

# Emergency Classifications

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission established four emergency classifications for nuclear power plants: Notification of Unusual Event, Alert, Site Area Emergency and General Emergency.

A **Notification of Unusual Event** is the least serious of the four classifications and poses no risk to area residents. This classification indicates a minor problem exists, but a release of radioactive material is not likely. Due to strict federal regulations, any event out of the ordinary is reported to federal, state and local authorities.

An **Alert** is declared when an event has occurred that could reduce the level of safety at the plant, but back-up plant systems are available. Emergency agencies are notified and asked to stay in touch, but no action by the public is necessary. A release of radioactive material is not likely.

A **Site Area Emergency** is a more serious event and declared when there is a problem with plant safety systems. There is a potential for release of small amounts of radioactivity into the air or water in the area around the plant.

A **General Emergency** is the most severe classification and is declared when an event at the plant has caused a loss of several safety systems that could lead to radioactive material being released outside the plant. County, state and federal officials are notified at each emergency classification and would take action to protect the health and safety of the public near the plant. Officials will work closely with plant personnel to respond to the emergency and will keep you informed of protective actions you should take.

# Coffey County Subzone Map

During an emergency, the 10-mile radius around nuclear power plants is defined by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission as the plume exposure pathway emergency planning zone (EPZ).

This area of Coffey County is divided into 22 subzones as depicted on the map. The 10-Mile EPZ map can be found by scanning the Wolf Creek QR code below or visiting the website at [wolfcreeknuclear.com/location](http://wolfcreeknuclear.com/location). Print outs of the 10-Mile EPZ and evacuation instructions can be picked up at the Coffey County Emergency Management Office.

Take a moment to identify the subzone where your home is located and the route you would take if directed to evacuate to either of the reception centers below:

## Reception Center Locations:

**Lyon County Reception Center**  
Hartford High School  
100 Commercial St.  
Hartford, Kansas 66854

**Woodson County Reception Center**  
Woodson County Rural Fire Station  
809 W. Mary Street  
Yates Center, Kansas 66783

## Scan the QR codes for additional information.

### Coffey County Emergency Management:



[coffeycountyks.org/234/  
Emergency-Management](http://coffeycountyks.org/234/Emergency-Management)

### Wolf Creek Preparedness:

*Para la traducción al español,  
escanee el código QR*



[evergy.com/landing/wolf-creek-  
nuclear-generating-station](http://evergy.com/landing/wolf-creek-nuclear-generating-station)



# 2026 Wolf Creek Emergency Planning Information

**To our neighbors, friends and visitors,** the health and safety of the residents and visitors to Coffey County is our top priority. Wolf Creek Nuclear Generating Station has been a part of the Coffey County community for more than 30 years. During that time, Coffey County, the State of Kansas and Wolf Creek Nuclear Operating Corporation have worked together to continually update and test the radiological emergency preparedness plan. Each year, plans are reviewed and tested. Biennially, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission and the Federal Emergency Management Agency evaluate these plans. Hundreds of WCNOC, state and county employees are involved in these evaluations. All of this is done to ensure that you will be safe in case of an emergency at Wolf Creek Generating Station.

Wolf Creek Generating Station is located in Coffey County, Kansas, about four miles northeast of Burlington. The plant is about 55 miles south of Topeka, 90 miles southwest of Kansas City and 120 miles northeast of Wichita.

An emergency at Wolf Creek, although unlikely, is possible. Fuel in a nuclear plant cannot produce a nuclear explosion; however, it is possible for nuclear power plants to malfunction. A problem with pumps, valves, or pipes inside the plant may cause it to stop operating properly. If problems escalate, it is possible that radioactive material may be released to the environment.



# How will you be told about an emergency?

If an emergency is declared at Wolf Creek, residents will be alerted via the Integrated Public Alert and Warning System (IPAWS) through the emergency alert system (EAS) and wireless emergency alerts (WEA). EAS messages are disseminated via television and radio stations. WEA messages are disseminated to smart mobile phone-enabled devices. IPAWS is activated by the Coffey County Public Notification System. IPAWS sends alerts and notifications to people within the Emergency Planning Zone using a variety of means such as cell phone text messages, wireless alert system, NOAA weather radios, satellite radio and TV, AM/FM radios and social media. The Coffey County Public Notification System is a telephone system that enables Coffey County to provide residents with critical information quickly. Route alerting is the back-up alert notification system and is performed under the direction of the Highway Department.

## Emergency Alert Broadcast Stations

Emergency alert broadcasts are carried on the Emergency Alert System. These area radio and TV stations broadcast EAS messages:

FM Radio	AM Radio	Television
WIBW 94.5*	WIBW 580	WIBW-TV (Ch. 13)
KSNP 97.7	KOFO 1220	KOAM-TV (Ch. 7)
KFFX 104.9	KVOE 1400	
KMXN 92.9		

*\*Primary EAS station - broadcasts 24 hours a day*

# Emergency actions you might need to take

You may be asked to shelter in place, protect your breathing or evacuate.

If told to shelter-in-place, go inside your house or other building. Stay inside until radio or TV broadcasts report you can leave safely. Close windows and doors. Turn off outside sources of air (attic fans, window fans). Turn heating and air conditioning systems off. Put out fires in fireplaces or stoves. Close flues. Listen to an emergency broadcast radio or television station for updates. Keep pets inside.

If told to protect your breathing, cover your nose and mouth with a dampened handkerchief folded into eight layers, or towel folded into at least two layers.

If told to evacuate, leave your house as you would if leaving for a few days. Take essentials such as medications, eyeglasses, extra clothes, bedding, towels, dentures, toiletries, baby supplies, checkbook, credit cards, identification and other important documents. Tie a white cloth to the outside of your front door if you live in town, or your mailbox if you live in the county to let officials know that you have evacuated. If you need a ride, call **620-364-2441**.

The subzone map identifies the 22 subzones around the plant. When you evacuate, check in at the designated Reception Center. This helps emergency officials and family members find you and know you are safe. Notify the facility staff if you need medical care or special help. Directions will be provided at the reception center for those who need shelter.

**Lyon County Reception Center** is located at Hartford High School, 100 Commercial St., Hartford KS.

**Woodson County Reception Center** is located at 809 West Mary St, Yates Center, KS.

Other routes may be preferred depending on a given situation, location or road conditions. If you encounter an obstruction in an evacuation route, follow the posted detour or directions of emergency workers.

Both reception centers provide monitoring, registration and evacuee decontamination if needed. Officials at the reception center will guide you through the monitoring process.

As you leave your home, check on neighbors and friends to make sure they are aware of the emergency. Patients in hospitals and residents in nursing homes will be taken to Emporia. Listen to area radio and television for exact housing locations. Coffey County prisoners will be taken to Emporia and housed in appropriate facilities.

Children in public school will be taken to the appropriate Reception Center. Private schools, day care providers and babysitters should have evacuation plans that they communicate to parents in case if an emergency at Wolf Creek.

Provisions will be made for the monitoring and decontamination of service animals and household pets at each reception center.

## Should you use the phone?

During emergencies, phone lines and cellular systems are needed for official business. Only use your telephone or cellular phone in case of an emergency. If you need specific information on what safety measures you should take, call the Public Inquiry Team at **833-723-3800**.