



GUIDE TO EVACUATION LEVELS

A QUICK RESOURCE GUIDE

Pierce County Department of Emergency Management - 253.798.6595

Emergency responders in Pierce County have worked together to develop a comprehensive disaster response plan to deal with emergencies and disasters of all kinds. When an emergency develops, responders may begin notifying residents by issuing **Evacuation Levels**.

It is important you and your family understand what the evacuation level terms mean and know how to react:

LEVEL 1 means BE ALERT Residents should be aware of the danger that exists in their area and monitor local media outlets for information. Residents with special considerations, such as health or mobility issues, or those with animals/pets, should take note and begin making arrangements to evacuate.

LEVEL 2 means BE READY This level indicates there is significant danger to your area and residents should either voluntarily relocate to family or friends outside of the affected area, or to a shelter location announced through local law enforcement and public media. If choosing to remain, be prepared to leave at a moment's notice.

THIS MAY BE THE ONLY EVACUATION NOTICE YOU RECEIVE!

LEVEL 3 means LEAVE IMMEDIATELY Danger to your area is current or imminent and you should leave immediately. Listen to local media and watch for emergency personnel who may be coming by to give further instructions regarding the evacuation.

During an emergency, listen to law enforcement and local media for information on the location of a shelter. Above all, **remain calm**. Know your escape routes in advance and you will be able to move quickly.

The best way to respond to disasters is by preparing ahead of time:

- **Make a Plan, Build a Kit and Help Each Other** For instructions on making your emergency plans and kits, go to www.piercecountywa.org/PREPARE. You can also find tips on how to help each other.
- **Be Informed** Sign up for PCALERT at www.piercecountywa.org/ALERT to receive emergency information.



PRINT AND KEEP A COPY OF THIS FLYER IN YOUR HOME, CAR, OFFICE, AND WITH YOUR KIT.