

Your Mission, Should You Choose To Accept It...

...is to choose an evacuation location and plan for you and your family to use, if you ever have to unexpectedly evacuate your home or your area. No matter what the reason, you're going to have to know where you're going, before you can get there. Here's how to do it.

Where Will We Go?

1

We recommend that you choose three different locations, because that will give you and your family a variety of choices that will keep you safe, no matter what circumstances you might face.

- One location should be near your neighborhood, to be used in an emergency that only impacts your home.
- One location should be out of your immediate area but in the same state. This is for a regional emergency.
- One location should be out of state, for situations with widespread danger, like a wildfire or an earthquake.

How To Choose A Great Evacuation Location

2

Before you try to zero in on a perfect location, come up with as many different locations as you can that you and your family would be able to use for evacuation.

As you consider each location, think about:

- The needs of the people traveling with you
- How you'll get there (car, bus, plane)
- Any pets that will be traveling with you

Choose Three Locations



That Have These Qualities

The locations have the stores or services your family might need like doctors and banks

You and your family can easily commute to your jobs or work from home

The locations have the furniture and supplies that you and your family would need for two or three weeks or longer

Keep In Mind

The needs of the family members traveling with you

How you'll get there (car, bus, airplane)

Any pets that will be travelling with you

Does It Have Everything You Need?

3

Once you're pretty certain you have the right places, consider whether this location has what you and your family would actually need.

For instance if you would need to stay in that location for two or three weeks, would it be close enough to the stores or services your family might need, like pharmacies, clothing, banks and doctors?

Would you be able to get to work from that location, or are you able to work from home?

Does it have the furniture and supplies necessary for two or three weeks?

We Have A Winner! Make That 3 Winners!

4

No location is perfect, so if you came up with one or two things your location would be lacking, be sure to note them on your Family Evacuation Plan, so that you can take care of it before you get there.

The Staging Area

5

Now that you've chosen your locations, choose two places for you and your family to gather during an emergency, so that you can travel to your evacuation location together. One place should be near your home or work and the other farther from your home in case your area is completely inaccessible.

Put the addresses and phone numbers of these two meeting places on your family's emergency cards.

Appoint An Out Of Town Contact

6

It's also a good idea to appoint an out of town contact to help you while your family deals with the aftermath of an emergency.

Even though you might not be able to call people right in your own area after an emergency, you can often call long distance. A distant friend can be a touch point for the entire family until communication is restored.

Once you choose an out of town relative or friend as a contact, check with them to make sure that they're willing to help. If so, give them a copy of your emergency plan and wallet card, so they'll be able to help, if the need ever arises.

Creating Your Plan

7

Grab a copy of our [Family Evacuation Plan](#), or if you have our book *Get Your Stuff Together*, you'll find a copy in the back of the book. Here are a few questions to answer before you draft your plan:

- Who Is Evacuating With You?
- Who Will Do What?
- Temporary Housing
- Transportation Plans/Travel Information
- Pet Information
- Out of State and Local Contacts
- Contact Information For Everyone Who Will Be Evacuating With You As Well As Your Out of Town Contact.

Making Your Plan Easy To Access

8

Print, scan or make three copies of the Evacuation Plan, and store it in at least **three** secure, damage-proof locations. That way if one or two of the locations are inaccessible, you'll still be able to grab the information you need.

And while you're at it, store a copy in your family's cell phones as well, in case an emergency occurs while you're away from home.

Medical Information

9

Is there any other information you need, to deal with a medical emergency while evacuated or away from home? If so, scan or make copies of that information and place it in the same folder as your completed medical history forms.

If you need help creating Medical History Forms for your family, take a look at [our blog post](#) or download a copy of [our How-To Sheet](#).

What's Next?

Well now that you're done Creating Your Family Evacuation Plan, here are More Amazing Things You Can Do In 5 Minutes Or Less

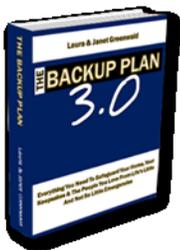
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[Fill Out Your Kid's Emergency Contact Card](#)

And don't forget to share this how to sheet with your family and friends!

For more Tips and How To Sheets like this one, visit [The Backup Plan Blog](#), or check out our books at [GetYourStuff Together.com](#)

*That Backup Plan of yours is coming along nicely.
Here are a few other resources you're gonna love...*

*Laura & Jan Greenwald
Authors/Creators of Get Your Stuff Together*



Our newest program [The Backup Plan 3.0!](#) Quick and easy steps you can take **right now**, to keep everything that's important to you, safe, sound and accessible. Each section covers a different area, from family photos, vital documents and music, to videos, computer files, family history and recipes. Just download the free Grab It & Go Forms and Action Plans (included), complete them and save them to your computer or use the ones right inside the book and you'll be ready to deal with emergencies small (a broken arm) or large (Superstorm Sandy). [Pick up your Paperback copy today at Amazon.com for \\$29.99](#) [Or the new Downloadable PDF Edition for \\$8.00.](#) [Read more about it](#)