

GRIZZLY CREEK SUBDIVISION COLORADO WILDFIRE PROTECTION PLAN OCTOBER 2008

EVACUATION PROCEDURES

Purpose: Develop a process for persons in the Grizzly Creek Subdivision to orderly evacuate and return to the area in case of emergencies associated with a major wildfire in the area. To make certain that all persons are accounted for and safe.

Assumptions: At the current time we will assume that there is one exit/entrance road via the main Grizzly Creek Road.

Notification: In case of a major fire emergency the inhabitants of Grizzly Creek will be notified in person or by telephone by: (Note: No reverse 911 exists in our area)

- Jackson County Sheriffs Office
- Division of Wildlife
- Colorado State Forest Service
- Federal Fire Organizations (Overhead team, US Forest Service, Fire Control)
- North Park Fire and Rescue

Note: In case of a severe fire, an Incident Command Team will be initiated to manage.

Legally, you are not required to leave your property, however the above groups have experience in fire dangers and we should follow their instructions explicitly. No property is worth losing individuals life for. Secondly, not following instructions may result in fire fighters not addressing our area. Note that in a major fire situation many dangers lurk, including actual fire, smoke, ash, winds, impassable roads and critical time frame conflicts. There are several options they will communicate:

- Evacuate Immediately
- Be prepared to evacuate
- Shelter in place implies to Stay Put, keep CB(5) and radio on, and get prepared to leave. Primarily this is to relieve congestion on highways.

Communications methods: Our goal is to make certain that all inhabitants are accounted for.

- Telephone (if available)
- CB – Channel 5 Inside Grizzly Creek (Note that fire fighting groups do not use public CB channels)
- In person by County, State, Federal representatives or local residents.
- If you are away from Grizzly Creek, but return, you will probably find the entrance closed. Call the sheriff's office or proceed to the Indian Creek area.

Procedure for EXIT:

- Upon notice of evacuation, acquire survival kit (see attachment A)
- An attempt will be made to post evacuation notice at the Grizzly Creek entrance or on each house.
- Make a list of all persons at your location (Name, address/house/lot/camp auto license number, state, description of auto, telephone number (cell, home, cabin) and pets. Carry this with you on leaving so you don't forget someone or a pet. It may get chaotic until fire teams are in place.
- Mode of exit (auto, ATV, walk, ride horse, etc).
- If you have no method of exit or are disabled, contact any neighbor or the sheriff's office.

- By motorized vehicle, exit the Grizzly Creek Subdivision road, turn right on Highway 14 to the Indian Creek USFS entrance (approx. 1 ½ miles).
- Leave a note on your house door as to your destination.
- Park at the entrance to Indian Creek and check in with any individuals there. If no one is there wait an hour and then proceed to further destinations (Home, Walden, etc.)
- We should remain at the Indian Creek entrance for 4-6 hours or until met and notified by fire control to leave. This is to be as certain as possible that all Grizzly Creek inhabitants are accounted for. If you have a “friends or home” destination please make certain other individuals know your destination.
- If we need to leave the Indian Creek check in area there may be several instructions given:
 - Go home via a particular route
 - Go to Walden for further instructions, routing, shelter, food, etc. Normally fire fighting groups have central control sites (Wattenberg Center, high school, or U.S. Forest Service offices)

Procedure for RETURN:

The most important issue is to get information from responsible units that are accurate and current. Our first action should be to contact the Jackson County Sheriff’s office or organization that gave us exit instructions at the Indian Creek meeting area. Make certain you have this current information and status. A very important part of emergency management is to minimize traffic and congestion on roads. Secondly, fire emergency managers need to know where you are in the area in case situations change.

In a major fire emergency Federal Overhead or Incident Teams will coordinate all activities. They have the experience and knowledge that will eliminate confusion. Local community representatives (Jackson County) will keep you informed of status.

Important telephone Numbers:

- Jackson County Sheriff’s Office: Emergency (970) 723-4242, Non-emergency (970) 723-8427
- Jackson County Fire Station (970) 723-4747

If you are given instructions to return to Grizzly Creek:

- Stop at the Check out/in location at Indian Creek. Communicate intentions with any parties located there.
- Inform other parties of location you are going to, number in party and exit capabilities.
- Return to your location in Grizzly Creek.
- Stay alert for further instructions especially if the emergency still exists in other areas close by. Electric power, telephones and utilities may be out, local damage may be present or other extenuating circumstances may exist. So be alert.
- Contact other people in the subdivision if any assistance is needed. “Help your neighbor and eliminate rumors – be accurate”.

Attachments:

- A) Survival Kit
- B) Grizzly Creek Owners List with telephone Numbers. You should have one from the association. Keep it accessible.
- C) House notification Sheet