

Lesson 7: Wildfire Response- Get Set! Go! Evacuations and Emergency Safety

Guiding Question: What do we do if a wildfire leads to an evacuation?

Goals:

- To give students resources to share with their families to make quick, informed choices during a wildfire emergency.
- To give an overview of what could happen during an evacuation and the available resources, information, and organizations that can help students.

Subjects: Health, Listening and Speaking, Reading, Writing

Duration: 60 minutes

Setting: Classroom

Vocabulary: Evacuation Warning, Immediate Evacuation Order, Public Assembly Point, Shelter-In-Place, Evacuation Shelter

Objectives

Students will be able to:

- 1) Describe how they will put their Family Emergency Plan into practice in the event of an evacuation warning or order.
- 2) Explain what action should be taken for each evacuation advisory term. (Evacuation Warning, Immediate Evacuation Order, Public Assembly Point, Shelter-In-Place)
- 3) List three or more resources they could use to find information or get help during a wildfire emergency.

Materials and Preparation:

- Pre-print student handouts or request physical resources in advance from the Butte County Fire Safe Council.
 - Butte County Emergency Guide Trifold Link to print: <u>EMERGENCY!</u>

 "Ready, Set, Go" Evacuation Plan Link to print: <u>Disaster Preparedness</u>

 Community Evacuation Maps are found in the same table at the link above. ^^^
- Students should have a copy of their Family Communication Plan or notes to review.
- Prepare PowerPoint slideshow for Lesson 7: Wildfire Response- Get Set! Go!
- Students will need their wildfire journals in class.

Standards:		
NGSS	Crosscutting	
	Concepts	
	Science and	
	Engineering	
	Practices	

	Disciplinary Core Ideas	ESS3.B Natural Hazards
Environmental		Principle 3: Natural Systems Change in Ways that
Principals and Concepts		People Benefit From and Can Influence

Lesson Overview:

This lesson builds on personal and family preparedness topics and contains potentially life-saving information about what to do in the event of a wildfire emergency and evacuation. Continue with this lesson after students have had enough time to complete their Family Emergency Plans.

This lesson may be triggering for students who have been through an evacuation or had family members or acquaintances impacted. It is recommended that you have a school counselor on hand to support students who wish to leave the classroom or want to talk with a mental health professional. It is important to keep control of the lesson by focusing discussions on the actions that students can take in the future.

The two printable resources for this lesson are from the Butte County Office of Emergency Management and the Butte County Fire Safe Council. Print these resources ahead of time so students can review them in class and take physical copies home. The Butte County Emergency Guide Trifold and "Ready, Set, Go" Evacuation Plan should be kept at home with the Family Emergency Plan and ideally copied for reference in the car. These take-home resources support the program's goal of using youth to reach a wider community audience with wildfire preparedness and safety information.

You may want to give a break after reviewing your community's evacuation map. A stretch break, relocation to somewhere outside, or game may help refresh students and avoid information overload. You also may want to save the "Ready, Set, Go" Evacuation Plan for another day, if you spent a long time reviewing the evacuation map.

Procedure:

- Review your Classroom Community Rules for the program and remind students of your expectations. This would be a good time to reiterate that in this lesson you will be focusing on positive actions in the future.
- 2. Go through presentation slides for Lesson 7: Wildfire Response Get Set! Go!

Take 3-5 minutes to review your Family Communication Plan and Action Plan and share with a partner:

- 1. Where is your regional meeting place?
- 2. Who did your family choose as your out of town contact?
- 3. What is your role in the Family Action Plan?

Meet with the students in a small group who do not have a Family Plan completed and talk through their ideas about what they would suggest to their families for each question.

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From Ready Kids!, a national disaster preparedness program. You can play as a class and talk through decisions together or instruct students to access the game from individual devices to click through themselves. Time 5-10 minutes.

1. Why do you think the counselor said they were not allowed to have a campfire?
2. What were some things the campers helped with to prepare the camp?
3. Why did they leave the lights on in the cabins when they left?



What happens if there is a wildfire nearby and we are at school?

Share with your students details from your school's fire emergency plan. If your school does not have a plan, or you are unsure how to access it, we encourage you to speak with a school administrator. Remind students to tell a teacher immediately if they observe a fire on or off campus. Your class may be told to:

- Shelter-in-place
- Evacuate to another part of campus
- Evacuate off-campus

Remind students that no matter what action your class takes, stay calm, stay with the group, and pay attention to your directions.



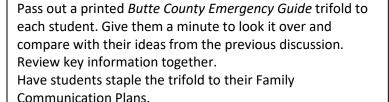
Class discussion:

What sources would you use to find updates or information during an emergency?

What sources do you think are the most informative and trustworthy?

Which resources depend on cell service or internet access?







These organizations will work together during a wildfire emergency and will receive additional support from emergency service teams from out of the area. From top left to bottom right: Butte County Fire Rescue, Paradise Fire Department, CAL FIRE, City of Biggs, Gridley City, City of Oroville, Chico Fire & Rescue, Butte County Emergency Management, North Valley Animal Disaster Group, Chico Police, Paradise Police, Butte County Sheriff, California Highway Patrol.

Evacuation advisories to know

- Evacuation Warning
- 📵 Immediate Evacuation Order
- Public Assembly Point
- Shelter-In-Place

Familiarize students with these four terms they may hear in an emergency broadcast or receive as an alert.

Evacuation Warning: Alerts people of a potential threat to life and property. People who need additional time should consider evacuating at this time. Start your Family Communication Plan now to prepare for a changing situation.

Immediate Evacuation Order: Requires the immediate movement of people out of an affected area due extreme danger. Due to the changing nature of the emergency, this order may be the only warning that people in the area receive. Choosing to stay could put your life in danger and obstruct the work of firefighters and rescue workers.

Public Assembly Point: A temporary assembly area that provides a safe place for evacuees to assemble. People will stay here until the threat is past or evacuation routes are accessible. This is also a place for evacuees who cannot evacuate on their own and need assistance getting to a shelter. Evacuees who are capable of evacuating on their own do not need to go to Public Assembly Points unless directed by public safety officials.

Shelter-In-Place: Advises people to stay secure at their current location by remaining in place. There may not be a safe evacuation route at this time.

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If students have a smartphone, these apps can be helpful. Cell phones are likely to be with students, while they may not have access to their emergency plan documents. Students can also download offline maps with saved locations, such as their regional meeting place, their closest Public Assembly Point, and their family's work addresses.

Project your local map with evacuation routes overhead:
Butte County.net: <u>Disaster Preparedness</u>
If you have physical maps printed, pass them out now.
You can request physical copies from the Butte County
Fire Safe Council by emailing
laurendeterra@buttefiresafe.net or calling 530-877-

Note your local Emergency Travel Routes and Public Assembly Points. Talk through how you would get onto the emergency travel route from school and ask students to visualize how they would get there from home.

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The next student handout, "Ready, Set, Go" Evacuation Plan, will give detailed information about each of these steps and be a valuable resource for students to take home.

Putting your emergency plan into action

- 1) Start your Family Communication Plan.
- 2) Secure people and pets.
- 3) Secure structure.
- 4) Evacuate, following directions from local health and safety officials.
- 5) Stay informed about changing conditions and emergency updates.
- 6) Get to a safe place.



Pass out a "Ready, Set, Go" Evacuation Plan to each student. This pamphlet was updated in 2020. Students and their families may have received a copy in the mail. If it was discarded or misplaced, students will have a new copy to bring home. It is recommended to keep a copy in the home and car. Students should now be familiar with all the topics on the first page and the Evacuation Advisory terms on the third page. Spend most of your time with this document reading through the "Get Set!, Go!" sections. Link to plans: Disaster Preparedness

(All the plans are the same, with the only difference being the community's name and picture shown at the top of page one. If your community is not listed, choosing any community plan will do.)



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When the safest location is determined, the American Red Cross will open shelters. Evacuees will be given food, water, first aid if necessary, toiletries, and a place to rest. Counselors will be there for people who are upset or frightened. Remember, it is okay to talk to a trusted adult about how you feel. Most people do not stay in a shelter very long and make plans to stay with friends or family, if possible. Trained Red Cross volunteers on the Disaster Action Team will arrive from near and far to help people who were evacuated. The latest information about the fire and when families can return home will be available. Always register with official personnel when you arrive at a shelter. Check in with your out-of-town contact to let them know you arrived safely.

Red Cross Wildfire Relief: American Red Cross – Wildfire



Q: Is anyone able to go to a Red Cross shelter?

A: Everyone is welcome at a Red Cross shelter. If you need to leave your home due to a disaster or emergency, you are welcome to come to a Red Cross shelter. Your service animal is also welcome.

Q: Do we need to call ahead of time?

A: No need for a reservation, just show up. If you need our help, come to the shelter.

Q: What should I bring?

A: Bedding, clothing, medications, personal Go Bag, and emergency kit

Q: Can I bring a pet?

A: To maintain a safe and healthy environment in our shelters, pets are not allowed. Please make arrangements for your pet before coming to the shelter. If you need assistance, call your local Red Cross office or ask a shelter worker when you arrive: we work with partners in the community who can open a pet shelter nearby.

Q&A from: Disaster Shelters | Find Shelters

Assessment:

Write a letter to Wildfire Ready Raccoon.

Explain your expectations for letter format, content, and length. Writing a letter guides students in reflecting on the most important or memorable Wildfire in the Foothills topics. This activity has the option to share student conclusions and stand-out topics back with the Butte County Fire Safe Council to help us improve our youth outreach. Ready Raccoon always loves hearing from students! Illustrations, poetry, and other creative mediums are also encouraged as an alternative. You can mail letters to Ready Raccoon in a combined class envelope to:

Butte County Fire Safe Council Re: Ready 5619 Black Olive Drive Paradise, CA 95969

•	Something that surprised me about wildfire is
•	I used to think, but now I think about wildfire.
•	A way people can reduce accidental wildfire ignitions is by
•	Something that my family and I have already done to prepare for a wildfire is
•	Something I plan to do in the future to prepare for a wildfire is
•	A wildfire mitigation project that I think is important is because
•	Some things I will put, or already have, in my Go Bag are
•	Something important I learned in class that I shared with my family is
•	When I talked with my family about the Family Communication Plan they said
•	Something I think more people in my community should know about wildfire is
•	I can help my family protect our home from embers by
•	To prepare my pets for a wildfire I can
•	If my friends do not know about wildfire preparedness, I would tell them

Evaluation:

Letter to Ready Good		Fair	Poor	
Raccoon				
Length and Format	Students write a	Students write a	Students write a few	
	small paragraph to	small paragraph in a	sentences of	
	one page in length in	letter format.	reflection, but not in	
	a letter format.		a letter format.	
Content	The letter	The letter	The letter	
	demonstrates a	demonstrates an	demonstrates a weak	
	strong understanding	understanding of one	understanding of	
	of three or more	or two program	program topics and	
	program topics with	topics and gives	does not make the	
	strong personal	some personal	connection to	
	relevance.	relevance.	personal relevance.	
Spelling	The letter is mostly	The letter contains a	The letter contains	
Punctuation	free from errors,	few errors and is	many errors and is	
Grammar	easy to understand,	overall	difficult to	
Readability	and well organized.	understandable and	understand or	
		organized.	unorganized.	

Lesson Extension Recommendations:

REDI Jedi Master Program Lesson 9: Illuminating Fire Practices Coming Soon! Availably Early 2022. 2020

Forest Ranch & Butte Meadows

"Ready, Set, Go" Evacuation Plan



Get ready!

Prepare your family...

Create an evacuation plan that includes:

- A designated emergency meeting location outside the fire or hazard area. This is critical to determine who has safely evacuated from the affected area.
- Several different escape routes from your home and community. Drive these routes often so everyone in your family is familiar with them.
- An evacuation plan for pets and large animals such as horses and other livestock. Go to NVADG.org
- A Family Communication Plan that designates an out-ofarea friend or relative as a point of contact to act as a single source of communication among family members in case of separation. (It is easier to call or message one person and let them contact others than to try and call everyone when phone, cell, and internet systems can be overloaded or limited during a disaster.)
- Sign up for Emergency Notifications at www.buttecounty.net/massnotification

Be Prepared:

- Have fire extinguishers on hand and train your family how to use them (check expiration dates regularly).
- ▲ Keep your gas tank at least half full at all times.
- Assemble a Go Bag (emergency supply kit) for your family and pets.
- Keep a list of emergency contact numbers available.
- Post your address by your driveway so it's clearly visible.
- Obtain street maps for the city and county; keep them in your car or download them to your smart device.
- Keep a Go Bag in your car in case you cannot get to your home.
- Ensure that your family knows where your gas, electric, and water main shut-off controls are located and how to safely shut them down in an emergency.
- Make your home/property more fire safe; find resources at www.buttefiresafe.net and www.readyforwildfire.org

Our	househ	old	safe	ty p	lan	(complete	before an	emergency	incident)
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Our address	Phone					
n the event of an evacuation, we will meet at						
Animals: North Valley Animal Disaster Group (NVADG) Hotline: 530-895-0000; NVADG.org						
During an evacuation, we'll take our animals to						
Local contact (neighbor/relative): In the event that roads are closed, our local contact to care for children and pets is						
Name	Phone					
Out of area contact/phone						
Other important contacts						
We have neighbors who may need help (persons with disabilities or persons with access and functional needs)						

Fire info: (530)538-7826 Sheriff's Emergency info: (833)512-5378

Home Evacuation Checklist - How to Prepare for Evacuation

Prepare for Evacuation

- Alert family and neighbors.
- Dress in appropriate clothing (i.e. clothing made of cotton or wool and work boots). Have gloves, goggles, a dry bandana and dust mask handy.
- Grab your Go-bag and add last minute items.
- Check official social media sites, tv stations, local radio and the emergency phone numbers on page one of this plan.
- Drink plenty of water and prepare your family and pets.

Inside the house

- Shut all windows and doors, leaving them unlocked.
- Remove flammable window shades and lightweight curtains. Close metal shutters.
- Move flammable furniture to the center of the room, away from windows and doors.
- Shut off gas at the source (meter or tank). Turn off pilot lights.
- Leave your lights on so firefighters can see your house under smoky conditions.
- Shut off the air conditioning.

Outside the house

- Put your Go Bag in your vehicle.
- Back your car into the driveway with vehicle loaded and all doors and windows closed. Carry car keys with you and have a spare. Leave gates open for access.
- Check on neighbors and make sure they are preparing to leave.
- Gather up flammable items from the exterior of the house and bring them inside (patio furniture, toys, door mats, trash cans, etc.) or place them in your pool.
- Turn off propane tanks.
- Move propane BBQs and appliances away from structures.
- Connect garden hoses to outside water valves or spigots for use by firefighters. Fill water buckets and place them around the house.
- Don't leave sprinklers on or water running, they can affect critical water pressure.
- Leave exterior lights on so your home is visible to firefighters in the smoke or darkness of night.
- Have a ladder available and place it at the corner of the house so firefighters can quickly access roof.
- Seal attic and ground vents with pre-cut plywood or commercial seals.
- Patrol your property and monitor the fire situation. Don't wait for an evacuation order if you feel threatened.

Animals: Go to NVADG.org

- Locate your pets; transport them with you. Need help? Call NVADG: 530-895-0000
- Prepare and transport large animals early to a safe location.

Remember the Six "P's"

People and pets

Papers, phone numbers, important documents

Prescriptions, vitamins, eyeglasses

Pictures and irreplaceable memorabilia

Personal computer, hard drive, discs

Plastic (credit & ATM cards), cash

Keep these six "P's" ready in case immediate evacuation is required.



Go! It's time to leave...

When an evacuation order is issued by public safety officials or you feel threatened, leave immediately to avoid being caught in fire, smoke or road congestion. In an intense wildfire or other evacuation order, officials will not have time to knock on every door. Listen for high-low sirens.

- Advisements of potential evacuations will be given as early as possible. You must take the initiative to stay informed and aware when an evacuation is ordered or a warning has been issued. For announcements, call 2-1-1, listen to your radio, TV and monitor official social media sites from public safety and governmental agencies. For exact evacuation warnings and orders, call the Fire Info or Sheriff's Info phone numbers located on the first page.
- Areas to be evacuated and escape routes will depend upon the emergency's location, direction of travel and severity. Know your map as well as zone, if indicated. Look at the possilbe routes you might be directed to use.
- ▲ You may be directed to a designated Public Assembly Point for your immediate safety—and later to an evacuation shelter.

If you are trapped...

In your home:

- Stay calm, keep your family and pets together.
- Call 911 and inform authorities of your location.
- Keep doors and windows closed, but unlocked.
- Stay away from outside walls and windows.

On foot:

- Stay calm.
- Go to an open area clear of vegetation, a ditch or depression on level ground if possible.
- Lie face down, cover up your body.
- Use your cell phone to advise officials of your location—call 911.

In your vehicle:

- ▲ Stay calm.
- Park your vehicle in an open area clear of vegetation.
- Close all vehicle windows and vents.
- Cover yourself with a wool blanket or jacket.
- Lie on vehicle floor board.
- Use your cell phone to advise officials of your location—call 911.

BE PREPARED. During an evacuation you may be away from your home for an extended time. Be prepared with your completed Household Safety Plan (see page 1 of this document) and be ready to implement it. You may be directed to evacuate outside the area.

Evacuation advisories to be prepared for:

Evacuation Order: Requires the immediate movement of people out of an affected area due to an imminent threat to life. Choosing to stay could result in loss of life. Staying may also impede the work of emergency personnel. Due to the changing nature of the emergency, an Evacuation Order may be the only warning that people in the affected area(s) receive.

Evacuation Warning: Alerts people in an affected area(s) of potential threat to life and property. People who need additional time should consider evacuating at this time. An Evacuation Warning considers the probability that an area will be affected and prepares people for a potential Immediate Evacuation Order.

Shelter in Place: Advises people to stay secure at their current location by remaining in place as evacuation will cause a higher potential for loss of life.

Rescue: Emergency actions taken within the affected area to recover and help injured or trapped citizens leave the area. Entry into this area is restricted to rescue workers only.

Be Prepared:

During an evacuation you may be away from your home for an extended time. Be prepared with your Household Safety Plan (see page 1 of this document) and be ready to implement it.

Assembly Point

A temporary asembly area for evacuees to assemble until conditions subside and evacuation routes are accessible, or for evacuees who otherwise cannot evacuate the community on their own and need assistance to be moved to a shelter. Note: Evacuees capable of evacuating on their own to designated shelters or other areas outside of their community do not need to go to Public Assembly Points unless directed by officials.

Keep a copy of this plan in your car and home.















Funding provided by North Valley Community Foundation and the Butte Strong Fund.

Forest Ranch & Butte Meadows

"Ready, Set, Go" Evacuation Plan

www.buttefiresafe.net 530-877-0984 www.readyforwildfire.org Need more evacuation plans? Go to: www.buttecounty.net/oem



Butte County Fire Safe Council 5619 Black Olive Drive Paradise, CA 95969 NON-PROFIT
ORGANIZATION
US Postage
PAID
Cedar Creek

One-Way Evacuation Operations

"One-Way Evacuation Operations" means that all the travel lanes on a designated section of road would proceed in one direction as residents and visitors leave the area in advance of a wildland fire or emergency.

Key Points

- Primary Evacuation Plans will be implemented first.

 If these plans are proving effective in handling the evacuating traffic, then a One-Way Evacuation Operation is not likely to be implemented. One-Way Evacuation Operations are most likely to be used in populated areas.
- Emergency responders will decide if One-Way Evacuation must be implemented based on the specific needs of the incident. Entry and termination points will be determined based on the location, direction and rate of the fire spread.
- Be sure to obey the officers' directions and follow the traffic cones and other route markers. All state highway safety regulations and traffic laws apply for the reversed lanes, including speed limits.
- Message boards may be used to provide key information at the beginning of the reversed lane to assist you with your choices.

- Law enforcement officers or other personnel will be at the entrance and termination of the route directing traffic. Do not stop to ask questions because officials will not answer questions and this will slow the evacuation process.
- Check social media sites, tune into local radio and TV stations or call 2-1-1 for emergency information about the One-Way Evacuation route.
- Vehicles entering the One-Way Evacuation route are expected to travel to the end of the route.
- Commercial vehicles, recreational vehicles and those towing boats or other trailers should remain in the right hand travel lanes.
- Stay with your vehicle at all times.

What Routes will be used for One-Way Evacuation?

Routes will be based on the specific needs of the incident. Entry and termination points will be determined based on the location, direction and rate of the fire spread.



If your vehicle stops working, pull it as far off to the side of the road as you can.

Stay In the know

Phone

9-1-1 for emergencies only, not for information

CAL FIRE/Butte County Fire Information Line

1.530.538.7826

For extended fire emergencies in the County area, Town of Paradise, City of Biggs and Gridley

Town of Paradise Information Line

1.530.872.5951

Staffed during major emergency events

PG&E Information Line

1.800.743.5000

Report power outages and downed power lines.

Caltrans Information Line

1.800.427.7623

For current highway conditions















Television & Radio

KHSL Channel 12 KNVN Channel 24 KRCR Channel 7 KPAY 1290 AM

Berry Creek Community radio: 1250 AM **Yankee Hill** Community radio: 1630 AM **Magalia** Community radio: 1460 AM

Town of Paradise Community radio: 1500 AM

Internet

CAL FIRE http://www.fire.ca.gov

BUTTE COUNTY http://www.buttecounty.net

ROAD INFORMATION http://www.dot.ca.gov https://www.buttecounty.net/roadconditions https://www.chp.ca.gov

WEATHER INFORMATION http://www.weather.gov

Facebook

CAL FIRE facebook.com/CALFIRE

Butte County facebook.com/ButteCounty

Butte County Sheriff News

facebook.com/bcsonews

Butte County Public Health

facebook.com/buttecountypublichealth

Town of Paradise facebook.com/townofparadise

Oroville Fire facebook.com/cityoforovillefire

Chico Fire facebook.com/chicofiredepartment

Twitter

Fire/Rescue @CALFIRE_ButteCo @chicoFD

Law Enforcement @ButteSheriff

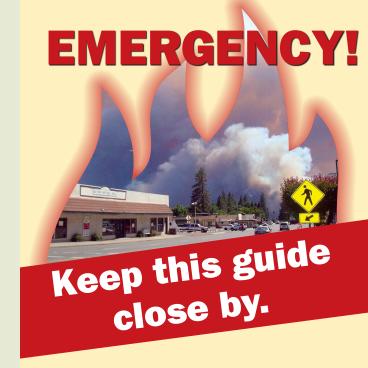
@ChicoPolice
@CHP_Chico

Government @CountyofButte

@BCPubHealth

@CAL_FIRE

@paradise_ca



Discover what you need to:

- Prepare for an emergency.
- Understand emergency weather warnings and evacuation <u>terms</u>.
- Find information from official sources during an emergency.



Be Prepared

Visit READY, SET, GO!

www.ReadyForWildfire.org

Learn more about being prepared.



Have a Go Bag

Duffle bag with 48 hours of supplies, water, snacks, medications, toiletries, credit cards and cash, important documents and computer files—and, if you have a pet, pet food, water and supplies.

Radio & Mobile Devices

You can receive information during an emergency by keeping your mobile devices charged and monitoring a battery-operated radio.

Community Evacuation Plan

Do you have yours?

Go to Butte County Office of Emergency Management at www.ButteCounty.net /OEM/DisasterPreparedness and download the evacuation plan for your community.



Learn Severe Weather Terms

Watch: "Be aware." Conditions are favorable for the development of severe weather which could impact fires.

Warning: "Take action." Weather conditions pose a threat to life or property. Potential for critical fire behavior.

Learn Evacuation Terms

Evacuation Warning: Alerts people in an affected area(s) of potential threat to life and property. People who need additional time should consider evacuating at this time. An Evacuation Warning considers the probability that an area will be affected and prepares people for the potential of an Immediate Evacuation Order.

Immediate Evacuation Order: Requires the immediate movement of people out of an affected area due to imminent threat to life. Choosing to stay could result in the loss of life. Staying may also impede the work of emergency personnel. Due to the changing nature of the emergency, the Immediate Evacuation Order may be the only warning people in the affected area(s) receive.

Public Assembly Point: A temporary assembly area that provides a safe haven for evacuees to assemble until conditions subside and evacuation routes are accessible, or for evacuees who otherwise cannot evacuate the community on their own and need assistance to be moved to a shelter. Note: Evacuees who are capable of evacuating on their own to designated shelters or other areas outside of their community do not need to go to Public Assembly Points unless directed by public safety officials.

Sign Up For:



Emergency Mass Notification
System: Receive emergency
notifications by phone (landline
or mobile), text or email. Sign up:

www.ButteCounty.net/MassNotification

Review Disaster Preparedness Guidelines Butte County Office of Emergency

Management: www.ButteCounty.net/ OEM/DisasterPreparedness

Download a Mobile App: CALFIRE Ready for Wildfire App:

Available on Android, Apple and Windows phones and devices. Visit App Store or Google Play Store and search "CALFIRE."

Paradise Police App: Available on
Android, Apple and Windows
phones and devices. For download
instructions, go to: https://www.
TownOfParadise.com then navigate to:
Our Government>Departments>Police