

## Evacuation and sheltering

Do you know the difference between evacuation and sheltering? Evacuation is used when you need to get away from a situation that puts you in danger, such as a flood, landslide or others. Sheltering, on the other hand, is used in cases where being outside your home becomes dangerous, such as during an explosion causing toxic fumes or when there is a dangerous fugitive in your home sector. In both cases, it is important to follow the instructions given by the authorities.

### Instructions in the event of evacuation or sheltering



#### Evacuation

##### Follow the instructions of the authorities.

- Leave your home as soon as authorities advise.
- You will be told where to go to a Disaster Services Center or assembly point. Once on the premises, if you need assistance, find the people wearing an orange bib and an "identification badge" with their name and the civil security logo. These people are designated to help you.
- Bring your emergency kit with you.
- Shut off the main water supply, turn on the taps and flush the toilets to drain as much water as possible.
- If there is a risk of freezing, leave a few electric baseboard heaters in operation set at 15°C.
- If there is no risk of freezing, turn off the electricity.
- Turn off the gas.
- Lock your doors and close your windows.
- Take designated roads and be on the lookout for information on road closures.
- Monitor information and instructions from authorities on radio, television and online.
- Notify your loved ones of your situation.

##### If you have a pet

The best way to protect your pet during an emergency is to take it to an animal shelter. Make a list of places to leave your pet in case you need to leave, such as:

- shelters, animal shelters
- veterinary clinics
- family members and friends.



#### Sheltering

##### Fire in the neighborhood or spill of hazardous materials

If the emergency services ask you to shelter in place (confinement) in your residence:

- Close and lock all windows and doors to the outside.
- Turn off all air exchangers as well as heating and air conditioning systems connected to an outside air intake, to prevent the infiltration of dirty air.
- Go to a room above ground level, if possible in a room without windows.
- Use duct tape or damp cloths to seal gaps around doors and air vents.
- Follow the evolution of the situation on the radio, on Facebook and by consulting the municipality's civil security web page.
- For help from emergency services, dial 9-1-1.

Only the authorities can confine you. Making the decision to stay at home on your own can have serious consequences.

##### If you have a pet

Keep your pet indoors. Animals are very sensitive to sudden changes in temperature and they often isolate themselves when they are afraid. Never leave an animal outside or tied up.

Separate dogs from cats. Keep small animals, such as hamsters, away from larger ones. Stress can create unusual behaviors.

