

Appendix J

Wildland Fire Evacuation Plan

SQUAW VALLEY FIRE DEPARTMENT

Wildland Fire Evacuation

If a wildfire is threatening your home and you need to evacuate:

Attire and Equipment:

- Cotton or wool clothes are more fire resistant than synthetics
- Proper attire includes long pants, long sleeved shirt or jacket and boots
- Carry gloves, a handkerchief to cover your face, water to drink, and goggles
- Keep a flashlight and portable radio with you at all times
- Tune in to a local radio station and listen for instructions



Family Members and Pets:

- If possible, evacuate all family members not essential to preparing the house for wildfire first
- Make sure to designate a meeting place and contact plan using cell phone, e-mail or a relative in another area
- Evacuate pets to a safe location - contact the Humane Society or Animal Control for assistance if needed

Vehicles:

- Place vehicles in garage or in the driveway, pointing out. **Leave the keys in the ignition!**
- Roll up the windows, close sunroof
- Open the garage door using the garage door opener, then disconnect the garage door opener drive and manually lower the door so that the door can be opened manually from the outside if needed

Essential Items:

- Important documents (financial records, insurance policies, birth certificates, medical records, etc)
- Credit and ATM cards, insurance cards, address book, PDA, laptop computer
- Drivers license, passport
- Medications, prescription glasses, toiletries
- Computer backup files - flash drive, external drive for desktop machine
- Inventory of home contents (video before possible emergency), photographs of interior and exterior of house
- Cell phone and charger
- Change of clothing
- Family photo albums and videos, family heirlooms
- Place essential items in car

Inside the House:

- Close all interior doors
- Leave a light on in each room
- Remove lightweight curtains and other combustible materials from around windows
- Close fire-resistant drapes, shutters and blinds
- Turn off all pilot lights
- Move overstuffed furniture - couches and easy chairs - to the center of rooms

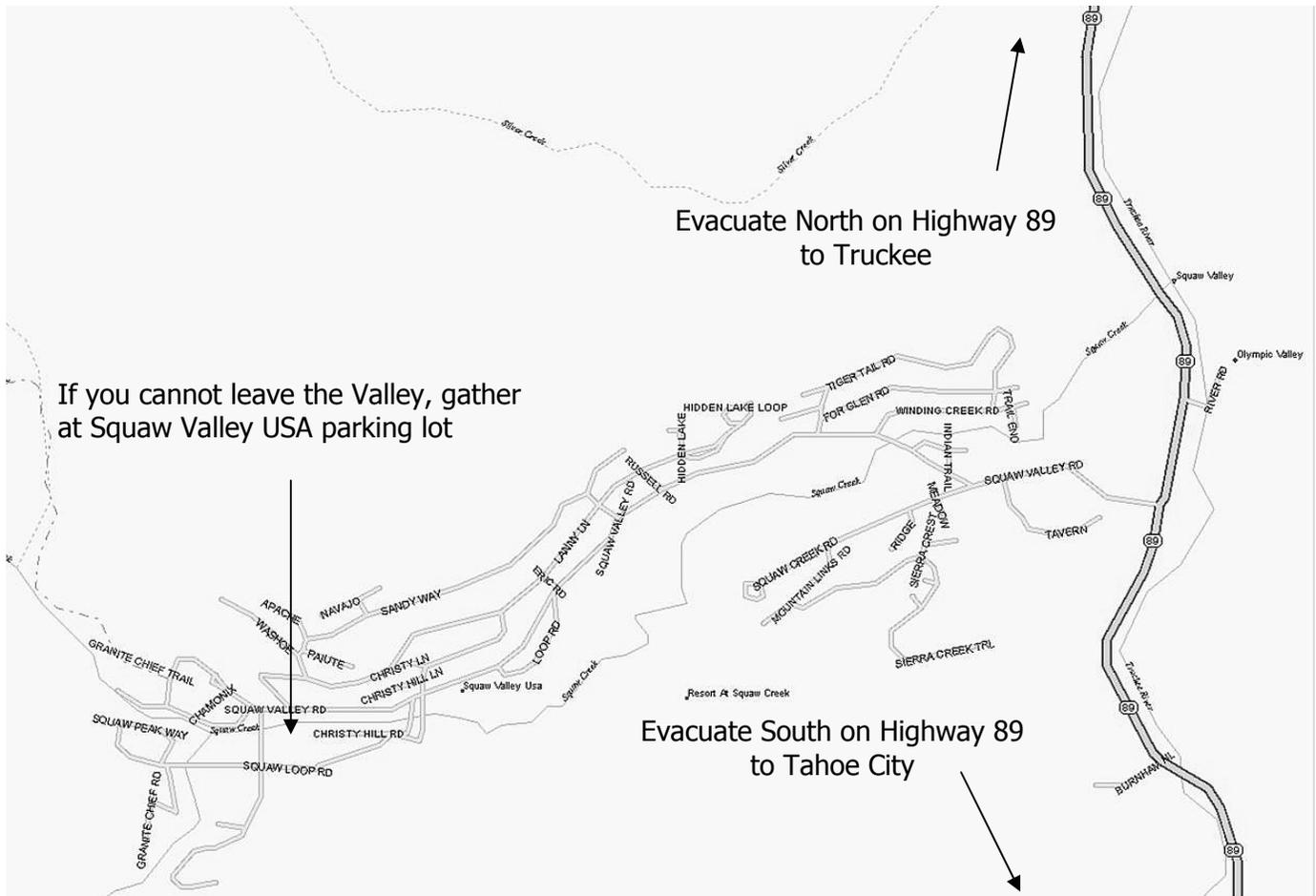


Outside the House:

- Place combustible patio furniture in the house or garage
- Shut off propane at the tank
- Close all exterior vents if possible
- Prop a ladder against the house to provide firefighters easy access to the roof
- Make sure that all garden hoses are connected to faucets and attach nozzles
- Close all exterior doors and windows, leaving all exterior doors unlocked
- Turn on outside lights
- If available and if there's time cover windows, attic openings, and vents with 1/2" plywood
- Wet down wood shakes or shingle roofs before leaving if possible
- Fill trash cans and buckets with water and place where firefighters can find them
- If you have an emergency water source (pool, pond, etc.) and/or portable pump, clearly mark its availability so it can be seen from street

If Evacuation is Needed:

- Take Squaw Valley Road to Highway 89 go to Truckee or Tahoe City - whichever is away from the fire
- Listen to local radio stations for evacuation locations
- If it's not possible to leave the Valley, go in your car to the Squaw Valley USA parking lot and wait there
- If not possible to leave your residence, shelter in place until all is clear and leave Valley if possible
- Please evacuate early if asked to do so to avoid entrapment by the fire storm! Studies from the recent fires in Australia showed that the people who died were the ones who planned to leave, but waited too long to do so, encountering conditions that were untenable, but that only a short time earlier had been safe for travel.
- Drive with headlights ON so that you can be seen in the smoke
- Drive carefully and with caution for changing conditions - vehicle accidents clog roads and lead to confusion and unnecessary deaths



Be prepared: it will likely be dark, smoky, windy and hot. There may be airborne burning embers, no power, no telephone service and poor water pressure.

Remember, NOTHING you own is worth your life!

PLEASE evacuate immediately when told to do so by firefighters or law enforcement officials!