Evacuations are more common than many people realize. Fires and floods cause evacuations most frequently across the U.S. and almost every year, people along coastlines evacuate as hurricanes approach. In addition, hundreds of times a year, transportation and industrial accidents release harmful substances, forcing many people to leave their homes.

**Elements Needed When Evacuating**

- Refer to Department Evacuation plan, Appendix F of the Emergency Operation Plan
- Locate your Floor Monitor
- If not sure where to assemble, move at least 50 feet away from the building
- Do not gather where you might hinder access by emergency responders
- Identify a backup assembly point in case the Primary assembly point is not safe. This could be the closest grassy field that is away from buildings
- Warn and prevent non-emergency responders from re-entering the evacuated building

**What to do in an Evacuation? Stay Calm Act Fast**

- Know locations of fire alarm pull stations
- Know the sound of your fire alarm or alert system
- Know who your workplace Floor Monitor is (Refer to Department Evacuation plan, Appendix F of the Emergency Operation Plan)
- Subscribe to OSU Alert or community alert systems
- Identify a backup assembly point in case the Primary assembly point is not safe. This could be the closest grassy field that is away from buildings
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**Make a Plan:**

- An emergency evacuation plan has two parts: evacuation from your house or workplace, and evacuation from your neighborhood. An evacuation plan for your home and workplace is useful not only for disasters, but also for fires or other incidents.

**Emergency Evacuation Plan:**

Have maps ready for the following:

- Closest evacuation centers or assembly point.
- Main an alternative routes for leaving the city in North, South, East and West directions.
- Meet-up spots outside the affected areas

**Things to Consider:**

- During an emergency, local phone service may be limited, so you should arrange with someone outside your area to be your family contact. Your contact person should have voice mail or an answering machine.
- At the time of an emergency, your family may not be together. It is important to choose family meeting places. Pick places that are easy to identify, that can be reached on foot if necessary, and that are in an accessible, open area.