A quarterly newsletter

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## **Power Outages - Be Prepared**



Extended power outages may impact the whole community and the economy. A power outage may: Disrupt communications, water and transportation. Close retail businesses, grocery stores, gas stations, ATM's banks and other services. Cause food spoilage and water contamination. Prevent use of medical devices.

**Protect** yourself during a power outage. Keep freezers and refrigerators closed to keep food cold. Use a generator, but ONLY outdoors and away from windows. Do not use a gas stove and ovens to heat your home. Turn off or disconnect appliances and electronics to avoid damage from electrical surges.

**Prepare NOW!** Make a plan for medical devices and refrigerated medicines. Plan for batteries and other alternatives to meet your needs when the power goes out. Install carbon monoxide detectors with battery backup in central locations on every level of your home. Determine if your home phone will work in a power outage. Have flashlights with extra batteries for every household member. Have enough nonperishable food and water. Keep mobile phones charged and car and generator gas tanks full.

## Prepare for Wildfires - Alert & Emergency Source Readiness



When emergencies strike, public safety officials use systems to alert you. Evacuate immediately if authorities tell you to do so! If you are not ordered to evacuate but smoky conditions exist, stay inside.

**Wireless Emergency Alerts** are ways public safety officials can quickly and effectively alert the public to serious emergencies. WEA's

look like text messages but are designed to get your attention with a unique sound and vibration repeated twice. The alert will include type and time of the alert, any action you should take and the agency issuing the alert. No registration required.

**Emergency Alert System** is a national public warning system that allows the president to address the American people within 10 minutes during a national emergency and may be used by state and local authorities to deliver important emergency information such as weather information, imminent threats, AMBER alerts and local incident information targeted to specific area. No registration required.

## Links to Local/City/State Alerts:

Nixle Alerts: www.nixle.com

Cal Fire Alerts: www.readyforwildfire.org

American Red Cross: www.redcross.org

SoCo Emergency: www.socoemergency.org

Alert Wildfire North Bay Cameras: www.alertwildfire.org/northbay

City of Santa Rosa Emergency Readiness: www.srcity.org/2558/preparedness-resources

## **Evacuation Readiness**



**Go Bag Ready**: Clothes, medications/list of medications, pet food/list of medications, cell phone charger cord, extra set of keys to auto's/ storage units/RV's, flashlights and batteries, sanitizer/hand wipes, N95 mask, original documents (passports, birth certificates, etc.)

Digital Ready: At least once a year, take photos or videos of your home, garage, closets, landscaping. Open drawers and cabinets. Store pictures/video in the cloud for future inventory records. Back up your pictures to cloud. Keep cell phone batteries charged. Store critical documents and back up computer/laptop contents to cloud. Ensure contacts are backed up to the cloud on a routine basis.

Car Ready: Maintain gas level in your car; recommend maintaining at least 1/2 tank. Know how to manually release your garage door and open it if the power is out. Keep car keys, wallet, purse, and go bag easily accessible to grab quickly in the event of an evacuation. Know your evacuation routes out of the neighborhoods.

<u>House Ready</u>: Purchase a battery-powered or hand-crank radio, keep flashlight and low-heeled shoes by bed, locate and learn how to turn off gas with a wrench. Keep wrench nearby. Store enough non-perishable food for 3-7 days per person and 1 gallon of water per person per day is recommended.

**Evacuation Ready:** Households/families; designate a safe meeting spot away from the house during an evacuation in case of separation. Map out evacuation routes. Identify out-of-town friend/relative as your "emergency family check-in contact" for everyone to call if the family gets separated. Install a lockbox with an extra house key; this will allow a trusted neighbor to access your home if you are away and have pets or seniors in the house that might need assistance.

Talk to the professionals at Firebrand Safety Systems today to learn more about power generation, fire prevention and Firebrand Emergency **GO KITs**. Call 707-303-7270.

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