

# Welcome

## HAVE A SAFE VISIT



PIKES PEAK REGIONAL  
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Most visits to this area do not include wildland fires or flash flooding, but these emergencies *can* happen here. So please take a moment to review this information to learn how to get notified of local emergencies, prevent fires and ensure your preparedness and safety.

We hope you enjoy your stay in the Pikes Peak Region, and that your total experience here is entirely disaster-free.

*Pikes Peak Regional Office of Emergency Management*

### Sign Up for Local Emergency Notifications

El Paso - Teller County 911 Authority

You may register up to eight points of contact to receive notifications about emergency situations in up to five locations. This may include fires or floods, hazardous materials incidents, evacuations, active threats, and other alerts. You will only receive messages if you are enrolled in advance. To sign up, anyone may download the Everbridge app or register your phone online. For visitors, the smartphone app may be preferred, because it is also useful in thousands of other locations across the country where Everbridge is used.

To download the app: Visit Google Play, the App Store, or go to [everbridge.com/app](http://everbridge.com/app) to download and register. You will only receive app notifications when you are physically located in the area of an active threat.

To register your phone online: Visit [PeakAlerts.org](http://PeakAlerts.org) and set up an account under the "sign up for notifications" button, then designate whatever locations your choose, and points of contact. Visitors are encouraged to register!



*Wildfire can change rapidly and require quick evacuation. To ensure your safety while visiting, sign up for emergency notifications or download the Everbridge mobile app.*

### Where to find current information about FIRE RESTRICTIONS

Outdoor burning restrictions vary by county and may also be different in National Forest locations. Depending on where you will be visiting, please check with the local agencies:

Fire restrictions for **El Paso County** can be found on the home page of the El Paso County Sheriff's website at [www.epcsheriffsoffice.com](http://www.epcsheriffsoffice.com) For the City of Colorado Springs see [coloradosprings.gov/outdoorfire](http://coloradosprings.gov/outdoorfire)

Fire restrictions for **Teller County** are at [www.co.teller.co.us](http://www.co.teller.co.us) in the news section of the home page, or call (719) 687-9652 and stay on the line.

Nearby Federal land is primarily part of the **Pike and San Isabel National Forests**. Simply search online for "Pikes Peak Ranger District" to find fire restrictions posted on that webpage, or call the office (during business hours) at 719-636-1602.

For other county and national forest lands in Colorado, check online at [www.coemergency.com](http://www.coemergency.com) under the "fire ban" menu tab at the top of the page.

### Local Evacuation Information

If an evacuation or shelter-in-place order is issued, the public will be notified with specific instructions depending on the nature of the incident. Be sure you are registered to receive emergency notifications or download the Everbridge app (see other side for details).

Wherever you are located during your visit, take time to note at least two ways to exit the area by vehicle, and consider how you might be able to evacuate on foot if absolutely necessary.

### Communication Options

Use many sources of information to stay informed of current weather, road conditions, and news updates. In an emergency, tune to local news broadcasts, NOAA weather radio frequencies, social media sites, radio stations, amateur radio, or other options for communications.

### Flash Flooding

Flash floods are different in the mountains, compared to regions of the country where flooding is often gradual and more predictable.

Flooding along drainages, especially where fires have recently burned, can develop quickly. A storm several miles in the distance can cause flash flooding downstream with little warning.

Be aware of local weather forecasts and current weather conditions, and subscribe to emergency weather alerts for the area.

In case of flash flooding, do not try to drive through flood waters. Move to higher ground.



#### THE LOCAL EMERGENCY NUMBER IS 9-1-1

Texting to 9-1-1 is also available throughout El Paso and Teller Counties if a voice call is not possible. To learn where emergency texting is available in other parts of Colorado, or find emergency alert system information for other regions, visit the **Colorado 911 Resource Center** website.

### Rocky Mountain High Altitude

Much of our region is above 8,000' in elevation, so please be aware of the symptoms of altitude-related illness, which affects more than 15% of our visitors from lower elevations.

**Mild Mountain Sickness:** Usually not life-threatening and the most common altitude illness. May cause nausea, headache, unusual fatigue. Descend, rest, hydrate, and **seek medical advice**. Condition may worsen without appropriate action.

**High Altitude Pulmonary or Cerebral Edema:** This is extremely rare but can be life-threatening. Pulmonary symptoms may include nausea, headache, severe shortness of breath, cough or pink or frothy saliva. Cerebral form of edema may also develop into unsteady movement, irrational behavior, and extreme lethargy. **Seek immediate medical attention** and lower altitude.



### Did You Know?

90% of wildfires are started by humans.

On average 100,000 wildfires burn more than 4 million acres of land in the U.S. every year.

“Red Flag” warnings are issued by the National Weather Service when conditions are windy, warm, and dry enough to constitute a substantial fire threat. Fire danger can be serious here year-round, regardless of season. Check [www.weather.gov/pub](http://www.weather.gov/pub) for local red flag advisories.

**Please take wildfire danger seriously and observe local fire restrictions**



*We hope you enjoy the Pikes Peak Region as much as we do! Safe Travels.*

*Photo: Kristina Iodice*