



City of Santa Barbara



Get Ready Santa Barbara! Stay informed in 2011

Volume 2, Issue 2

February 2011

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Upcoming Issue in March 2011



CERTS, it's not just a candy anymore! So, what are CERTS if not a candy? Do you know what it means to be a part of CERTs. Next month we will discuss what CERTs are and how you can possibly become one!

2011 Upcoming Topics

February
Pet Preparedness

March
CERT
What is it?

April
Fact or Myths
Earthquakes

May
What is AFN?

June
Fact or Myths
Fire

July
How to survive
the Summer

Pet Preparedness

Whether it's Fluffy, Spike, or Bob the lizard, they are a part of our families and therefore should be part of our disaster planning. Listed below are a few helpful hints to make sure your pets are taken care of before a disaster.

1. Have a safe place to take your pets—Most shelters do not accept pets, only service animals. Be sure to check hotels and motels in the area and see if any are pet friendly. Also, check local boarding facilities or veterinarians that board animals. This is especially useful if you know a disaster is approaching.
2. Assemble a portable pet disaster supply kit to include—Medications and medical records (stored in a waterproof container), a first aid kit, sturdy leashes, harnesses, and/or carriers to transport pets safely and also to ensure your animals can't escape. In addition, kits should include, food, potable water, bowls, cat litter/pan, and can opener. Information on feeding schedules, medical conditions, behavior problems, and the name and number of your veterinarian in case you have to foster or board your pets. Pet beds and toys, if easily transportable, should be included as well.
3. Caring for Birds in an Emergency—Birds should be transported in a secure travel cage or carrier and have a photo for identification and leg bands. In cold weather, wrap a blanket over the carrier and warm up the car before placing birds inside. During warm weather, carry a plant mister to mist the birds' feathers periodically. For food provide a few slices of fresh fruits and vegetables with high water content.

About Other Pets

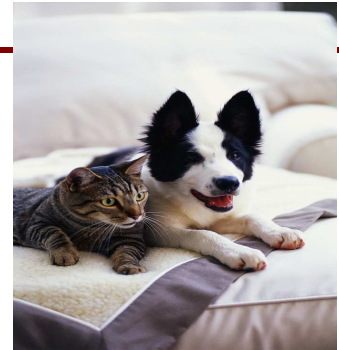
Reptiles—Snakes can be transported in a pillowcase but they must be transferred to more secure housing when they reach the evacuation site. If your snakes require frequent feedings, carry food with you. Take a water bowl large enough for soaking as well as a heating pad. When transporting house lizards, follow the same directions as for birds.

Pocket Pets—Small mammals (hamsters, gerbils, etc.) should be transported in secure carriers suitable for maintaining the animals while sheltered. Take bedding materials, food bowls, and water bottles.

Some of the information above obtain from the Florida SERT

For more information here are some helpful links.

<http://www.aspca.org/pet-care/disaster-preparedness/>



Disaster Trivia

Every month we will have a series of disaster related trivia questions. Check your disaster IQ, before you check the answers at the bottom.

1. What did San Francisco experience in 1906?
 - a. Pandemic
 - b. Flood
 - c. Earthquake
2. In September of 1955, what disaster hit Los Angeles?
 - a. Riots
 - b. Drought
 - c. Earthquake
3. What is significant about the eye of a cyclone?
 - a. It's the most destructive part
 - b. It's the calmest part
 - c. The part with the highest pressure
4. A hurricane or Tornado is also known in some Asian Countries as:
 - a. Tai Chi
 - b. Typhoid
 - c. Typhoon
5. On December 26, 2004 a Tsunami killed over 225,000 people, which ocean did it originate from:
 - a. Pacific
 - b. Indian
 - c. Atlantic

1. c 2. b 3. b 4. c 5. b

Resilience: Principles of Sustainability



The concept of sustainability is based on the premise that people and their communities are made up of social, economic, and environmental systems that are in constant interaction and that must be kept in harmony or balance if the community is to continue to function to the benefit of its inhabitants—now and in the future. A healthy, balanced society (or nation, or community, depending on the strength of one’s magnifying glass) is one that can endure into the future, providing a decent way of life for all its members—it is a sustainable society. Sustainability is an ideal toward which to strive and against which to weigh proposed actions, plans, expenditures, and decisions. It is a way of looking at a community or a society or a planet in the broadest possible context, in both time and space.

Although it adopts a broad perspective, in practice the pursuit of sustainability is fundamentally a local endeavor because every community has different social, economic, and environmental needs and concerns. And in each community the quality, quantity, importance, and balance of those concerns is unique (and constantly changing). For that reason—and because the best mitigation efforts also tend to be locally based—we tend to speak of sustainability mostly in terms of local actions and decisions.

There are six principles of sustainability that can help a community ensure its social, economic, and environmental systems are well integrated and will endure. We should remember that, although the list of principles is useful, each of them has the potential to overlap and inter-relate with some or all of the others. A community or society that wants to pursue sustainability will try to:

- 1. Maintain and, if possible, enhance, its residents’ quality of life.** Quality of life—or “livability”—differs from community to community. It has many components, one town may be proud of its safe streets, high quality schools, and rural atmosphere, while another thinks that job opportunities and its historical heritage are what make it an attractive place to live. Each locality must define and plan for the quality of life it wants and believes it can achieve, for now and for future generations.
- 2. Enhance local economic vitality.** A viable local economy is essential to sustainability. This includes job opportunities, sufficient tax base and revenue to support government and the provision of infrastructure and services, and a suitable business climate.
- 3. Promote social and intergenerational equity.** A sustainable community’s resources and opportunities are available to everyone, regardless of ethnicity, age, gender, cultural background, religion, or other characteristics. Further, a sustainable community does not deplete its resources, destroy natural systems, or pass along unnecessary hazards to its great-great-grandchildren.
- 4. Maintain and, if possible, enhance, the quality of the environment.** A sustainable community sees itself as existing within a physical environment and natural ecosystem and tries to find ways to co-exist with that environment. It does its part by avoiding unnecessary degradation of the air, oceans, fresh water, and other natural systems
- 5. Incorporate disaster resilience and mitigation into its decisions and actions.** A disaster-resilient community takes responsibility for the risks it faces and, to the extent possible, is self reliant. That is, it does not anticipate that outside entities (such as federal or state government) can or will mitigate its hazards or pay for its disasters.
- 6. Use a consensus-building, participatory process when making decisions.** Participatory processes are vital to community sustainability. Such a process engages all the people who have a stake in the outcome of the decision being contemplated. It encourages the identification of concerns and issues, promotes the wide generation of ideas for dealing with those concerns, and helps those involved find a way to reach agreement about solutions. It results in the production and dissemination of important, relevant information, fosters a sense of community, produces ideas that may not have been considered otherwise, and engenders a sense of ownership on the part of the community for the final decision.

Excerpts taken from “Creating a Sustainable Community After Disaster” by Jacquelyn L. Monday

Disaster Facts What is Equine Evac

The Santa Barbara Equine Assistance and Evacuation Team, inc. (Equine Evac) is a volunteer group whose members are registered by the Office of Emergency Services as Disaster Service Workers.

Equine Evac has equipment and personnel available for large animal evacuation, temporary shelter, and emergency assistance. Members of the team have also completed the Incident Command System (ICS) course and have received the Standardized Emergency Management System (SEMS) certificate.

They conduct periodic training sessions on large animal rescue, extrication, and airlift, as well as the transporting and temporary sheltering of animals during emergencies. **All requests for emergency assistance are channeled through the Sheriff’s Dispatch (911) or Santa Barbara County Animal Services (805-681-4332) who will determine the extent of team activation.**

For more information and list of activities go to their site at <http://sbequinevac.org/>



City of Santa Barbara Office of Emergency Services



OES is on the web!

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

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Current CalEMA News

Cal EMA Introduces Exercise Support Program

The Exercise Division is proud to announce the new Cal EMA Exercise Support Program. The program is designed to support state agencies, jurisdictions and organizations in exercising multi-jurisdictional/multi-agency exercise initiatives, and high priority state issues. The Exercise Support Program can assist with a variety of discussion based exercises, such as: Seminars: An exercise that allows you to present information, or educate key stakeholders on a developed a plan, policy, or procedure. Workshops: An exercise to that help you and key stake- holders develop a plan, Tabletops: An exercise that allows you and key stake holders to exercise a plan, policy or procedure you’re familiar with, in a low stress environment. For more information about this program, please visit www.calema.ca.gov.