

HOME EVACUATION

When residents in specified zones (areas) have received notification of evacuation, they are under obligation to relocate to safe housing before the specified deadline. Care must be taken to ensure that everyone living or working in the housing is informed that it must be evacuated. Residents must decide the responsible person(s) for such actions.

Having already thought about what is necessary to take with you is a good idea. For instance, plan what clothing and necessities for a few days to take, together with items that are hard to replace.

What to include:

- Medications, clothing, cosmetics and necessary aid equipment, such as spectacles and hearing aids.
- Chargers and/or charger banks for mobiles.
- Necessary items for any small children in the home.
- Food and crates for pets if they are included in the evacuation.

Do not forget to:

- Secure all main items of value or take them with you. Main items of value are e.g. valuable papers that may be difficult to have reissued, items of personal value, certificates, passports, etc.
- Close all windows and doors.
- Ensure that there are no foodstuffs that can spoil during the evacuation period.
- Make sure that the housing is heated.
- Leave the lights on in the entrance and by the front door; this is a good idea.
- Place an evacuation notice in a window once the home has been evacuated, and make sure that it can easily be seen from the street.

Once all this has been done, go to the mass relief centre to register with reception/registration staff or call 1717 and go to where you have decided to stay during the evacuation period. Notifications issued in public and social media should be monitored.

Decision on evacuation

The decision on evacuation is taken in collaboration with the East Iceland Chief of Police, the Civil Protection Department of the National Commissioner of the Icelandic Police and the Icelandic Met Office. The decision is based on weather forecasts, data from sensors and the avalanche/landslide inspector on-site. In the event of a pre-determined evacuation, the residents of housing within the evacuation area will be notified of the evacuation by a telephone call from the East Iceland police. An announcement will be sent to the media and published on the websites of the municipality, the East Iceland police, the Civil Protection Department and on social media. Notifications will be translated into other languages in accordance with the demographics of the area in question.

On evacuation

When residents in specified zones (areas) have received notification of evacuation, they are under obligation to relocate to safe housing before the specified deadline. Care must be taken to ensure that everyone living or working in the housing is informed that it must be evacuated. Residents or employees must decide the person(s) responsible for such actions. Once buildings have been evacuated, it is necessary to provide information on place of stay during evacuation. This is done by contacting the volunteers of the Red Cross at the mass relief centre or by calling the 1717 help line.

Those who require assistance to find housing during evacuation are to come to the mass relief centre and receive information on the options available.

Lifting of evacuation orders

Evacuation orders are officially lifted by the East Iceland Chief of Police in consultation with the Civil Protection Department of the National Commissioner of the Icelandic Police and the Icelandic Met Office. An announcement of the lifting of the evacuation will be sent to the media and published on the websites of the municipality, the East Iceland police, the Civil Protection Department and on social media. Notifications will be translated into other languages in accordance with the demographics of the area in question.

The following bodies have a role in evacuations:

The East Iceland Chief of Police makes decisions on evacuation in consultation with the Civil Protection Department of the National Commissioner of the Icelandic Police and the Icelandic Met Office.

The Red Cross has the role of opening a mass relief centre where people can register and provide information on where they are staying during the evacuation period.

Registrations can also be made through the **help line 1717**.

