



Evacuation Guide for Fergus County

Pay close attention to Emergency Messaging!

Fergus County uses many different channels to broadcast emergency messages and updates. Evacuation center locations and safe travel routes are determined by Public Safety Officials at the time of the evacuation and will be based on the type of emergency, evacuation routes available, and the number of evacuees anticipated.

- **ReadyFergus.org**
- Local radio stations 106.9fm, 95.9fm and 1230am
- Emergency Alert Messages
- Reverse 911
- Door-to-door contact
- Fergus County DES Facebook page; Fergus County Sheriff's Office Facebook page; Lewistown Police Department Facebook page
- Hyper-Reach Emergency Alert System – sign up today!

Hyper-Reach Sign up for Fergus County Alerts Today

Why Register?

- Know in advance about unsafe conditions
- Protect yourself & your family
- Get help on how to prepare & recover
- Safeguard your property

Ways to enroll?

1. Call or text "Alert" to 406-350-7380
2. Go to the website <https://bit.ly/FergusAlerts> & fill out the form
3. Scan QR code.

All Emergency Calls dial 911

Non-emergency contact numbers

- | | |
|---|------------------------------|
| • Fergus County Sheriff's Department | 406-535-3415 |
| • Lewistown Police Department | 406-535-1800 |
| • Fergus County Disaster & Emergency Services | 406-535-8118 or 406-366-9718 |
| • Fergus County Non-Emergency Ambulance or Fire | 406-535-1800 |

The Evacuation Process (1)

EVACUATION WARNING

Good probability of a need to evacuate. Take the initiative to stay informed and be aware. Due to the potential for rapidly changing conditions to develop into a serious threat, residents are advised to prepare for the possibility of an evacuation order. Those who require additional time to evacuate due to mobility issues or other types of access and functional needs, and those with pets and livestock, should leave when an Evacuation Warning has been issued. **START GATHERING SUPPLIES**

EVACUATION ORDER

When a disaster declaration or emergency proclamation has been issued, it means conditions are **immediately dangerous** and you must leave the area for your safety. Law enforcement agencies will assist with and enforce the order to help you evacuate immediately. Follow their directions promptly and exactly. You may be directed to a temporary assembly area to await information or directions to an evacuation center, if one is established. Once out of the area, the residents will not be permitted to return until conditions permit. **LEAVE NOW**

SHELTER IN PLACE

Shelter in place is a term used to describe the act of seeking safety within the building one already occupies until the danger has passed, rather than evacuating the area or seeking a community emergency shelter. To shelter in place, you should select an interior room or rooms within your facility, or ones with no or few windows, and take refuge there. Bring pets inside if possible. Gather radio, flashlight, food, water and medicines. Leaving the building is considered dangerous. Prepare to self-sustain until further notice and/or contacted by emergency personnel with additional directions. **STAY IN PLACE**

Evacuation Update

Perimeter roadblocks are maintained and evacuated area(s) patrolled 24 hours a day. Regular incident status briefings are provided for evacuees at pre-designated sites. Limited access for evacuees to return for specified periods may be allowed if conditions and responder resources permit, and as directed by the Public Safety Officials in conjunction with the County Sheriff or Chief of Police. **STAY IN PLACE**

Controlled Access to Property

Evacuees are allowed to return only as hardship and special needs are evaluated and addressed by designated relief and response agencies. *During this phase*, the Public Safety Officials in conjunction with the County Sheriff may restrict public access to certain areas. **RETURN WHEN IT IS SAFE TO DO SO**

Reopening of Affected Area

Local officials will follow a Re-Entry Plan in working towards getting you back into your neighborhood. Prior to re-entry utilities will need to be repaired and in service, sewer and sanitation will need to be repaired, running water will need to be available and essential services will need to be available such as gas, medical services, and food. These things take time. The safety of you and the safety of emergency service personnel are the priority. **BE PATIENT AND RETURN WHEN IT IS SAFE TO DO SO**

When you do return home:

Be alert for downed power lines and other hazards.

Check your residence carefully for hidden damage.

Contact your insurance company if you have suffered loss or damage.

Many emergencies allow time for you to gather supplies, but some do not.

Do not jeopardize your own health and safety to gather items if you are asked to evacuate immediately. Human safety is Priority Number One.

If you are **NOT PREPARED** and ordered to evacuate, here are a few essentials that you should do or bring with you:

- Phone and charger
- Have an out of area phone contact, share with your family or friends
- Leave notice that you have evacuated and to where you have gone
- Assist children, elderly, those needing assistance, and pets into car/transportation
- Grab important family and business records – Home, car, insurance documents
- Prescription medications, eyeglasses
- Weather appropriate clothing or blanket

This is not a complete list of evacuation considerations; it is a quick guide intended to be used as a reference tool when an evacuation is ordered or possible.

For a more complete list of Pre-evacuation kits and considerations go to: www.Ready.gov