you should prepare to leave the Canyon**. This is also the time to evacuate those in need of special assistance, as well as horses and livestock. Many Evacuation Warnings become Evacuation Orders, so it's best to assume you will soon be ordered to leave the Canyon. Take the following actions when an Evacuation Warning is issued:

- Load your Go Bags into your vehicle.
- Close all doors within the house. Leave doors and windows unlocked.
- Open draperies (remove flammable coverings if you can) and turn on all interior and exterior lights.
- Move combustible furniture away from windows and doors.
- If you have pets, place them in carriers or on leash.

Residents who live on substandard streets or locations with only one evacuation route should leave as soon as possible. Do not wait for the mandatory Evacuation Order.

In a wildfire emergency, pre-wetting your home or grounds may reduce water pressure needed by firefighters. Do not do it.

Evacuation Order (Mandatory Evacuation)

An Evacuation Order is a directive from the LAPD or LAFD to leave your home immediately. <u>This is mandatory</u>. Failure to follow an Evacuation Order could put your own life and the lives of firefighters and other emergency responders in jeopardy. If an Evacuation Order comes with little or no warning, grab your Go Bags and leave. If you have time, turn off your natural gas main.

Mandatory Evacuations will be guided by LAPD and LAFD emergency responders. They will be directing you to predetermined safe routes for egress from the Canyon. Follow their directives, stay as calm as you can, and drive slowly and safely. Do not park and leave your vehicle in traffic lanes unless directed to do so by emergency responders.

CALL 911 IF YOU ARE UNABLE TO EVACUATE

Know Your Evacuation Routes

All residents of Laurel Canyon should know every possible evacuation route from their location. If evacuating early, or in the absence of direction from emergency responders, choose the route that will most quickly take you away from the oncoming fire front. A video on the Laurel Canyon Emergency Communication Team YouTube channel covers the main routes out of the canyon:

Alternate Routes Into and Out of Laurel Canyon

Shelter in Place

A directive for residents to shelter in place may be issued if the Incident Commander determines that evacuation would pose a higher potential for loss of life than sheltering. Whenever possible, a shelter in place order will include incident personnel assigned to monitor the safety of residents remaining in place. If you had been previously ordered to evacuate but are later directed by on scene emergency responders to shelter in place, always follow the directions of on scene personnel.

If ordered to shelter in place during a wildfire, take the following actions:

- Close all doors and windows. Open draperies and turn on all interior and exterior lights.
- Turn off air conditioning to prevent outside air from entering the home.
- Seal any drafts around doors or windows with duct tape.
- Call 911 if the fire becomes an immediate threat to your home or property.

Stay Informed

Wildfires can be unpredictable, so use all means available to stay informed: television, radio, text and email alerts, the Watch Duty and Genasys apps, and social media. Power and cellphone outages often occur during wildfires, so keep that old fashioned, battery powered AM transistor radio at hand with fresh batteries.

SOURCES:
https://www.aqmd.gov/
https://www.lafd.org/safety/education/ready-set-go
https://www.lafd.org/safety/fire-safety/evacuation-information
https://readyforwildfire.org

NOTES

TAKE ACTION EARTHQUAKE

WHEN THE SHAKING STARTS

If you've prepared your household for earthquakes (p. 43), you already know what to do when the shaking starts:



WHEN THE SHAKING STOPS

Take the following actions in the immediate aftermath of an earthquake:

- Check to see if you are injured. Apply First Aid if needed.
- Check on all members of your household to see if anyone is injured or needs medical attention. Gather in your preplanned in-home meeting place.
- Grab a fire extinguisher and inspect the interior of your home. Look for signs of fire, structural damage, water leaks, and natural gas leaks. If you smell natural gas, immediately evacuate your home and turn off the gas main. Evacuate if the structure appears compromised.
- If power is out, turn off electrical and water mains.
- If the earthquake occurs during nighttime, use flashlights, battery powered lanterns, and glow sticks for lighting. **Never use candles**.

- If you still have cell service, send a text to your out-of-town emergency contact and let them know you are OK. Do not try to place a call as it will contribute to overwhelming the system. Texts have a better chance of getting through.
- Do not drive your car unless it is an emergency.
- Gather your shelter in home supplies and check for damage.
- Stage your Go Bags to be ready for immediate evacuation in the event of fire.
- Turn on your battery powered AM or NOAA All Hazards radio and listen for information and safety advisories.

Local News Radio Stations

KFI 640 AM KABC 790 AM KNX 1070 AM

Aftershocks

Aftershocks will continue to occur for several weeks after a significant earthquake. Some aftershocks may be strong enough to cause additional serious damage, and it is even possible that the first earthquake could be a foreshock that precedes an even stronger mainshock. Always be ready to drop, cover, and hold on. Repeat your home inspection process after each significant aftershock. Keep pets on leash if outside so they don't take off if an aftershock hits.

Remain Alert for Fire Hazards

Fire is the most common major hazard after an earthquake. Remain alert to any sign of fire, both inside and outside your home.

THE FIRST 72 HOURS

What to Expect

During the first 72 hours after a significant earthquake, and possibly much longer, residents of Laurel Canyon should expect little to no response from emergency services. Emergency responders will be in triage mode, sending their limited resources to areas of higher population density and to locations of major structural damage or fires. We will be on our own for a while.

There will be no electrical power. Water, natural gas, and sewage services may be damaged and unavailable. Expect landline telephone and cellular services to be inoperable. Some Canyon roads may be blocked by landslides or downed trees, utility poles, or wires.

Actions You Can Take

- Review your Earthquake "shelter in home" preparations.
- If it is safe to do so, check on your neighbors, especially the elderly or infirm.

- Continue gathering information from News Radio sources. Write important details down and share the info with your neighbors.
- Use your emergency water. Keep water main off, even if you have water pressure, until you can confirm that it is safe to drink the tap water.
- Water from swimming pools can be used for sanitary purposes only. Do not drink it.
- Without refrigeration, use perishable foods first. If you have frozen gel packs, move them to the refrigerator. Thoroughly cook all perishable food before using.
- Always wear protective clothing, eye protection, and an N95 dust mask when cleaning up debris from earthquake damage.

EXTENDED SHELTERING IN HOME

Stay Informed

Monitor news radio for official updates and advisories issued by the government. Keep a notebook and write everything of possible importance down: the availability of emergency supplies, medical treatment, and estimates for the restoration of infrastructure. Tap in to local community groups for more localized information. Talk to your neighbors and share information, but be cautious with rumors or unconfirmed, unofficial reports.

Monitor Your Supplies

Obtaining water, food, and medications may take considerable effort during an extended recovery. Monitor your supplies. You will want to know days in advance if you are going to need to secure more water, food, or medicine. In calculating your water needs, remember that children, nursing mothers, and sick people may need more water, and that a medical emergency might require additional water. During warm weather more water may be necessary. With very hot temperatures, water needs can double.

Purifying Water

If you are forced to use drinking water of uncertain purity, the safest way to make it potable is to boil it. If the water is cloudy or has visible particles, let it settle in a container for a while and then strain it through a clean cloth or coffee filter. Bring the water to a rolling boil for at least one full minute. Store the water in a clean container after it cools.

If you are unable to boil water, use plain, unscented household bleach to purify it. Review the instructions on page 45 of this guide for treating water with bleach.

Distillation will remove microbes that resist boiling and chlorination. Distillation involves boiling water and then collecting only the condensed water vapor.

Distill impure water by filling a pot halfway with water. Tie a cup to the handle on the pot's lid so that the cup will hang right side up and above the boiling water when the lid is upside down covering the pot. Boil the water for 20 minutes. The water that condenses from the lid into the cup is distilled.

Avoid carbonated drinks if water is running low. They dehydrate you and are not a substitute for your daily water intake needs.

Mental Health

The experience of a natural disaster or major emergency can lead to strong emotional feelings that we don't usually encounter. While everyone will deal with the stress of an incident differently, it is important to understand that certain symptoms of mental trauma are normal and expected, and that in most cases these feelings and symptoms will fade over time.

Symptoms of Emotional Trauma

- Difficulty sleeping, concentrating, or expressing your thoughts.
- Feelings of anxiety, anger, depression, sadness, guilt, confusion, or hopelessness.
- Increased levels of irritability or frustration.
- Headaches, stomach problems, tunnel vision, or muffled hearing.
- Increased use of alcohol or drugs.
- Fear of leaving home or of being left alone. Frequent crying.

Attending to Emotional Health Needs

- Establish and maintain regular routines for meals, sleep, and exercise.
- Talk about your feelings with family members and friends.
- Limit exposure to news reports, especially for children.
- Avoid alcohol and drugs. Eat well and drink enough water.
- People with pre-existing mental health conditions should continue normal treatment plans and medications.
- When children are present, remain calm and confident in dealing with the event. Talk to kids about what is happening in simple, reassuring terms.
- For extreme or long term symptoms, seek help from professionals when possible.

SOURCES:
https://www.ready.gov/earthquakes
https://www.earthquakecountry.org/step5/
https://www.cdc.gov/childrenindisasters/helping-children-cope.html
https://www.epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water/emergency-disinfection-drinking-water
https://www.redcross.org/content/dam/redcross/atg/PDFs/Be_Red_Cross_Ready/EmotionalHealth.pdf

TAKE ACTION — Extreme Weather

EXTREME HEAT

Seasonal high temperatures bring the risk of dehydration, cramps, heat exhaustion, and the potentially fatal risk of heat stroke. Take the following actions when a heat wave hits Laurel Canyon:

- Drink plenty of water, even when you are not thirsty. Avoid alcohol.
- Stay out of direct sun whenever possible. If outside, wear a large brimmed hat.
- Wear lightweight, loose-fitting clothing.
- Avoid unnecessary physical exertion during peak heat hours.
- Seek an air conditioned environment for the elderly, small children, and anyone with a medical condition that could be exacerbated by extreme heat.
- Check on your neighbors who have limited or no access to air conditioning, especially those who are elderly or ill.

Heat Cramps

Signs: Muscle pains or spasms in the stomach, arms, or legs.

Actions: Go to a cooler location. Remove excess clothing. Take sips of cool sports drinks with salt and sugar. Get medical help if cramps last more than an hour.

Heat Exhaustion

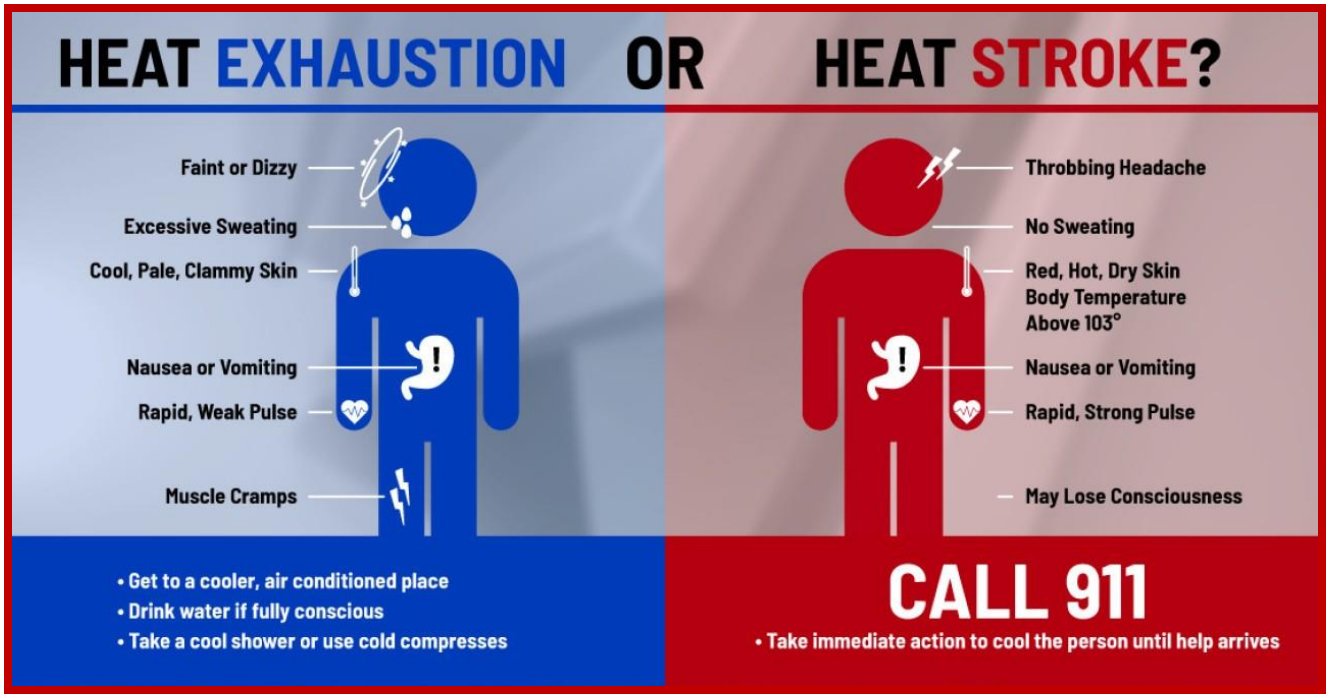
Signs: Heavy sweating, paleness, muscle cramps, tiredness, weakness, dizziness, headache, nausea or vomiting, or fainting.

Actions: Go to an air-conditioned place and lie down. Loosen or remove clothing. Take a cool bath. Take sips of cool sports drinks with salt and sugar. Get medical help if symptoms get worse or last more than an hour.

HEAT STROKE

Signs: Extremely high body temperature (above 103 degrees) taken orally; red, hot, and dry skin with no sweat; rapid, strong pulse; dizziness; confusion; or unconsciousness.

Actions: Call 911 or get the person to a hospital immediately. Cool down with whatever methods are available until medical help arrives.



COLD WEATHER

Winter temperatures don't get low enough in Los Angeles to present an extreme threat to our safety, but what we do to warm our homes on the chilliest of days can be dangerous, or even deadly, if not done safely. Fire and Carbon Monoxide are dangers associated with some supplemental heating methods, so when the temperature drops and the house gets cold, follow these guidelines:

- Never use your stove, oven, outdoor propane heaters, or charcoal grills to heat the interior of your home.
- Don't use your fireplace unless it has had its annual inspection for blockages. **Leave the flue open long after the fire appears out**. Never leave a fire unattended.
- Inspect the power cords on all electric space heaters before use. **Always plug them directly into a wall outlet** with no extension cords or power strips. **Keep combustible material at least 3 feet away from working heaters**.
- Check the batteries in your Carbon Monoxide detectors at the start of heating season. Even central heating systems and water heaters can pose a CO danger.
- Dress in layered clothing to more efficiently use your body heat to stay warm.

STORMS

The heavy downpours and occasional extended periods of moderate rainfall associated with Southern California storms often come after prolonged periods of drought. Given the topography of Laurel Canyon residents must be alert to dangers from flooding and mudslides when storms roll into town.

Flooding

- Clean outside drains and gutters in advance of a major storm.
- Sandbags can be used to redirect the path of light to moderate storm water runoff. 25 bags per household are available for free at Fire Station 97 at 8021 Mulholland Drive.
- Never try to walk or drive through outside flood waters.
- Report clogged storm drains along roadways to LA Sanitation at (800) 773-2489.

Mudslides

- Be alert for collapsed pavement and debris flows onto streets.
- Look for newly formed bulges in the ground at the base of a slope.
- Watch for leaning trees, fences, and utility poles, water coming from the ground, or widening cracks in the ground, streets, or driveways. Listen for unusual sounds, and watch for boulders or rocks sliding down hillsides.
- Look for new cracks in your home's plaster, tile, bricks, or foundation.

POWER OUTAGES

Take the following actions when a power outage occurs:

- When storms, high winds, or excessive heat are in the forecast, keep cell phones and other devices charged up.
- Use flashlights, battery powered lanterns, or glow sticks for light. **No candles**.
- Unplug power cords to appliances and electronics, or turn off breakers in your home until power is restored. When restoring breakers, power up the main first, then smaller circuits.
- If using a generator for power, read and follow the manufacturer safety instructions, and place it in a well ventilated area as far from your home as possible. Never run a generator in your garage, even if the door is open, and never leave a running generator unattended. Keep extra fuel at least 20 feet from a running generator, keep the exhaust clear of combustible material, and always have a fire extinguisher close by.
- If using your car to charge personal devices like cell phones, never run the car while it is in the garage, carport, or close to your home.
- Keep refrigerators and freezer doors closed as much as possible. Throw away any perishable food that has been at temperatures above 40 degrees for more than two hours or that shows signs of spoilage such as discoloration or odor.
- If you have a land line telephone, make sure you have a simple phone that doesn't require electricity to operate.
- Report outages at https://ladwp.com/outages



Even if the power in the area appears to be out, never approach or touch downed wires.



Watch for notices on social media, or call 311 to find the locations of cooling centers.

SOURCES:
https://www.ready.gov/heat
https://www.ready.gov/floods
https://www.ready.gov/power-outages
https://www.ready.gov/landslides-debris-flow

TAKE ACTION — Pandemic Disease

A Pandemic is an infectious disease epidemic **on a global scale**. The classification is not an assessment of how deadly a given disease may be, but refers strictly to the geographic area over which it has spread. Historically, the groups most susceptible to pandemics are infants, adults with autoimmune diseases, and the elderly.

Seasonal flu, though it can be deadly, is not a pandemic, and annual flu shots will not immunize you against a new pandemic influenza. Get your annual flu shot anyway, as it will still protect you from the common strains and lower your odds of needing to seek medical attention during a pandemic when medical care may be harder to obtain.

The World Health Organization will, upon detection of a new pandemic threat, issue notice of a Public Health Emergency of International Concern (PHEIC). There have been several PHEIC declarations including the H1N1 "Swine Flu" of 2009, the 2014 Ebola and 2016 Zika viruses, the 2020 COVID-19 coronavirus, Mpox 2022 & 2024, and an Ituri (Bundibugyo) Ebola declaration in May of 2026. Though not all PHEIC declarations are followed by pandemics, pay attention to updates from the World Health Organization, the CDC, and local authorities whenever there is a PHEIC declaration in effect.

WHAT TO EXPECT DURING A PANDEMIC

Unlike the localized and relatively short term impacts of most natural disasters and emergencies, a worst case scenario pandemic will bring global impacts over an extended period of time. Millions of people may become sick, causing disruptions to the normal social and economic routines of everyone. Though many would like to forget, we now have the experience of the COVID-19 pandemic to guide us. There were roughly 1.2 million reported COVID-19–associated deaths in the U.S., with excess mortality analyses placing the true pandemic toll 10–25 percent higher.

- Supply chain disruptions may make food, medicine, and basic supplies harder to obtain.
- Public and private sector services may become unavailable.
- Schools and some workplaces may need to be closed. Large public events may be cancelled.

Once a pandemic has occurred, broad quarantines, travel restrictions, contact tracing, and other strategies designed for suppression may change to mitigation strategies designed to prevent us from infecting each other.

If you have prepared your Shelter in Home supplies for earthquakes (p. 44), you are already ahead of the game. When a pandemic threat arises, consider supplementing your stocks of food, medicines, and other daily needs in order to be ready for longer term shortages.

Nonpharmaceutical Interventions (NPIs)

NPIs are simple, everyday actions that everyone can take to lower the risk of contracting viral respiratory infections.

- Wear an N95 mask in public spaces.
- Wash your hands frequently with soap and water for at least 20 seconds each time. Make sure all parts of your hands come into contact with soap.
- Use hand sanitizer **with at least 60% alcohol** to clean your hands when you are away from home. Regular 70% isopropyl alcohol works well.
- Do not touch your face, particularly the eyes, nose, or mouth, with your bare hands. If you do touch your eyes, nose, or mouth, wash your hands immediately.
- Regularly clean all surfaces and objects in the home that are frequently touched.
- Avoid close contact with people who are already sick.
- Maintain a healthy diet, and get plenty of sleep and exercise.

Social distancing measures are taken to limit when and where people can gather and are intended to slow the spread of infectious diseases. Some restrictions, such as the closing of non-essential government offices, schools, daycare, community centers, theaters, and places of worship, may be ordered by government agencies. Concerts and sporting events may be cancelled. In some instances, mass transit may be shut down. Stay informed and follow all public orders. Individuals may also practice social distancing by going out less and avoiding places where people gather.

If Someone in Your Household Becomes Sick

- Stay home and self-quarantine. In some cases, all household members may be asked to voluntarily quarantine, even if they are not yet sick.
- Isolate the sick person in a room that has bathroom facilities. Clean these rooms daily. Limit contact to a designated caregiver and have the sick person wear an N95 or P100 mask to limit the spread of the virus. If masks are not available, have them cover their mouth and nose with a towel when they sneeze or cough.
- Try to replace the air in a sick room by opening windows or using air filters.
- Call your doctor to ask about treatment options and about whether or not to seek emergency medical care.
- Increase NPIs for all other household members: hand washing, frequent cleaning of common surfaces, and wearing N95 masks if anyone in the household is sick or has been exposed to someone who is infected.

Consult this page at the CDPH for current guidance on vaccinations in California:
https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Pages/public-health-for-all/publichealthforall.aspx

SOURCES:
https://www.ready.gov/pandemic

TAKE ACTION — Terrorism

Terrorist attacks can take many forms and can be conducted by both international and domestic actors. Threats are continuous and always evolving, but include cyber-attacks on critical infrastructure, physical attacks using explosives, biological, chemical and radiological agents, and mass shootings.

For many potential terrorist incidents, preparation and planning you have already completed for other disasters and emergencies may apply. Review these sections:

- The Household Plan (p. 1)
- Go Bags (p. 31)
- Shelter in Home (p. 44)
- Seal In (p. 17)
- Wildfire Evacuation (p. 59)
- Extended Shelter in Home (p. 65)
- Power Outages (p. 69)

Follow these general guidelines when responding to an incident of terrorism:

- Remain as calm as you can.
- Gather information from local news media, and watch for text alerts.
- Follow the instructions of emergency responders and government agencies.
- Limit the exposure of children to disturbing news coverage of events.

Report a terrorist threat: 1-877-A-THREAT (284-7328)

LAPD iWATCH: https://www.lapdonline.org/iwatchla

SOURCES:
https://www.dhs.gov/national-terrorism-advisory-system
https://www.lafd.org/about/special-operations/homeland-security-arson/terrorism-preparedness
https://www.lapdonline.org/contact-us/

NOTES

TAKE ACTION — Basic First Aid

Whenever possible you should seek training from professionals in first aid and emergency response (see page 51). Use the information in this section to increase your knowledge on First Aid and in learning to recognize medical emergencies. Direct your research in this area to include any specific needs of your household members.

Consider buying a hard copy book on basic first aid to have available if the power is out, or if an internet connection is not available.

Download Red Cross First Aid Manuals
https://myrc.redcross.ca/en/my-digital-books/

Mayo Clinic First Aid Tips
https://www.mayoclinic.org/first-aid

Watch LAFD Captain Gerlich demonstrate Hands Only CPR (Video)
https://www.cert-la.com/cert-training-education/hands-only-cpr/

HEART ATTACK
https://www.mayoclinic.org/first-aid/first-aid-heart-attack/basics/art-20056679

STROKE
https://www.cdc.gov/stroke/signs_symptoms.htm

If you think someone may be having a stroke, B.E. F.A.S.T. and do the following test:

- **B—Balance Loss:** Ask the person if they are feeling off-balance or dizzy.
- **E—Eye (Vision) Changes:** Ask the person if they have trouble seeing normally.
- **F—Face:** Ask the person to smile. Does one side of the face droop?
- **A—Arms:** Ask the person to raise both arms. Does one arm drift downward?
- **S—Speech:** Ask the person to repeat a simple phrase. Is the speech slurred or strange?
- **T—Time:** If you see any of these signs, call 9-1-1 right away.

Note the time when any symptoms first appear. This information helps health care providers determine the best treatment.

Do not drive to the hospital or let someone else drive you. Call 9-1-1 for an ambulance so that medical personnel can begin life-saving treatment on the way to the emergency room.

SHOCK

Shock is a critical condition caused by a sudden drop in blood flow through the body. Shock may result from trauma, heatstroke, blood loss, an allergic reaction, sepsis, poisoning, severe burns, or other causes. When a person is in shock, his or her organs aren't getting enough blood or oxygen. If untreated, shock can lead to permanent organ damage or death.

Signs and symptoms of shock vary depending on circumstances and may include:

- Cool, clammy skin
- Pale or ashen skin
- Bluish tinge to lips or fingernails (or gray in the case of dark complexions)
- Rapid pulse
- Rapid breathing
- Nausea or vomiting
- Enlarged pupils
- Weakness or fatigue
- Dizziness or fainting
- Changes in mental status or behavior, such as anxiousness or agitation

SHOCK IS A CRITICAL 911 EMERGENCY. If you suspect someone is suffering from shock, call 911 immediately, then take the following steps:

- Do not relocate the person unless necessary to avoid danger.
- If the cause is bleeding, first try to control blood loss (Stop the Bleed, next page).
- Unless moving the person might cause further injury, lay the person down and elevate their feet slightly. Do not elevate their head.
- If the person stops breathing begin Hands Only CPR.
- Do not allow food or liquids.
- If the person begins vomiting or bleeding from the mouth, turn them on their side to prevent choking.
- Loosen restrictive clothing, but keep them warm with a blanket if necessary.
- Keep the person still and reassure them until medical help arrives.

Keep the 911 operator on the line with you until help arrives. Answer their questions and follow instructions.

https://www.mayoclinic.org/first-aid/first-aid-shock/basics/art-20056620

STOP THE BLEED®

No matter how rapid the arrival of professional emergency responders, bystanders will always be first on the scene. A person who is bleeding can die from blood loss within five minutes, so it's important to quickly stop the blood loss.

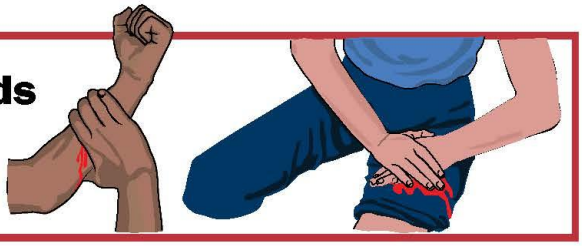
Remember to be aware of your surroundings and move yourself and the injured person to safety, if necessary.

Call 911.

Bystanders can take simple steps to keep the injured alive until appropriate medical care is available. Here are three actions that you can take to help save a life:

1. Apply Pressure with Hands

EXPOSE to find where the bleeding is coming from and apply **FIRM, STEADY PRESSURE** to the bleeding site with both hands if possible.



2. Apply Dressing and Press

EXPOSE to find where the bleeding is coming from and apply **FIRM, STEADY PRESSURE** to the bleeding site with bandages or clothing.



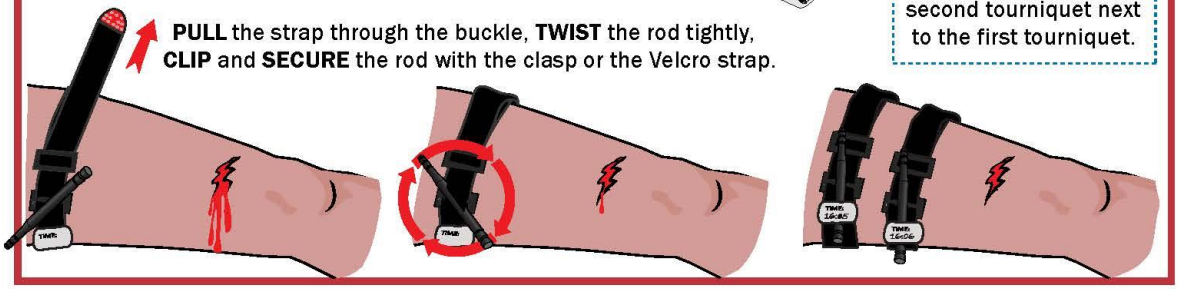
3. Apply Tourniquet(s)

If the bleeding doesn't stop, place a tourniquet as high on the extremity as possibe above the wound. The tourniquet may be applied and secured over clothing.



If the bleeding still doesn't stop, place a second tourniquet next to the first tourniquet.

PULL the strap through the buckle, **TWIST** the rod tightly, **CLIP** and **SECURE** the rod with the clasp or the Velcro strap.



The 'Stop the Bleed' campaign was initiated by a federal interagency workgroup convened by the National Security Council Staff, The White House. The purpose of the campaign is to build national resilience by better preparing the public to save lives by raising awareness of basic actions to stop life threatening bleeding following everyday emergencies and man-made and natural disasters. Advances made by military medicine and research in hemorrhage control during the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq have informed the work of this initiative which exemplifies translation of knowledge back to the homeland to the benefit of the general public. The Department of the Defense owns the 'Stop the Bleed' logo and phrase.

Homeland Security

NOTES

The LC ECT thanks LAFD Captains Jeff Arnold and Stephen Phillips for their significant contributions to this guide, and Deputy Chief Trevor Richmond and Chief Deputy John Drake for their support and guidance.

Special acknowledgment and thanks to Kristen Stavola and We Are Laurel Canyon, whose tireless efforts made this project possible.

LC | ECT

LAUREL CANYON
EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS TEAM

WWW.LCECT.ORG