When Do I Evacuate?

Anyone who lives or works in a high-rise building should understand when it is time to evacuate. This is part of your R.A.C.E./P.A.S.S. procedures.

Evacuate your floor when a large fire beyond the capability of a fire extinguisher is discovered, or when it is determined that the floor you occupy is the reported fire floor or floor above. Evacuation is primarily via your closest exit but you should know all your exits in case an alternative route is needed. If possible, you should evacuate via a stairwell that is distant from the fire location.

Fire Response Teams (FRT) respond to all fire alarms and will make announcements if the building has a PA system. If your building does not have a PA system or if a fire alarm announcement is not forthcoming, the decision to evacuate must be based on conditions encountered. If in doubt, you should evacuate and call the Public Safety desk at 212-305-7979 from a safe location.

For CUMC dormitories: The entire building must evacuate during a fire alarm.

IN CASE OF EMERGENCY
Call Public Safety at 212-305-7979 and 911

For questions, please contact:
CUMC: cumcfiresafety@columbia.edu
Morningside: firesafety@columbia.edu
Environmental Health & Safety: fire-life@columbia.edu