

Volcano Evacuation Routes

What You Need to Know

What do the signs mean?

Volcano evacuation route signs are located throughout the city of Auburn to direct you to the quickest and safest routes to travel to high ground in the event of an impending flood or volcanic mudflow.

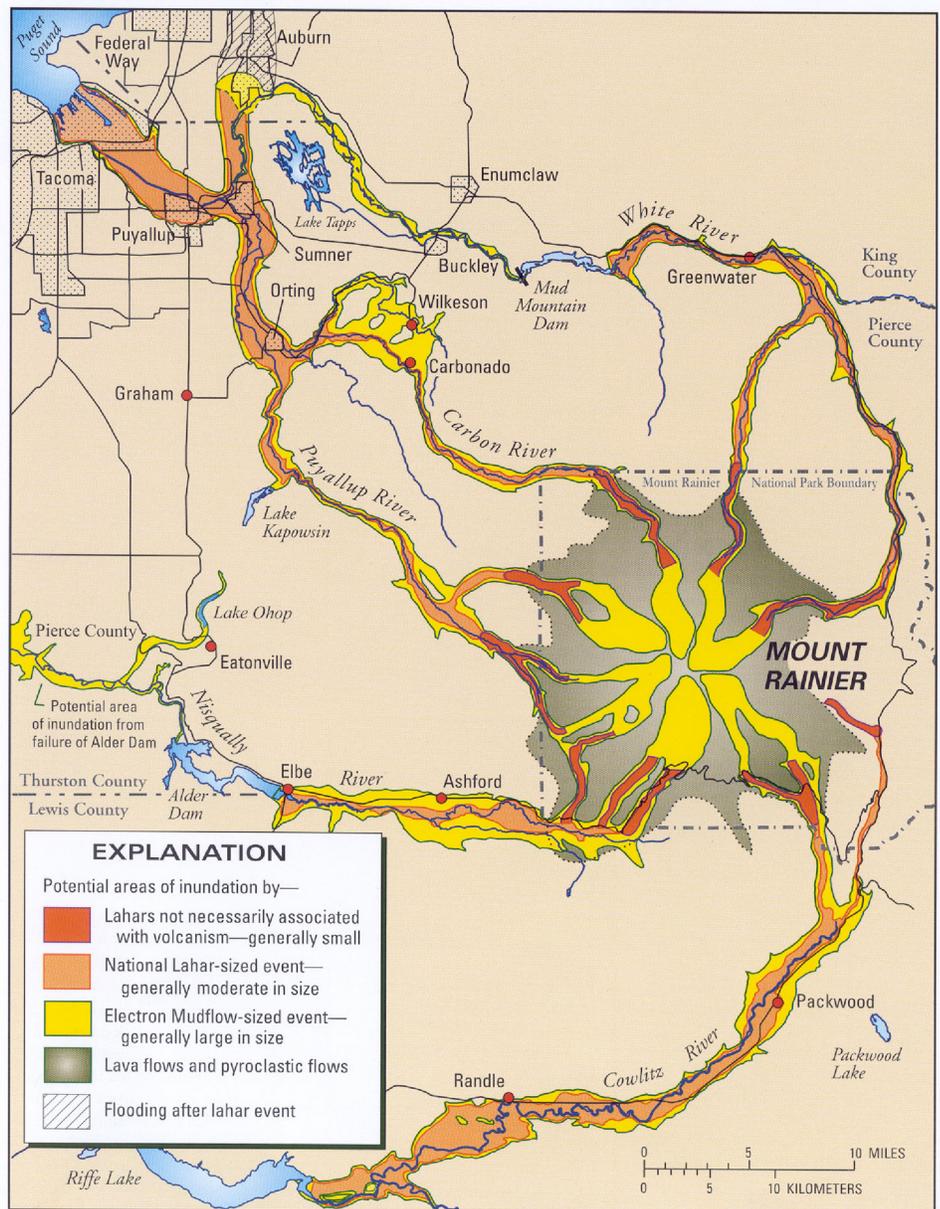
What is the Threat?

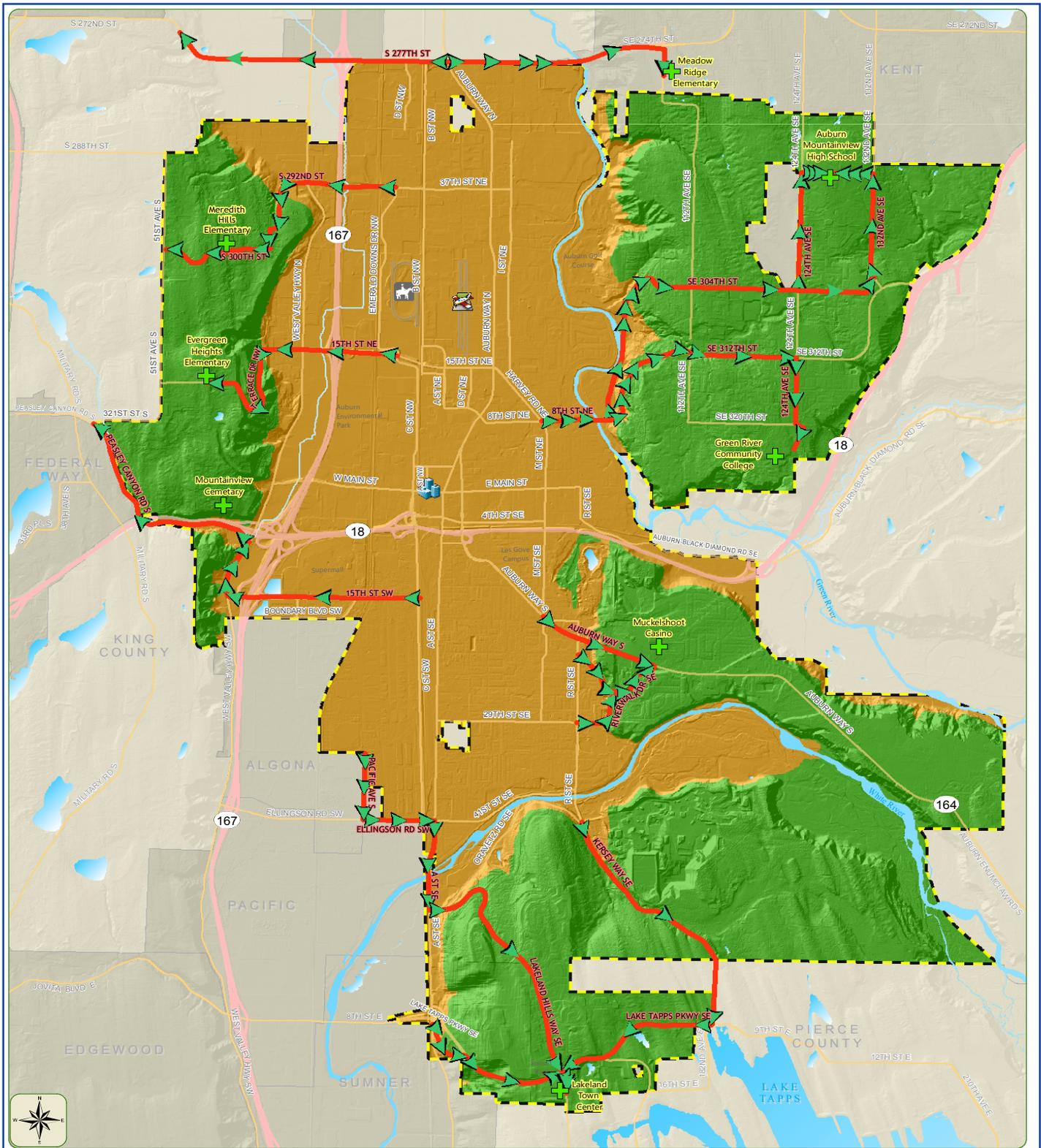
According to the United States Geological Survey (USGS), Mount Rainier is an active volcano that is currently at rest between eruptions. Its next eruption might produce volcanic ash, lava flows, or pyroclastic flows (hot lava fragments and gas). Pyroclastic flows can rapidly melt snow and ice, producing lahars (volcanic mudflows) that travel down valleys beyond the base of the volcano. Lahars can also be caused by large landslides on the mountain. Lahars look and behave like flowing concrete, at times traveling 50 miles per hour.

At Mount Rainier, lahars are a greater hazard than other volcanic products such as lava and poisonous gases popularized by TV and film. The map shows areas that could be affected if events similar in size to those of the past occurred today. Lahar hazard is not equal in all valleys. The Puyallup valley is the most susceptible to lahars caused by large landslides or a flank collapse on the volcano. As you can see on the map, the city of Auburn is located on the northernmost fringe of the inundation area, and may be affected by a lahar, although the impact will be much less than what is expected in the Orting and Puyallup areas.

How Much Time Do I Have to Evacuate?

According to estimates from the USGS, Auburn residents have approximately 1.6 hours from the first warning to evacuate in the event of a severe lahar. The short time period will necessitate walking to higher ground, as roads will become blocked by debris and traffic. You can familiarize yourself with the evacuation routes near your home and workplace by following the blue and white "Volcano Evacuation Route" signs nearest your home and business. Map on reverse.





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|-------------------|---------------------------|------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------|
| Evacuation | Points of Interest | Hydrology | Political Boundaries | Transportation |
| Safety Locations | Auburn Municipal Airport | Streams | City of Auburn | Arterials |
| Evacuation Routes | City Hall | Lakes and Rivers | Surrounding Cities | Highways |
| Evacuation Zone | Emerald Downs | | King and Pierce Counties | |
| Safe Zone | | | | |

CITY OF AUBURN WASHINGTON

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Information shown is for general reference purposes only and does not necessarily represent exact geographic or cartographic data as mapped. The City of Auburn makes no warranty as to its accuracy.

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