



Coconino County Sheriff's Office

MEDIA RELEASE

Sheriff Bill Pribil

For Immediate Release
Contact: Gerry Blair, 928-226-5089

Date: June 19, 2006 9:30 a.m.

Brins Mesa Fire Evacuation Update

Flagstaff, Az. – Due to the Brins Mesa fire currently burning in the Sedona area, Oak Creek Canyon residents located north of Indian Gardens have been evacuated to the Flagstaff area or are staying with family and friends in other locations. For those evacuees who relocated to the Flagstaff area, a staging area has been set up by the Coconino County Sheriff's Office at Fort Tuthill. Officers will be available to escort residents to their homes to pick up **emergency medical supplies and pets only**, and everyone's cooperation and understanding during this limited reentry period is appreciated.

Fort Tuthill is located three miles south of Flagstaff at Exit 337, and directional signs are set up at the entrance road to direct evacuees to the Pima Ramada. Citizens are encouraged to

There are several road closures as a result of the fire. All roads leading into Oak Creek Canyon are currently closed. These include Schnebly Hill Road and F.S. Road #237 at Kachina Village. Highway 89A is closed both north and south of Oak Creek Canyon. The highway is closed at Forest Highlands on the north end and in uptown Sedona at Highway 89 on the south end. The highway will remain closed throughout today and the closure will be reevaluated this evening.

The American Red Cross shelter, located at the NAU Field House remains open for the fire evacuees.

If citizens have fire-related questions or concerns, they may call the U. S. Forest Service fire information line at (928) 226-4601, or log on to www.coconinoforest.us for fire updates. For information on the Fort Tuthill staging area and the NAU Field House evacuation center, call Coconino County Sheriff/Flagstaff Police dispatch at (928) 774-4523.

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