

FIRE!

EMERGENCY PROTECTION MEASURES TO BE TAKEN WHEN AN EVACUATION WARNING HAS BEEN ISSUED:

EVACUATION WARNING

- Contact family members and make sure they are ready to leave the Canyon.
- Put personal belongings and documents in your vehicle.
- Cover windows, attic openings, eaves, and vents with fire-resistive material such as 1/2-inch or thicker plywood. Close window shutters and blinds only if they are fire-resistive.
- Attach garden hoses with nozzles to spigots and place them so that they can reach all areas of your home. (These can be used by firefighters engaged in structure protection to put out spot fires once the fire has passed. Please note that garden hoses are ineffective in terms of fighting a wildland fire.)

EVACUATION WARNING

Evacuation Warnings will be issued for a particular Zone or Zones of the Canyon in the event of a wildfire. When you hear the warning, that is the time to leave the Canyon. The majority of Evacuation Warnings become Evacuation Orders. This is also the time to evacuate those in need of special assistance and your horses.

- Fill sinks, bathtubs, trash cans, and buckets with water. Place portable containers around your house for easy access.
- Close all windows and doors around your home to keep sparks from blowing inside.
- Shut off liquefied petroleum gas or natural gas valves.
- Move furniture away from windows and sliding glass doors to avoid their igniting from the fire's radiant heat.
- If you have children in school, follow their school's Disaster Plan.
- NOTE: Pre-wetting your home and surrounding areas will not improve the safety of your home, and it wastes valuable water.

EVACUATION ORDER

WHEN AN **EVACUATION ORDER** HAS BEEN ISSUED FOR YOUR AREA:

- Gather your family, pets, and disaster supply kit into your car and immediately leave your home or business.
- Follow the evacuation plan instructions and the directions from Sheriff and Fire Department personnel.
- Drive carefully at a normal speed with your headlights on.

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EVACUATION ORDER

An Evacuation Order is a directive from the Sheriff or Fire Department to leave your home or business immediately for your own safety. Failure to follow an Evacuation Order may result in endangerment to the lives of others, personal injury, or death.



SURVIVAL TIP

Don't forget to bring this Survival Guide with your Family Plan and Zone maps!

EVACUATION PLAN INSTRUCTIONS

IMPORTANT: When an Evacuation Order has been issued, follow the directions of the Sheriff or other Emergency personnel. Under Santa Ana wind conditions, these are the instructions you will most likely receive.

IF YOU ARE IN THE NORTHERN END—ZONES 1 THROUGH 6—OF OLD OR NEW TOPANGA, WITH NO SMOKE IN THE IMMEDIATE AREA:

- Evacuate in a northbound direction. This will be the quickest route out of the Canyon and will reduce traffic congestion.
- Proceed to a predetermined location outside the Canyon or a Regional Shelter.

IF YOU ARE IN ZONES 7, 8, OR 9, UNDER ANY CONDITIONS:

- Evacuate in a southbound direction on Topanga Canyon Blvd. to Pacific Coast Hwy.

IF YOU ARE IN ANY LOCATION WITH SMOKE AND/OR ASH IN THE IMMEDIATE AREA:

- Evacuate in a southbound direction on Topanga Canyon Blvd. to Pacific Coast Hwy.
- You will be directed to a Regional Shelter/Red Cross Shelter off of Sunset Blvd.
- Animals will not be permitted inside Regional Shelters. Please plan ahead to make other arrangements for your animals.

IF YOU ARE NOT ABLE TO SAFELY EVACUATE TOPANGA CANYON BEFORE THE FIRE ARRIVES:

- Proceed directly to your closest Community Safety Area (Safety Area). Refer to your Zone map for Safety Area locations.

REGIONAL SHELTER/ RED CROSS SHELTER

A safe location outside of Topanga Canyon to which you will be directed upon evacuating the Canyon (seeking refuge at a Regional Shelter is your safest alternative).

SCHOOL SHELTER

A school that students will be transferred to or remain in that will shelter them during a large wildland fire or other disaster. School staff will supervise the students until an appointed time when they may be reunited with their parents or guardians.

IF YOU ARE NOT ABLE TO REACH A SAFETY AREA BEFORE THE FIRE ARRIVES:

- Proceed directly to your nearest Neighborhood Survival Area (Survival Area). Refer to your Zone map for Survival Area locations.

IF YOU MUST TAKE SHELTER IN EITHER A SAFETY OR A SURVIVAL AREA:

- Park your vehicle off the road near the area and walk the remainder of the way to safety.
- If vehicles catch fire near Safety or Survival Areas, the smoke is toxic.
- NEVER park your vehicle in a traffic lane or in a Safety or Survival Area! This can hinder firefighters and can block evacuation routes, resulting in deaths and/or severe burn injuries to others. NOTE: Unattended vehicles blocking the road can be forcibly removed during an emergency.
- If you bring pets with you to Safety or Survival Areas, they must be contained (dogs on leashes, cats in carriers, birds in cages, etc.). Horses, livestock, or other large animals are not permitted in either Safety or Survival Areas.
- Once you arrive at a Safety or Survival Area . . . **STAY THERE!** The most severe heat wave will pass and there will be Sheriff and Fire personnel on patrol in the area. You may need to move around to stay in the cooler areas. Assist other people who may need your help.

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COMMUNITY SAFETY AREA (Safety Area)

Location within the Canyon that has been deemed a safer alternative to remaining in your home. If you are unable to make it to a safe location outside the Canyon or a designated Regional Shelter, seek shelter in the nearest Safety Area.

NEIGHBORHOOD SURVIVAL AREA (Survival Area)

A smaller, usually open area that has also been deemed a safer alternative to remaining in your home, and that is to be used only if you are unable to make it to a Safety Area.

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EVACUATION PLAN INSTRUCTIONS

IF YOU ARE TRAPPED BY FIRE WHILE EVACUATING...

- Do not stay in your car.
- Select an area clear of traffic and vegetation.
- Lie facedown and cover your head.
- You will find the most protection by lying in a ditch or other low area where the air is coolest.
- Seek shelter behind a block wall, rock, or other noncombustible feature (not a vehicle).
- Shield yourself from the oncoming wind and searing heat of the fire.
- Cover up and stay low!

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Sheltering in Place

Although there are areas in the Santa Monica Mountains referred to in the wildland fire brochures published by the County of Los Angeles Fire Department about sheltering in place, Topanga is not one of the communities where this practice is recommended.

There are several factors that make sheltering in place a very dangerous option in Topanga, including steep terrain, a dense canopy, the direction wildfires come from, and extreme fluctuations in water availability and water pressure during a massive wildfire. Neither a garden hose nor a fire hose can put enough water on this type of fire to extinguish it. Therefore, a resident should not shelter in place unless told to do so by a Sheriff's deputy, other law enforcement, or the Fire Department.

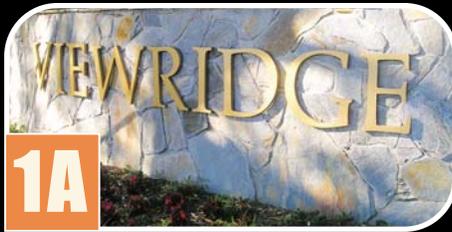
If the Fire Department knows there are citizens who have stayed, the Fire Department must attempt to rescue these citizens. This pulls critical resources away from fighting the fire and saving homes and jeopardizes the lives of firefighters as well as other citizens who are trying to evacuate.

Community Safety Areas

Safety Areas and Survival Areas are identified on the maps in the back of this book.

Please take the time to learn these locations.

Refer to the Zone maps to find locations in your area.



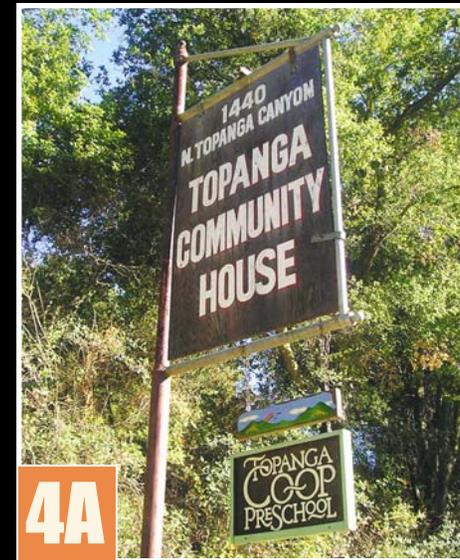
1A

VIEWRIDGE
entire street



2B

CALMONT SCHOOL
1717 Old Topanga Canyon Rd.



4A

COMMUNITY HOUSE
1440 Topanga Canyon Rd.



2A

MILL CREEK RANCH
1881 Old Topanga Canyon Rd.



6A

OLD ELYSIUM
814 Robinson Rd.



7A

STATE PARK
Upper end of Entrada Rd.



7B

PINE TREE CIRCLE
120 Topanga Canyon Rd.



9A

WATER TANK SITE
2300 Tuna Canyon Rd.



7C

TOPANGA CENTER
101, 137, 139 Topanga Canyon Rd.

**COMMUNITY
SAFETY AREA
(Safety Area)**

A designated location within the Canyon that has been deemed a safer alternative to remaining in your home. If you are unable to make it to the designated Regional Shelter, seek shelter in a Safety Area.

**NEIGHBORHOOD
SURVIVAL AREA
(Survival Area)**

A smaller, usually open area that has also been deemed a safer alternative to remaining in your home, and that is to be used only if you are unable to make it to a Safety Area.

THE WILDFIRE SURVIVAL CHAIN

When fire threatens, your absolute safest alternative is to leave the Canyon.

Follow the Evacuation Plan Instructions and the directions from Sheriff and Fire Department personnel.

If you are in the northern end (Zones 1 through 6), with no smoke in the immediate area, evacuate in a northbound direction.

If you are in the southern end (Zones 7 through 9), evacuate in a southbound direction on Topanga Canyon Blvd.

MOST SAFE 	PLAN A	REGIONAL/ RED CROSS SHELTER	<i>Proceed to a safe location outside the Canyon or a Regional Shelter. Please note: during school hours, children will be located at a School Shelter.</i>
	PLAN B	SAFETY AREA	<i>If you are unable to evacuate the Canyon completely, proceed directly to your closest Community Safety Area (Safety Area). Safety Area locations are identified on Zone maps located in this guide.</i>

**LEAST
SAFE**

PLAN C

**SURVIVAL
AREA**

If you are unable to reach a Safety Area, proceed directly to your nearest Neighborhood Survival Area (Survival Area). Survival Areas are to be used only if you are unable to make it to a Safety Area. Survival Area locations are identified on the Zone maps located in this guide.

PLAN D

DITCH

If you are trapped by fire while evacuating, find an area clear of traffic and vegetation (but not on a road), lie facedown, and cover your head. You will find the most protection by lying in a ditch or other low area where the air is coolest.

PLAN E

**SHELTER
IN PLACE**

You should not consider sheltering in place unless you have been specifically instructed to do so by Sheriff or Fire personnel. In most areas of Topanga Canyon, this alternative provides the least amount of individual safety. In a few select areas, however, this may become a viable option.