

City of Santa Barbara



Get Ready Santa Barbara! Send a Message in 2010, Be Prepared

Volume 1, Issue 1

January 2010

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Upcoming Issue:

- What is Mitigation?
- Flooding Hazards

2010 Upcoming Topics

January

Have a plan

February

Check it Out-
Mitigation

March

Secure it
Now!

April

Is Your Place
Safe?

May

Lend a Hand-
Volunteerism

June

Fire Safety

Have a Plan

Create an Emergency Plan

Does everyone in your household know what to do when the violent shaking of a major earthquake begins or during an event when your family is separated? Before the next disaster, get together with your family or housemates to plan what each person will do before, during and after a disaster.

Once a disaster is over, there could be a risk of fire, potential lack of utilities and basic services, and other following emergencies like aftershocks. By planning now, you will be ready for the variety of incidents or emergencies that could occur.

Many government agencies, schools, and businesses have plans for various types of disasters and other emergencies. The City of Santa Barbara's Emergency Operations Plan is online at www.santabarbaraca.gov/Resident/OES.

Your family needs to have an emergency plan too. The safety and well-being of your loved ones are important, so take time **NOW** to develop an emergency plan. If you've already developed a plan, take time now to review and update it.



THINGS TO INCLUDE IN YOUR EMERGENCY PLAN:

- Have two places to meet in the event of a family fire or evacuation.
 - Right outside your home for sudden emergencies or
 - Outside your neighborhood if you cannot not return home
- Have an out-of-state emergency contact for family members to call in a disaster.
- Identify the needs of those with special situations, like use of walker or medication.
- Plan ahead for pets
- Keep copies of essential documents, like identification and insurance documents in a water-proof container
- Have a disaster kit (see page 2)

Helpful Disaster Preparedness Websites for Creating an Emergency Plan

- **Know Your Neighborhood's Risk to Earthquakes, Floods, Wildfires and Tsunami** - <http://myhazards.calema.ca.gov> California Emergency Management Agency (CalEMA)
- **Have a Plan that Fits Your Family's Needs** - www.californiavolunteers.org/familyplan/index.html
- **Make a Kit** - www.sbredcross.org American Red Cross Santa Barbara County Chapter
- **Learn More about Business, Child, and Individual Preparedness & Response Steps** - www.ready.gov

Local Disaster History

JANUARY

- La Conchita Landslide ▪
▪ January 10, 2005 ▪
- Landslide killed 10 people and destroyed or seriously damaged 36 homes
- Occurred at the end of a 15-day period of near-record rainfall
- 101 Highway North and South Bound were closed between Ventura and Santa Barbara for one week
- Similar slide occurred in area in 1995

- Northridge Earthquake ▪
▪ January 17, 1994 ▪

- 6.7 magnitude earthquake
- Felt for over 2,000 square miles
- Injured over 12,000 people
- Caused more than \$40 billion in damage
- Resulted in loss of power in parts of Santa Barbara for more than 8 hours
- Largest earthquake to hit Southern California since 1971
- 11th largest earthquake to be recorded in California since 1769

Disaster Focus: 1969 Oil Spill

- Santa Barbara Channel Oil Spill ▪ January 29, 1969 ▪
- 200,000 gallons of crude oil surfaced with 800 square miles of oil spread
- 35 miles of coastline were impacted
- It took 11.5 days for oil workers to control the leaking well
- Thousands of ocean animals and over 3,500 birds were killed by the spill
- Event helped prompt the modern environmental movement and the creation of Get Oil Out! (GOO) and the Environmental Defense Center.

To learn more about the 1969 Oil Spill's impact on environmental activism, visit www.getoilout.org



Photo by Bob Duncan, obtained from Ecology Global

FACTS ABOUT OIL SPILLS

- Almost 14,000 oil spills are reported each year
- Most oil spills are contained and cleaned up by the party responsible for the spill
- The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is the lead federal response agency for oil spills occurring in inland waters and the U.S. Coast Guard leads coastal waters and deep-water port oil spill responses
- Immediately report oil or chemical spills to the National Response Center by calling 1-800-424-8802 or 9-1-1
- Prevent hazardous material from entering the ocean by recycling used motor oil, carefully fueling boats and cars, and promptly repairing leaks

Source: Environmental Protection Agency, U.S. Coast Guard

Top 10 Items for Your Disaster Kit



City of Santa Barbara
Office of Emergency Services



We're on the web!

<http://www.santabarbaraca.gov/Resident/OES>

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1. 5 day supply of non-perishable food (and manual can opener)
2. 5 day supply of bottled water (1 gallon per person per day)
3. Extra pair of clothing and sturdy shoes for each family member
4. Flashlight and extra batteries
5. First aid kit
6. Battery-powered radio
7. Wrench and other tools
8. Sleeping bag or bedding for household members
9. Important documents like identification copies, insurance policies, or financial records
10. Cash

Other Items to Include:

- Prescription and over-the-counter medications
- Extra pair of eyeglasses
- Pet supplies—food, carrier, leash
- Books and games for children
- Infant formula and diapers
- Local maps