

Frequently Asked Questions Regarding January 25 – 26 Escorted Temporary Access Visits

Q1: I am the property owner or resident in the access area, but can I bring a guest with me to access my property? Should I bring children?

A1: Due to anticipated demand and limited escort presence (15-person vans), we are requesting that only property owners or residents visit their home at this time. The Sheriff's Office will require proof of address at the escort check point.

Please confirm that your property is within a temporary access area within the exclusion zone by entering your address in the interactive map.

We recommend that children do not attend a first inspection. In addition to safety concerns on the property, returning home for the first time may be emotionally overwhelming and you may wish to prepare yourself before returning with your children.

Q2: What should I wear to access my property?

A2: Please dress in clothing that will provide full skin protection from mud and other anticipated site hazards, including rubber boots, long pants and long sleeves. You should bring a change of shoes for the return shuttle after your property inspection to avoid tracking mud into the shuttles. You may also consider additional protective clothing such as nitrile gloves, a N-95 respirator mask, goggles, or a water-repellent coverall, although these materials will be available at the check point stations. Please wear these items for your own protection.

Q3: What resources will be available at the check point stations?

A3: There will be restrooms with handwashing stations, bottled water, Nitrile gloves, Tyvek suits, N-95 respirator masks, and goggles. We will not be providing boots. Sheriff's staff will coordinate the checkpoints and will drive the shuttle vehicles through the exclusion zone. Support staff will be present onboard, and will include mental health counselors and may include nonprofit staff.

Q4: How long can I stay at my property? If my home appears habitable, can I remain?

A4: The January 25-26 escorts are for temporary access only, within the two-hour time frame provided for the designated Area you are visiting. This access is for inspection only, until repopulation is authorized.

Q5: Why can't I stay in my home?

A5: We understand that you want to return to your home. However, it is currently still in a mandatory exclusion area due to hazards including debris. It will be patrolled by Sheriff's Office staff. Rest assured that you will be notified as soon as it is safe for you to return to your home.

Q6: What should I bring with me? Can I plan to transport my personal belongings into or out of my home?

A6: We recommend bringing any materials necessary (e.g., camera, notepad) to document your property after the storm, such as damages sustained for purposes of insurance or disaster claims. Due to space limitations in the escort vehicles, please limit belongings to one personal item that you can carry by your feet or on your lap, such as a tote bag.