

Plan Ahead for Disasters and Evacuations

August 26, 2021

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In the wake of the horrendous continuing California fires, we thought it was timely to remind everyone to plan ahead for disasters and evacuations.

While serving as a neighborhood Block Captain training for evacuations, I share two specific checklists to better prepare for future emergencies. <u>Fire Safe Marin</u> and <u>Essential Documents for Emergency Evacuations</u>.

Here are additional suggestions and resources to help you prepare your home, family, and business to deal with disasters and emergencies:

- 1. Make a plan. Talk to family, friends and employees now about what you'll do before, during and after a natural disaster.
- 2. Stock up on food and water, for at least 3-7 days. Store at least one gallon of water per person per day.
- 3. Make sure you have a manual can opener.
- 4. Walk around your home to evaluate other needed protective measures around roof, doors or landscaping. Take "before" pictures of your home for insurance purposes.



- 5. Prune dead limbs or limbs hanging over homes.
- 6. Fuel up your vehicle and set aside extra cash.
- 7. Sign up to receive emergency notifications from your county's emergency management: visit Opt In CodeRED OnSolve
- 8. Be sure all prescription medications have been refilled.
- 9. Get the Federal Emergency Management Agency's <u>FEMA mobile app</u> now to receive weather warnings for up to five locations plus disaster, aid, and shelter information.
- 10. Sign up to receive SMS text and email alerts from the National Weather Service and see their suggested weather apps to stay informed.
- 11. Smartphones enabled with the Wireless Emergency Alert (WEA) public safety system will receive emergency alerts for severe weather, disasters, and national emergencies automatically.
- 12. Find government resources to get help if you or a family member is caught in a disaster or crisis while traveling or living outside the U.S. Websites to visit: Ready.gov, USA.gov, ReadyMarin.org
- 13. Build a Kit or Mini Survival Kits.
- 14. For our furry friends, ReadyPets.

If you know of anyone who has been affected by the California fires, we have information that may be of help to them.

My staff and I deeply appreciate the continuing opportunity to work with you. Please let me know if you have any questions or requests. Thank you.

Sincerely,

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