



Public Safety

News and Tips

Fire Exit Plan



Fire Safety Tips

Governor Brown declared the drought a State of Emergency on January 17, 2014. Grassy areas and vegetation are brown and dry. These dry conditions make the possibility of a fire occurring in rural and urban areas higher than normal. We all remember the fire at Maidu Regional Park last summer that quickly spread to neighboring homes. It is every homeowner's responsibility to prepare their family for a fire emergency.



**Call 911
EMERGENCY
IN PROGRESS**

NON-EMERGENCY
Fire (916) 774-5800
Police (916)-774-5000
Extension 1

Police Department
1051 Junction Blvd.
Roseville C A 95678
(916) 774-5000
www.roseville.ca.us/police

Fire Headquarters
401 Oak Street, Fire
Station #1
Roseville, CA 95678
(916) 774-5800
www.roseville.ca.us/fire

**Abandoned Vehicle
Hotline**
(916) 746-1022

**Alarms/Alarm
Permits**
(916) 774-5093

Animal Control
(916)774-5090

**Community Events
& Neighborhood
Watch**
(916) 774-5050

Graffiti Abatement
(916) 746-1021

**Police news &
crime alert emails:**
www.roseville.ca.us/notify

RCONA
(Roseville Coalition of
Neighborhood
Associations)
www.RCONA.org



Are You Prepared?

In the event of a fire, remember every second counts. In less than 30 seconds a small flame can become a major fire.

- **Have an escape plan.** Draw a map of each level of your home and show all doors and windows.
- Find **two ways out** of each room.
- **Make sure** all doors and windows that lead outside open and that everyone knows how to open them.
- If you have a multi-level house, **purchase a collapsible escape ladder** which has been tested by a recognized testing laboratory. Use the ladder only for an emergency. **Teach children** how to escape on their own in case you cannot help them.
- Make sure you have a **plan for everyone** including the elderly, disabled, or the very young.
- Practice your plan at **night and during the day.**
- Make sure **your house number** can be seen during the day and at night.



Immediately Leave the Home

When fire occurs, get out fast. You may only have seconds to escape safely. Make sure to review these safety tips annually with your family, more often with young children.

- Take the **safest exit route.**
- If you must escape through smoke **crawl low under the smoke** and keep your mouth covered. The smoke contains toxic gases, which can disorient you or, at worst, overcome you.
- **Never open doors that are hot to the touch.** When you come to a closed door, feel the doorknob and door to make sure that fire is not on the other side. **If either is hot**, leave the door closed and use your secondary escape route. If the door feels cool, open it slowly. **Be ready** to shut it quickly if heavy smoke or fire is present.
- **If you can't get out**, close the door and cover vents and cracks around doors to keep the smoke out. If a phone is available call 9-1-1. Explain where you are and signal for help at the window with a light colored cloth.
- **Designate a meeting location** a safe distance in front of your home so firefighters know that you are out.
- **Once out, stay out.** Remember to escape first and then call 9-1-1. Never go back into a burning building for **any reason.**
- Teach children **not to hide from fire fighters.**

Fireplace Safety Tips

- **Never** discard hot ashes inside or near the home. Place them in a metal container outside and well away from the home.
- **Never close your damper** with hot ashes in the fireplace. A closed damper will help the fire to heat up again and will force toxic carbon monoxide in the home.
- If **synthetic logs** are used, follow the directions on the package. Never **break** a synthetic log apart to quicken the fire or use more than one log at a time. They often burn unevenly, releasing higher levels of carbon monoxide.
- Don't use **excessive amounts of paper** to build soaring fires in fireplaces. It is possible to ignite creosote in the chimney by overbuilding the fire.
- **Never burn charcoal** indoors. Burning charcoal can give off lethal amounts of carbon monoxide.

Public Safety News & Tips

Identity Theft

Identity theft happens when someone steals your personal information and uses it without your permission, according to the Federal Trade Commission (FTC). It's a serious crime that can ruin your finances, credit history, and reputation. Once the criminals have your personal information, they can drain your bank account, run up charges on your credit cards, open new credit card and utility accounts, or get medical treatment on your health insurance. So how do you know if you are a victim of identity theft?

Clues that your personal information has been stolen:

- **You see withdrawals** from your bank account that you can't explain.
- You **don't get your bill(s)** and/or other mail.
- Merchants **refuse your checks**.
- Debt **collectors call you** about debts that aren't yours.
- You find **unfamiliar accounts or charges** on your credit report.
- Medical providers **bill you for services you didn't use**.
- The IRS notifies you that **more than one tax return was filed** in your name, or that you have income from an employer you don't work for.
- You **get notice** that your **information was compromised** by a data breach at a company where you do business or have an account.

Keep Your Personal Information Secure:

Protecting your personal information can help you reduce your risk of identity theft.

- **Lock your financial documents and records** in a safe place at home, and lock your purse in a safe place at work.
- **Limit** what **cards you carry**. Take only the identification, credit, and debit cards that you need.
- Destroy the **labels on prescription bottles** before you throw them out.
- **Take outgoing mail to the post office** collection box. **Promptly** remove mail that arrives in your mailbox. If you won't be home for several days, request a vacation hold on your mail or have a trusted neighbor collect your mail and any packages that may be delivered in your absence.
- When you **order new checks, don't have them mailed to your home**, unless you have a secure mailbox with a lock. You can **pick them up** at the bank.
- **Review** your **credit reports** for **warning signs of fraudulent activities**. You are entitled to one free credit report from each of the nation's three major credit bureaus* a year. Some **experts suggest spreading out your requests through the year**.

To request **your free report**, go to www.AnnualCreditReport.com.

Immediate Steps to Repair Identity Theft:

If you act quickly you can limit the damage from an identity thief. Here are three steps from the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) that you can take immediately.

1. **Place a Fraud Alert with one** of the three credit reporting companies*. They then must tell the other two companies. An initial fraud alert can make it harder for an identity thief to open more accounts in your name. **The alert lasts 90 days**, but you can renew it.
2. **Order your credit reports**. Identity theft **victims are entitled to a free credit report** from each of the three credit reporting companies*. When you order the report **ask the company** to **show only the last four digits** of your Social Security number on your report. If you find fraudulent charges, contact the related business. Then **follow up in writing**. Send all letters **by certified mail** and ask for a return receipt.
3. **Create an identity theft report**. To create one, file a complaint with the FTC (online at www.ftccomplaintassistant.gov or by phone at 1-877-438-4338). Then print your Identity Theft Affidavit. Use that to file a police report. Your FTC Identity Theft Affidavit and your police report make an Identity Theft Report.

*Equifax 1-800-525-6285 Experian 1-888-397-3742 TransUnion 1-800-680-7289

Be Careful Online

- **Encrypt your data**. Only enter passwords on secure web pages with "https" in the address bar and a padlock symbol at the bottom of the browser window.
- Keep passwords private. Use strong passwords with at least **eight characters**, with a mix of letters, numbers, and symbols. Use different passwords for all your accounts.
- **Be mysterious** on social networks. What you share is what tech-savvy thieves use for scams, phishing, and account theft. **Don't over share**.
- Use security software. **Install anti-virus software, anti-spyware, and a firewall**. Set your preferences to **update** these protections often.
- Avoid Phishing Emails. **Don't** open files, click on links, or download programs sent by strangers.



Opt Out

You can choose to "opt out" from mailings from credit card companies. Identity thieves won't be able to steal credit card applications mailed to you. You will have to disclose your Social Security number, because that's how the credit bureaus track you.

www.Optoutprescreen.com

Resources Federal Trade Commission (FTC), State of California Office of the Attorney General, USFA

The "Public Safety News & Tips" is published for City of Roseville's residents by the Community Relations Division of the Roseville Police and Fire Departments. Please send comments or suggestions to pdcommunityservices@roseville.ca.us, (916) 774-5050, or contact Rob Baquera at rbaquera@roseville.ca.us or (916) 774-5057

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