



City of Santa Barbara



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

Volume 1, Issue 5

May 2010

In this Issue:

- Lend a Hand—Volunteerism
- Disaster Focus
- Wildland Fires and the Ready! Set! Go! Campaign
- Red Flag Fire Alerts
- Local Disaster History—Jesusita Fire

Upcoming Issue:

- Fire Safety
- Landslides
- 1925 Santa Barbara Earthquake
- 1990 Painted Cave Fire

2010 Upcoming Topics



Lend a Hand - Volunteerism

Many local non-profit organizations assist the response efforts during a disaster. Please read more to learn how their volunteers contribute to disaster preparedness, response, and recovery.

American Red Cross is primarily known for running shelters for those evacuated and displaced during disasters, but in reality Red Cross volunteers do a lot more. The local Santa Barbara County Chapter also responds to single family fire events, assists clients with long-term recovery needs, and better prepares the community through disaster preparedness presentations and training. To learn more about the Red Cross, please visit www.sbredcross.org.



Direct Relief International works with international and community health centers, including clinics in Santa Barbara, Goleta, and Isla Vista to provide donated medical supplies. They have distributed over \$175,000,000 worth of medical supplies to clinics nationwide.



Santa Barbara Medical Reserve Corps (SB MRC) is a local unit of the national voluntary program that trains, equips, and organizes volunteer medical and public health professionals for medical emergency response during a local disaster.



Santa Barbara County Voluntary Organizations Active in Disasters (VOAD) is a convening body that assists communication and coordination effort of local non-profit organizations that play a role in disasters, like Unity Shoppe, Food Bank of Santa Barbara County, and the Salvation Army.



Thank You, Thank You, Thank You!

Thank you so much to the Santa Barbara City Fire Department and OES's wonderful volunteers!

*Matt McBride, Adrian Topete
Matt Hayes, Mike Medina and
Diego Topete*

Thank you to the Red Cross volunteers for their fantastic help during the City's Fire Safety House events at area elementary schools!

*Cathy Wright, Justin Haagen,
Jan Purling, Karyn Boenker,
Micheline Perry, Trudie Reich,
Pat Burkhard, Bill Wagner,
Barbara Gutmann, Tom Dyer,
Sarah Scott, & Jill Toomey*

Thank you again! We couldn't accomplish the important public education work in our community without you.



Interested in volunteering with the City Fire Department or Office of Emergency Services?

Contact Yolanda McGlinchey, Emergency Services Manager at YMcGlinchey@SantaBarbaraCA.gov

April
Is Your Place Safe?

May
Lend a Hand—Volunteerism

June
Have an Evacuation Plan

July
Fire Safety

August
Back to School

September
Test Your Plan

Disaster Focus: Wildland Fires

Ready! Set! Go!

Santa Barbara County is very familiar with its risk to wildfire hazards. Our county makes the top 10 list of largest fires when measured by both number of structures destroyed, such as the Painted Cave Fire in June 1990 where 641 structures were lost and acreage burned, and Zaca Fire in July 2007 with 240,207 acres burned, to name a few.

Last year's Jesusita Fire demonstrated that those living within the City's boundaries are just as prone to the dangers of wildland-urban interface fires, where structures and other human development meet or intermingle with wildland, and everyone must prepare for wildland fires.

This April, Santa Barbara County initiated the **Ready! Set! Go!** campaign which encourages all Santa Barbara County residents to prepare themselves for fire season.

READY! Prepare yourself, your family and your property. Create defensible space and fire "harden" your home and property.

- [Ready! Set! Go! Personal Wildfire Action Plan](#)
- [Santa Barbara City Wildland Fire Suppression Benefit Assessment Newsletter](#)

SET! Monitor fire weather, local conditions. Have an emergency plan in place and activate it, so you are ready to evacuate if conditions worsen.

- Hazardous Weather Outlook
- Fire Watch
- Red Flag Warning—weather conditions may result in extreme burn conditions

GO! Leave early when directed to by public officials, bring your emergency kit and provide for your pets and animals.

City of Santa Barbara
Office of Emergency



We're on the web!

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

RED FLAG FIRE ALERT

Red Flag Alert is a national program used by fire agencies in cooperation with the National Weather Services (NWS) to predict weather conditions that increase the potential for large catastrophic wildfires. The NWS predicts the weather conditions and issues a Red Flag "watch" or "warning." An actual "Alert" is used by the local fire agencies.



Red Flag Alerts are issued by the local fire agencies based on specific geographic zones. There are 5 geographic zones defined in Santa Barbara County due to very different weather conditions that exist in each zone. The City of Santa Barbara is included in the front country coastal mountain zone (Zone 1).

How will I know when a Red Flag Fire Alert is issued?

- Media notifications
- Signs are posted within the high fire hazard areas
- All fire station raise a symbolic red flag on flag poles

It is important during a Red Flag Alert that you monitor your local media for information and are ready to implement your "[Personal Wildfire Action Plan.](#)"



Local Disaster History in

May 5-18, 2009

Jesusita Fire

Fire Response Facts & Statistics by CAL FIRE

Date/Time Started: May 5, 2009, 1:45pm

Date/Time Ended : May 18, 2009, 5:00pm

Location: Northwest of Mission Canyon and Santa Barbara City

Acres Burned: 8,733 acres

Structures Destroyed: 80 homes destroyed and 15 damaged, 79 outbuildings destroyed and 2 damaged, 1 commercial property destroyed

Cooperating Fire Agencies: CAL FIRE, Santa Barbara County Fire, Santa Barbara City Fire, Carpinteria Fire, Montecito Fire, Ventura County Fire

Other Agencies: US Bureau of Land Management in California, Santa Barbara County Sheriff, Santa Barbara Police, California Highway Patrol, California Conservation Corps, City and County Office of Emergency Services

Total Fire Personnel: 189 Total

Engines: 11 Engines

Helicopters: 2 Helicopters

Costs to Date: \$20 million



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