

When faced with having to suddenly evacuate, trying to determine at that point what to take with you can be challenging and incredibly stressful. People have been known to grab the craziest things and leave items that are truly irreplaceable behind. That is why planning ahead and determining what your irreplaceable treasures are can reduce the stress, allow you to evacuate quicker and ensure that some of your treasured belongings will be saved. The list below helps you to identify what you own that is truly irreplaceable. They are not in order of priority as everyone has to determine that for themselves.

Using the **Items to Grab by Location in House** form you were given at the workshop, go room by room and write down on the form the irreplaceable treasures you find and where they are located. It's ok to add more lines if necessary. Bring the completed form back to the next workshop session and we'll discuss your findings. A new copy of the form will be given to you so you can enter the final items on your list and put it in your Red Disaster Plan Envelope.

### Categories

- Autographs:
  - ✓ famous people
- Artwork:
  - ✓ ceramics
  - ✓ drawings
  - ✓ paintings
  - ✓ professional photographs
  - ✓ sculptures
  - ✓ sketch books
- Ashes:
  - ✓ animals
  - ✓ family members
- Awards:
  - ✓ certificates
  - ✓ engraved watch
  - ✓ military
  - ✓ plaques
  - ✓ school
  - ✓ trophies
  - ✓ work
- Bedding:
  - ✓ favorite baby blanket
  - ✓ crocheted blanket/throw
  - ✓ handmade quilts
  - ✓ knitted blanket/throw
- Books:
  - ✓ autographed
  - ✓ Bible (family)
  - ✓ children's favorites
  - ✓ comic books that are collectible
  - ✓ first edition

- Books: (continued)
  - ✓ journals
  - ✓ manuscripts
  - ✓ photo albums
  - ✓ school year books
  - ✓ scrap books
  - ✓ series collection that are antique, collectible, heirloom or sentimental
  - ✓ wedding album
- Clothing:
  - ✓ christening gown
  - ✓ military/first responder uniform that is antique, heirloom or sentimental
  - ✓ wedding dress
- Collections:
  - ✓ baseball cards or other collectible cards
  - ✓ coins
  - ✓ figurines
  - ✓ music boxes
  - ✓ other unique collections that are antique, heirloom or sentimental
  - ✓ records
  - ✓ stamps
- Cook and Bake Ware:
  - ✓ antique
  - ✓ collectibles
  - ✓ heirlooms
- Furniture: (NOTE: It may not be possible to evacuate large pieces of furniture without extra help.)
  - ✓ antiques
  - ✓ heirlooms
- Holiday Decorations:
  - ✓ Christmas ornaments that are antique, collectibles, handmade, heirlooms or sentimental
  - ✓ Other antique, collectibles, handmade, heirloom or sentimental holiday decorations
- Hope Chest or Steamer Trunk:
  - ✓ antique or heirloom
  - ✓ empty chest can be used to store treasured to be evacuated
- Jewelry:
  - ✓ antiques
  - ✓ broches
  - ✓ engagement/wedding rings
  - ✓ favorite pieces worn often
  - ✓ heirloom pieces
  - ✓ watches (wrist and pocket)
- Letters:
  - ✓ correspondence to family from war zone
  - ✓ family history heirlooms
  - ✓ love letters heirlooms

- Musical Instruments:
  - ✓ collectible, heirloom original sheet music
- Photos:
  - ✓ Will be addressed separately as these are the high priority for most people.
- Recipes:
  - ✓ originals passed down by generations
- Religious:
  - ✓ antiques
  - ✓ heirlooms
- Tools:
  - ✓ antique
  - ✓ collectibles
  - ✓ heirlooms
- Toys:
  - ✓ action figures that are antique, collectibles, handmade, heirlooms or sentimental
  - ✓ antiques
  - ✓ collectibles
  - ✓ dolls that are antique, collectibles, handmade, heirlooms or sentimental
  - ✓ stuffed animals that are antique, collectibles, favorite, handmade, heirlooms or sentimental
  - ✓ train sets that are antique, collectibles, heirlooms or sentimental
- Weapons:
  - ✓ guns that are antique, collectibles or sentimental
  - ✓ knives that are antique, collectibles or sentimental
  - ✓ swords that are antique, collectibles or sentimental

It's not possible to include everything on this list that people consider treasures, but this is a good start. As you are doing your Treasure Hunt you will probably realize there are other items to be added.

It's probably not going to be possible to take all your treasures that you identify with you when you evacuate, so you need to prioritize what is most important to least important, which is not easy. Doing this in advance of a disaster though will help ensure you make the best decisions.

During the evacuation, try and protect your treasures, especially if they have a high financial value. These items, you might want to move to a safe location during fire season. If so, consider getting a small storage unit or arrange with family or friends, that would not likely be affected by the same disasters as you, to keep these items until it is safe to bring them home again. Something to also consider is that if you have to store your evacuated items in your car, be sure the car is locked and kept in a location where you can keep an eye on it, so no one breaks into the car and steals what is inside.

If you only have one chance to get your treasures out of your home because roadblocks will prevent you from returning, you will need to prioritize by value and how much space you have in a vehicle or trailer. Having totes, suitcases or cardboard boxes ready to fill with treasures will make moving them easier. Pillowcases can also be used for non-breakable items. After you finish your treasure hunt and have an idea of how much "stuff" you want to evacuate you will have a good idea of how many transport containers you will need. Get these now and save them specifically for an evacuation.

**NOTE: What is MOST IMPORTANT, when faced with having to evacuate, is getting people and animals to safety first.**