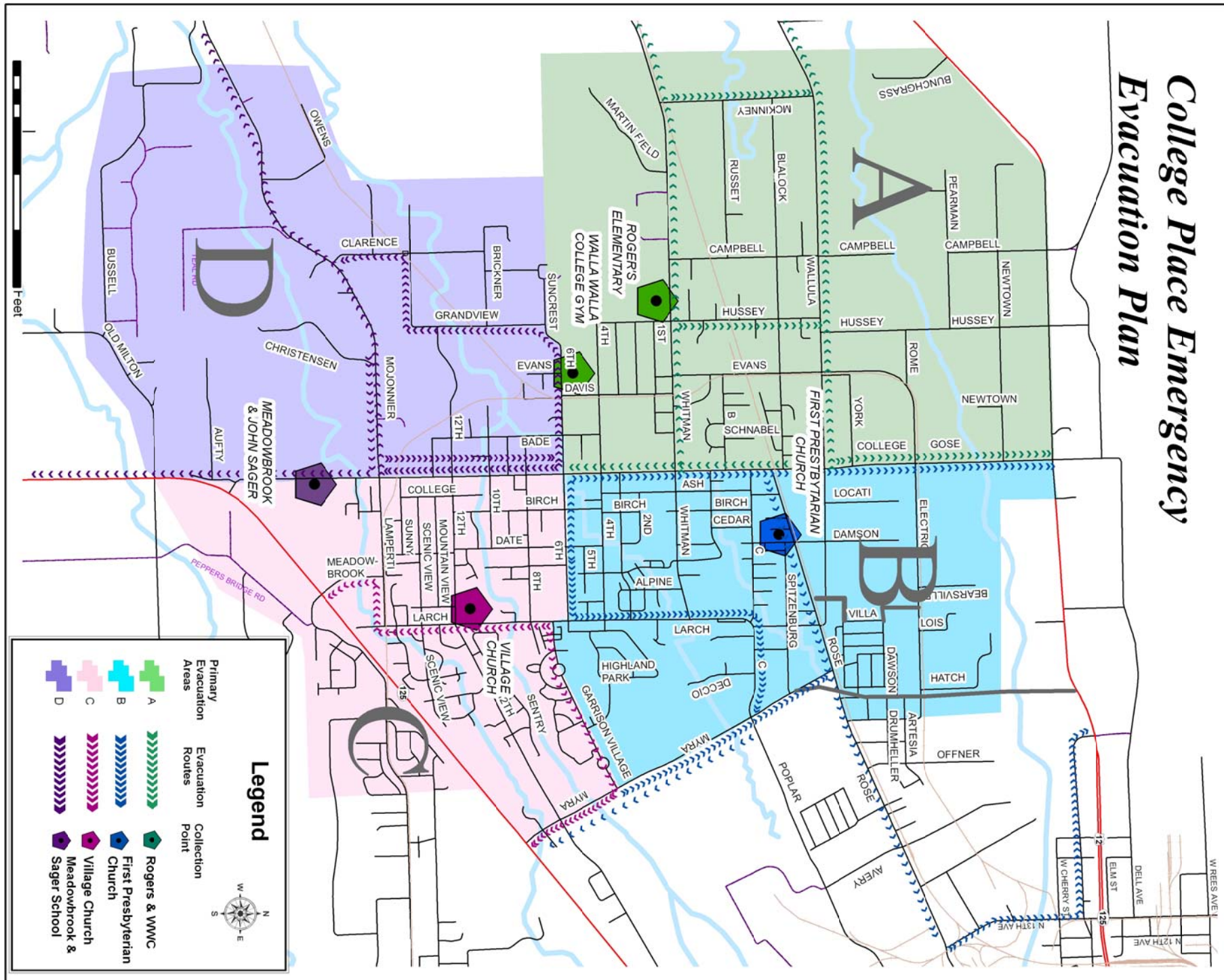




College Place Evacuation FAQ's



During an emergency
tune to KONA Radio
610 AM 105.3 FM



As part of ongoing preparations for emergencies in the City of College Place, general guidelines have been developed for the rapid evacuation of the local area. The plan calls for two basic methods of evacuation; vehicular traffic, and pedestrian traffic (walking).

What do I need to do before an emergency?

As always, being prepared for an emergency involves knowing where to go and how to get there. Normal traffic patterns and routes may be altered depending on the type of emergency. You should coordinate with your facility managers and know what the emergency plans are for your building. If you don't have a plan, work with your property manager to develop one.

You should know ahead of time, which direction you should go once you leave your building and/or parking area. You can determine this by looking at the evacuation map.

Know in advance where you to go if you are told to walk out of the area where you work or live. You must walk to a collection point (see map) for pick-up. Look for the collection points on the map (on the back) and walk to the closest one. Once there, you will be told what to do next.

What do I do at the time of an emergency evacuation?

Above all – REMAIN CALM. Obey all

instructions given by the police and fire emergency personnel in the area. Remember, the key is that you are removed from the area of danger. It may take longer to get home, but you will be safe.

Do not attempt to go against the flow of traffic. Obey the directions of all police and fire personnel.

When will the order to evacuate be given?

An order to evacuate will only be given if there is significant and credible information from reliable sources indicating that there is imminent danger from an attack or disaster.

How will we know to evacuate?

The order to evacuate will be given in a variety of different ways including:

1. The Emergency Alert System will be activated which provides cable, broadcast television and radio, with important information and other pertinent instructions.
2. Telephone calls will be made to certain organizations and facilities that have the ability to further notify member organizations and other facilities.
3. Public address systems (loudspeakers) operated by emergency vehicles.

Each facility must notify their tenants using pre-established emergency evacuation procedures.

How long will the evacuation take?

A precautionary evacuation should take 60 minutes or less. An emergency evacuation should take less than 30 minutes.

Will we be able to use both sides of the road when evacuating?

You will only be able to use the normal (right) side of the road. The other side of the roadway needs to be kept clear for responding emergency vehicles. Always obey all instructions of emergency personnel on the scene, in case any changes need to be made. You should remain calm and be patient so the traffic flow can be maintained.

Will Valley Transit be available?

Valley Transit routes will continue to operate as much as possible. Normal scheduling and routing may be interrupted depending upon the area that is being evacuated.

How will I know whether this is a vehicular or pedestrian evacuation?

Unless you are told otherwise, ALWAYS LEAVE USING THE SAME METHOD BY WHICH YOU CAME. Most evacuations will be vehicular, though some situations may call for you to leave on foot. Follow instructions that are given to you.

Do not abandon your vehicle if traffic is too congested. This will create an unmanageable situation. Police and fire personnel will be in the area to help ease congestion and give instructions.

For your own safety, please follow all directions given by emergency personnel (police, fire and paramedics).

For more information contact:
Walla Walla County Emergency Management
Phone: 524-2900
Email: emd@co.walla-walla.wa.us



Internet Resources:
Create your own Emergency Action/Evacuation Plan:
<http://www.osha.gov/SLTC/etools/evacuation/experts.html>
Create Shelter-In-Place Plan: <http://www.nicsinfo.org>