

Claydon – Be Emergency Ready

1. The Emergency Alert Has Sounded - What Do I Do?

If you receive an emergency alert warning of very high wildfire risk, use the time to prepare:

Get ready for a fast exit:

- Pack your Go Bag.
- Gather ID, medication, phone, keys and essential items near your escape route.
- Make sure your pet is safe and can be quickly prepared for a swift departure.

Arrange help if you need it:

- If you cannot drive, contact your agreed driver now.
- Confirm they know you may need them and tell them about any mobility or other needs affecting how long you need to escape.

Check on neighbours

- Check that vulnerable friends and neighbours have received the alert and understand what it means.
- Ask whether they have a Go Bag and transport arranged.
- If you can safely help, offer to do so.

Stay informed

- Monitor official emergency information: www.oxfordshire.gov.uk
- Consider signing up to Thames Valley Alert for additional local information.
- Be ready to leave quickly if an evacuation instruction is subsequently issued.
- Radio: BBC Oxford - 95.2 FM, Banbury Sound - 107.6 FM, Get Radio (DAB/Online)

Do not wait until an evacuation is ordered to start preparing.

2. Prepare a Go Bag

A wildfire or other fast-moving emergency may leave very little time to collect belongings.

You do **not** need to carry everything. Prioritise what you need to leave safely and remain functional for the first day or two.

● CRITICAL - Take these first	● IMPORTANT - Add if you have room
• Essential medication - preferably several days' supply	• Toothbrush and basic toiletries (deo, comb)
• Phone	• Wet wipes / hand sanitiser
• Power bank + charging cable	• Small first-aid kit
• House/car keys	• Torch / head torch
• Wallet, bank cards and a small amount of cash	• Change of underwear / clothes
• ID - passport, driving licence or other useful identification	• Small hand towel
• Essential medical equipment, glasses, hearing aids, walking stick	• Copies of important documents
• Water and a small amount of ready-to-eat food	• Small emergency radio
• Pet food, medication, lead/carrier and identification, poo bags, bowl	• Small valuables that are difficult or impossible to replace.
• Weather-appropriate clothing & suitable footwear	• Notebook and pen
• Emergency information / medical cards	• Small comfort item

The priority is being able to leave safely.

3. If You Cannot Drive or Evacuate Independently

Do not wait until an emergency to work this out.

- Arrange a named person who can provide transport.
- Tell them you are relying on them.
- Agree how you will contact each other.
- Keep their phone number accessible.
- Tell them about any mobility, medical or other needs that could affect evacuation.
- Check that your medication and essential equipment can be taken with you.

If you can help a neighbour evacuate, please check in with them before an emergency occurs.

4. Look After Each Other

Please check on friends and neighbours, particularly:

- Older people.
- People with disabilities or mobility difficulties.
- People living alone.
- People with significant medical needs.
- Anyone without access to a car.
- People responsible for pets or other animals.

Make sure they know:

What to take → who will transport them → how they will receive official instructions → where they will go.

5. Where Should I Go?

Do **not** assume that a particular village building is an evacuation centre.

If an evacuation is ordered, follow the instructions given by the emergency services and local authorities. The evacuation destination may change according to the fire, smoke, weather and road conditions.

Prepare now, while there is time.

A small, ready-to-grab bag is more useful than a large list of things you might take if you had an hour to pack.

7. If You See a Fire

If you see a fire or smoke in the countryside:

- Do **not** attempt to tackle a large fire yourself.
- Call **999** immediately.
- Give the call handler as much information as possible about the location.
- If you are in a rural or open area, use **what3words** to help identify your location.

Know your location

Download what3words here: <https://what3words.com/products/what3words>

what3words divides the world into 3m × 3m squares, each with its own unique three-word address.

This can help emergency services locate you where a street address or postcode is not available.

Get ready. Check on your neighbours. Arrange help where required. Stay informed.

NB: This is not an evacuation plan, this is readiness advice.

An evacuation would be dealt with by the Joint Oxfordshire Resilience Team and Emergency Services.