

# FREMONT COUNTY'S EVACUATION PROCESS

Summer is essentially upon us, and with it comes a number of hazards that we're all too familiar with: floods and fires. Over the last year or so Fremont County Emergency Management has structured an evacuation plan process to be followed in case residents need to be moved out of an area for safety. It was used for the first time during the Lava Mountain Fire above Dubois last year.

It's a three-step plan; here's what you need to know – as provided by FCEM.

**LEVEL 1 (green): “Be Ready” for potential evacuation.** Residents should be aware of the danger that exists in their area, monitor emergency websites/systems and local media outlets (like right here on County 10) for information. This is the time for preparation and precautionary movement of persons with special needs, mobile problems, and pets and livestock. If conditions worsen, emergency personnel may contact you via an emergency notification system.

**LEVEL 2 (yellow): “Be Set” to evacuate.** This indicates there is a significant danger to your area, and residents should either voluntarily relocate to a shelter or with family/friends outside of the affected area; or if residents are choosing to remain to be ready to evacuate at a moment's notice. Residents may not have time to gather necessary items, doing so is at their own risk.

This might be the only notice you receive. Emergency services cannot guarantee they will be able to notify everyone if conditions rapidly deteriorate. Area media will be asked to broadcast periodic updates.

**LEVEL 3 (red): “Go,” evacuate now!** Danger to the area is current or imminent, and people should evacuate immediately. If you choose to ignore this advisement, you must understand emergency services may not be able to assist you further. Do not delay leaving to gather belongings or to make efforts to protect your home; your safety is in jeopardy.

This is the final notice anyone will receive.

Note: Fremont County cannot mandate an evacuation. A Level 3 evacuation notice is a serious, well-informed recommendation for people to immediately leave; but the county cannot legally force anyone to leave their own property. Those who chose to stay, stay at their own risk.

**Additional information:** In order for Union Wireless users to receive emergency alerts pushed to their devices via the FEMA Integrated Public Alert and Warning System (like Presidential Alerts, Amber Alerts, and warnings like these), they need to download the Union Wireless CMAS app. CMAS stands for Commercial Mobile Alert Service, and the app can be downloaded on the Apple App Store and the Google Play Store.

Verizon users are already connected to the FEMA IPAWS.