

Learning to Live with Fire – 10 Evacuation Principles

By Doug Cram, Extension Forest and Fire Specialist, New Mexico State University

Leave Early Evacuation Ps Forget the Garden Hose

1) **P**eople

2) **P**rescriptions (for example: insulin, inhaler, EpiPen, heart medication, etc.)

3) **P**hone

- **P**ets
- **P**hotos
- **P**ocketbook (for example: purse, wallet, money clip)
- **P**ersonal Computer (for example, easy to grab laptop)
- **P**ersonal Items (for example: phone & computer charger, clothes, toiletries, water bottles)
- **“P**riceless” _____ (you fill in the blank – sentimental or actual value)
- **P**apers (keep in mind, most documents can be replaced...)

Go Early! Follow the checklist guide. Grab water bottles on the way out. Be familiar with multiple evacuation routes – all your neighbors will be out there with you. Turn on your headlights. Drive cautiously. Remain calm in order to make rational decisions.

Do NOT plan to slow down a wildfire or save your house with a garden hose!
Intense heat, flames, and blowing smoke will render this approach useless and dangerous.



Photo by Miguel Riopa/AFP/Getty News