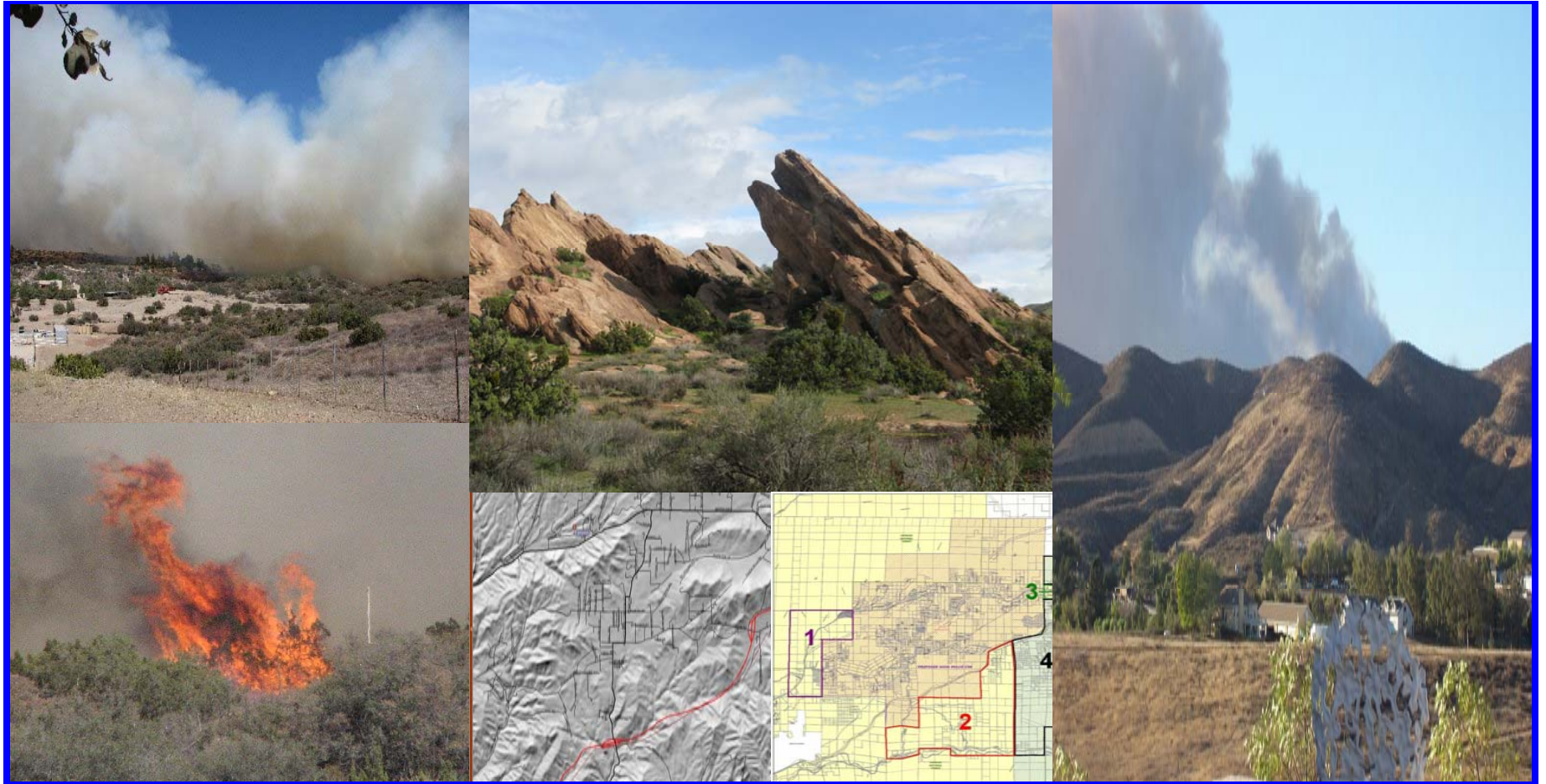


**COMMUNITY OF AGUA DULCE**

# **EMERGENCY HANDBOOK**



**A Resident's Guide for Survival**

## Foreword

This foreword acknowledges the contributions of the Agua Dulce Disaster Planning Committee members who have volunteered countless hours of their personal time to help create this emergency planning handbook for the benefit of the Agua Dulce community.

Others that have contributed during the review process include the Los Angeles County Office of Emergency Management and representatives from the Los Angeles County Sheriff, Los Angeles County Animal Care & Control and Department of Public Works. We would also like to thank Mike Metro, Assistant Fire Chief, Technical Services Division, Los Angeles County Fire Department for his comments. Contributions from Marla Stark, (Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) coordinator), Scott Griffin (Communication section contributor working in conjunction with the City of Santa Clarita), Kaye Kirkwood (Animal Preparedness contributor), Carmen Mackey (Fire Station 81 Commentary contributor) and Annette Fortuna (Team logo, artist) are acknowledged in appreciation of their work. Lastly, we would like to recognize Rosalind Wayman, (Senior Deputy for LA County Supervisor's Office 5<sup>th</sup> District), Lillian Smith (The Country Journal) and Pastor Al Detres' (Shepherd of the Hills Church of Agua Dulce) for their help and support.

The Office of Disaster Preparedness for the City of Agoura was kind enough to provide a copy of their handbook in order to give us a starting point for this publication.

It is also important to acknowledge the sponsorship of the Agua Dulce Town Council that has supported this committee from its inception.

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# **HANDBOOK INTRODUCTION**

## **PLANNING FOR THE UNEXPECTED**

In a large-scale disaster like a major earthquake or fire, first responders, such as the Fire Department, Sheriff's Department, and other authorized agencies will do everything possible to provide assistance to the residents of Agua Dulce. However, these resources may be completely overwhelmed with multiple emergencies and public safety demands. The Fire and Sheriff's Department's will need to respond in the areas where they can do the most good, helping severely endangered people first. This means that you may not get professional assistance for days after a disaster has occurred. The Red Cross has stated that local and state agency response in the wake of a large-scale disaster may take up to 72 hours. A disaster of this magnitude may leave hundreds and possibly thousands of people homeless and cause a great strain on the food, water and sheltering resources of all emergency support agencies.

The tips in this handbook are to help you prepare to be self-sufficient for a minimum of three, but preferably ten days following a disaster. In addition to this Guide, we recommend CERT training which can help you become more aware of the emergency situations where you need to prepare yourself and your family. CERT training places a priority on people first, taking care of themselves, then their family and neighbors, and finally, the general community. Becoming CERT qualified and joining your Agua Dulce CERT Disaster Response Team will help strengthen the ability of your community to recover after emergencies and disasters.

Become familiar with the tips and the resources provided in this handbook and make sure that you are prepared in advance to keep you and your family safe before, during and after a disaster.

### **DISCLAIMER**

**This information included in this booklet is for information purposes only. It is not intended to be and should not be considered legal or professional advice, nor substitute for obtaining such advice. The user bears all risks related to the use of this information, which is presented "as-is" without warranty or indemnity of any kind. The information presented here may or may not reflect the most current and should not be solely relied upon to make decisions of a substantive nature.**

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## 911...LANDLINE? CELLPHONE?

**IF AT ALL POSSIBLE, DIAL 911 FROM A LANDLINE (HOME) PHONE FOR EMERGENCIES!**



**LANDLINE CALLS TO 911 ARE ROUTED TO LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT AND IMMEDIATELY IDENTIFY YOUR LOCATION TO 911 OPERATORS.**

*Cell phone calls to 911 are routed through the California Highway Patrol and do not capture your location. Owing to the disproportionately large volume of 911 calls from cell phones, you may also experience significant delays in reaching a 911 operator. It is recommended that you program the following phone numbers into your cell phone, and use these numbers as an alternative to 911...but only when you must call from a cell phone.*

WHEN REPORTING AN EMERGENCY USING A CELL PHONE:

- GIVE YOUR CELL PHONE NUMBER TO THE 911 OPERATOR IMMEDIATELY IN CASE THE CALL IS DROPPED OR OTHERWISE LOST.
- WHEN ASKED FOR YOUR LOCATION, REPORT THE LOCATION WHERE THE INCIDENT OCCURRED.

**FOR FIRE, MEDICAL AND LIFE THREATENING EMERGENCIES, CALL 911**

FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES CALL THE PALMDALE SHERIFF'S STATION AT 661-272-2400 OR THE SANTA CLARITA SHERIFF'S STATION at 661-255-1121.

**FOR NON-EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM REFERALLS CALL 211**

Survival Tip

Never assume that someone else has called 911 when you see an emergency. In fact, the more people who call 911 to report an emergency, the better. Each call received may provide more detailed information than the previous call.

## IMPORTANT EMERGENCY CONTACTS

### IF YOU ARE REPORTING AN EMERGENCY PLEASE CALL

911

LA County Sheriff's Station – Business & Routine

Palmdale Sheriff Station

661-272-2400

[www.lasd.org/stations/for1/palmdale/index.html](http://www.lasd.org/stations/for1/palmdale/index.html)

Santa Clarita Sheriff Station

661-255-1121

<http://scvsheriff.com/>

Los Angeles County Fire Department – Business

323-881-2411

<http://fire.lacounty.gov>

CAL TRANS

800-427-7623

<http://www.dot.ca.gov/cqi-bin/roads.cqi>

### 211 LOS ANGELES COUNTY – INFORMATION & REFERRAL

211

#### Other Local Fire Dept. Numbers

California Highway Patrol

Newhall Santa Clarita

Lancaster

800-835-5247

[www.chp.ca.gov](http://www.chp.ca.gov)

Los Angeles County Department of Public Health

213-240-8144

[www.lapublichealth.org/](http://www.lapublichealth.org/)

City of Palmdale (City Hall)

661-267-5100

[www.cityofpalmdale.org/city\\_hall/](http://www.cityofpalmdale.org/city_hall/)

City of Santa Clarita (City Hall)

661-259-2489

[www.santa-clarita.com/cityhall/](http://www.santa-clarita.com/cityhall/)

American Red Cross of Los Angeles County

888-737-4306

[www.redcrossla.org](http://www.redcrossla.org)

American Red Cross – Santa Clarita

661-259-1805

American Red Cross – Antelope Valley

661-267-0650

<http://antelopevalley.redcross.org/>

Animal Care and Control Services – Castaic

661-257-3191

[www.animalcare.lacounty.gov](http://www.animalcare.lacounty.gov)

Animal Care and Control Services – Lancaster

661-940-4191

Southern California Edison Company

800-655-4555

[www.sce.com](http://www.sce.com)

Southern California Gas Company

800-427-2000

[www.socalgas.com](http://www.socalgas.com)

Department of Public Works

626-458-5100

<http://dwp.lacounty.gov>

## IMPORTANT EMERGENCY CONTACTS (Cont'd)



### **Trauma Centers:**

Antelope Valley Hospital	661-949-5000	<a href="http://www.avhospital.org">www.avhospital.org</a>
Henry Mayo Newhall Memorial Hospital	661-253-8000	<a href="http://www.henrymayo.com">www.henrymayo.com</a>
Providence Holy Cross Health Center Santa Clarita	661-288-5900	<a href="http://www.providence.org">www.providence.org</a>
Lancaster Community Hospital	661-948-4781	<a href="http://www.lancastercommunityhospital.net">www.lancastercommunityhospital.net</a>

### **CERT**

Antelope Valley	<a href="http://www.lasdavcert.com">www.lasdavcert.com</a>
Santa Clarita	<a href="http://www.santa-clarita.com/community/safety/cert.asp">www.santa-clarita.com/community/safety/cert.asp</a>
Los Angeles County	<a href="http://fire.lacounty.gov/ProgramsEvents/Cert_schedule.asp">http://fire.lacounty.gov/ProgramsEvents/Cert_schedule.asp</a>

### **Schools-Public:**

Acton/Agua Dulce Unified School Dist.	661-269-0750	<a href="http://aadusd.k12.ca.us">http://aadusd.k12.ca.us</a>
Vasquez High School	661-269-0451	<a href="http://aadusd.k12.ca.us/vhs">http://aadusd.k12.ca.us/vhs</a>
High Desert Middle School	661-269-0310	<a href="http://aadusd.k12.ca.us/hds">http://aadusd.k12.ca.us/hds</a>
Agua Dulce Elementary School	661-268-1660	<a href="http://aadusd.k12.ca.us/ades">http://aadusd.k12.ca.us/ades</a>
Meadowlark Elementary School	661-269-8140	<a href="http://aadusd.k12.ca.us/mes">http://aadusd.k12.ca.us/mes</a>

### **Schools-Private:**

Paraclete	661-943-3255	<a href="http://www.paracletehs.org">www.paracletehs.org</a>
Pinecrest (Sand Canyon)	661-298-2127	<a href="http://www.pinecrestschools.com/canyon/middleschool/middleschool.htm">www.pinecrestschools.com/canyon/middleschool/middleschool.htm</a>

## **EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS**

At any moment, Agua Dulce could be threatened by earthquake, wildfires, storms, or a disaster on the 14 freeway, rapid communication is essential to save lives, animals and property. It is important for residents of Agua Dulce to know how the County of Los Angeles will notify the community before, during and after an emergency.



You may be the first person to spot an emergency and be in position to notify authorities. This is best done through the 911 system, preferably using a landline, as described earlier. Alternatively, you may be the recipient of an emergency alert, which means you must take immediate action to protect your family, animals and property. Emergency information alerts and warning that may be disseminated in Agua Dulce include:

1. **EAS (Emergency Alert System)**

Emergency information is broadcast directly by the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department frequency. For emergency events and conditions of widespread concern, a broadcast message is disseminated to the public via radio and television stations. These are voice messages that are accompanied by scrolling text when displayed on the television screen.

2. **Physical Bulletin Board**

An Agua Dulce bulletin board is located outside the Sweetwater Farms Market. Emergency alert information will be posted on this bulletin board including updates for assembly locations, road closures and alternative road access, and other information pertinent to the emergency situation in or near Agua Dulce as supplied by Los Angeles County authorities. Notices and updates will also be posted by our local community organizations.

3. **Agua Dulce Disaster Planning Website**

Emergency information may be accessed at the website [www.addisasterplanning.com](http://www.addisasterplanning.com) which will provide emergency updates, emergency contact numbers and general information on disaster planning important to residents of Agua Dulce. Other general information will include links to websites of the City of Santa Clarita, Los Angeles County, disaster support agencies and groups, and information providing guidance for the protection of animals in the event of disaster.. The website is updated often with helpful information that will benefit the residents of Agua Dulce.

4. **Commercial Media**

Agua Dulce residents should listen to KNX 1070 AM, KFWB 980 AM, and KFI 640 AM radio stations for regional emergency alert information in the Los Angeles County area. Also tune in to KHTS 1220 AM for local Santa Clarita information and KAVL 610 AM for Antelope Valley emergency information. As a power failures may occur in an emergency, all residents are advised to keep at least one radio in each household equipped with battery power.



## EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS (Cont'd)

### 5. **Amateur Radio**

Agua Dulce is linked via amateur radio to members of the Antelope Valley Amateur Radio Club, some of whom are part of the Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES). Members communicate using their own equipment via a repeater located on Hauser Peak, above Acton. A local team (Acton-Agua Dulce) is now forming to be part of the High Desert Area which will be part of the greater Los Angeles County Disaster Communications Service (DCS). The High Desert Area DCS team will supply emergency communications to the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department and to local authorities.



### 6. **Other Communication**

In the event of a disaster in or near Agua Dulce, any or all of the following means of communications may be used

- Santa Clarita Emergency Notification System (home land-line phone notification, email & text alert)  
– sign up at [www.santa-clarita.com](http://www.santa-clarita.com) or 661-259-CITY
- Emergency broadcasts at KHTS radio 1220 AM
- Mobile emergency sirens and loudspeakers
- Door to door notification by Sheriff's Deputies or neighbors
- Mass text messaging or email
- Citizen's Band or Family radio
- Telephone trees

## FAMILY & HOME PREPAREDNESS

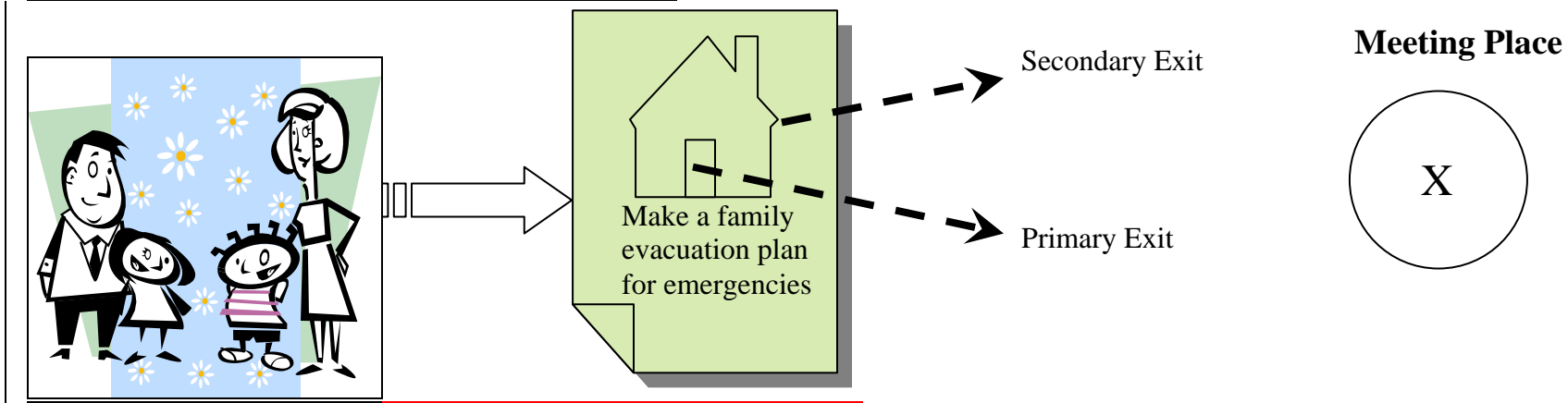


### Family Plan

The City of Santa Clarita maintains a formal disaster plan, which is designed to coordinate the emergency services provided by county, state, federal and volunteer agencies. Every effort will be made to maintain basic services to the community, but survival during a disaster depends on individual and family preparedness. A good place to begin emergency preparedness is with a family plan. Discuss and formulate a written family plan, which includes:

- Location and directions to shut off water and gas valves
- Location of emergency supplies, food and medications
- Specific individual responsibilities
- Places to meet if family members become separated
- Identify an out-of-state telephone contact
- Escape routes from the house
- How to perform basic first aid and CPR
- If purchasing a fire extinguisher, the best type is ABC, which covers combustible, liquids and electrical fires. Be sure to certify your extinguisher once a year with the Fire Department

## **FAMILY AND HOME PREPAREDNESS (cont'd)**



### **Make an Escape Plan**

When a fire occurs, there's no time for planning. Sit down with your family today and make a step-by-step plan for escaping a fire.

### **Know Two Ways Out**

Draw a diagram of your home. Plan two ways out of every room, especially the bedrooms

### **In a Two Story House**

Make sure everyone can unlock all locks and open all windows and doors quickly. If you must escape from a second-story window, be sure you have a safe way to reach the ground. Make special arrangements for small children and people with disabilities.

### **Get Out Fast!**

In case of a fire, don't stop for anything – just get out. Call the fire department from a neighbor's phone after you are out of the house.

### **Choose a Meeting-Place**

Everyone should gather at one meeting place outside, preferably at the front, where the fire department trucks will arrive. Each family member should know how to call the fire department from a neighbor's home.

## **DISASTER SUPPLY KITS**

A Disaster Supply Kit is any pre-assembled group of items that will greatly improve the health and safety of your family during a disaster. Kits can be purchased or be homemade in an endless variety of styles and sizes. They can be as small as a shaving kit for your glove compartment or as big as a 50-gallon drum filled with supplies for your business. You can have many kits, each suited to a different purpose.

**TIP:** Keep a kit in your car – usually your car is not far from wherever you are!

The American Red Cross has pre-packed 3-day kits (Deluxe Emergency Preparedness Kit) available for purchase at [www.redcross.org](http://www.redcross.org).

## **DISASTER SUPPLY KIT CONTENTS**

***At a minimum, your Disaster Supply Kit should contain the following items:***

- Agua Dulce Disaster Planning Handbook
- Water for at least (3) three but preferably (10) ten days (one gallon per person per day, minimally)**
- Food for at least (3) three but preferably (10) ten days (food bars, canned good, meals ready to eat)**
- Camping stove, cooking fuel pots and pans, heavy duty aluminum foil, paper cups, plates & plastic utensils
- Flashlights
- Portable radio
- Extra batteries
- First Aid Kit (See Next Page)
- Emergency blanket(s)
- Multi-purpose utility shutoff tool
- FRS (Family Radio Service) Radio
- Cash (small bills) and change (In an earthquake banks and ATMs may be out of service)
- Copies of essential documents. Include birth certificates, tax returns for the past two years, copies of drivers, licenses, passports, and social security cards, (copy both sides). Also include copies of deeds, vehicle titles, insurance policies, and appraisals of valuables (original documents should be in a safe deposit box).
- Extra set of car, home, and safe deposit box keys

### **Recommended Food Supplies**

**Store at least a (3) three but preferably (10) ten day supply of nonperishable food.** Select foods that require no refrigeration, preparation, or cooking with little or no water. Select food items that are compact and lightweight. Include a selection of the following foods in your disaster supply kit:

### Recommended Food Supplies (cont'd)

- Ready-to-eat canned meats, fruits and vegetables
- Canned juices, milk, soup (if powdered, store extra water)
- Staples-sugar, salt, pepper
- High-energy foods such as peanut butter, jelly, crackers, granola bars, trail mix
- Food for infants, elderly persons, or persons on special diets
- Comfort/stress foods in small amounts such as cookies, hard candy, sweetened cereals, lollipops, instant coffee, tea bags

### Kitchen Items

- Manual can opener
- All-purpose knife
- Household liquid bleach to treat drinking water
- Plastic wrap
- Re-sealing plastic bags

*In addition to these items, disaster supply kits should be personalized to include specific items needed for each person and household. Some of these items may include:*

- Prescription glasses, contact lenses & solution, denture needs
- Prescription medications – (3) three day to (10) ten day supply
- Pet food and supplies
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

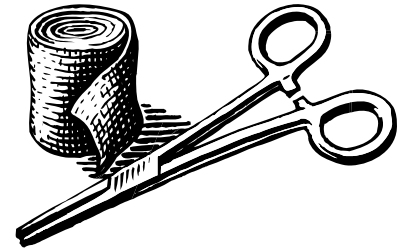
*Other items you may want to consider adding to your Disaster Supply Kit include:*

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Leather gloves  | <input type="checkbox"/> Portable toilet, toilet paper and plastic bags for human waste |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cotton clothing (jeans, T-shirts, sturdy shoes, socks, scarves, etc.) | <input type="checkbox"/> Personal hygiene items   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Crowbar   | <input type="checkbox"/> Compass  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Small tools (screwdriver, pliers, wrench, etc.)                       | <input type="checkbox"/> Sleeping Bag   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Goggles and respirator  | <input type="checkbox"/> Bolt Cutter  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Whistle   | <input type="checkbox"/> Safety Glasses   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Tool Bag for kit contents   |   |

## Basic First Aid Kit



- Disposable/sterile burn blankets
- Adhesive tapes
- Hydrogen peroxide, Betadine
- 4x4 gauze pads (sterile and non sterile), roller gauze
- Band-Aids (assortment)
- Ice packs
- Triangular bandages, ace bandages
- Eye pads
- Scissors
- Cotton balls/Q-tips/cotton applicators (12 count)
- Tweezers
- Penlight
- Thermometer
- Safety pins and sewing needles/thread
- Optional over-the-counter pain medication and digestive aid
- Anti-bacterial towelettes
- Blood-stopper compresses
- Burn ointment
- CPR shield
- Tri-biotic ointment
- Nitrile Gloves



## UTILITIES

It is imperative that all homeowners be aware of how to turn off their own utility services. Local utility companies provide the following instructions for gas, water and electrical turn off. All family members should be familiar with them. It is suggested that all shut-off valves be sprayed with red paint for easy identification in an emergency.

### Gas Shut Off

Learn how to shut off gas: (do so only in an emergency). DO NOT turn off the gas valve unless you SMELL gas or HEAR gas leaking.

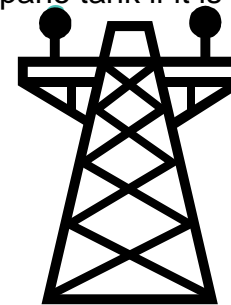
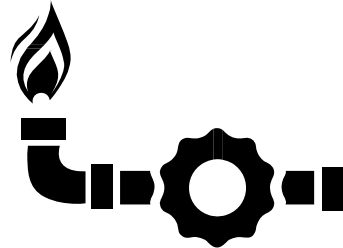
If you have "Natural Gas" (a line from the street), the main shut-off valve is located next to your meter on the inlet pipe. Use a wrench and give it a quarter turn in either direction so that the bar runs crosswise on the pipe. The line is now closed.

**Note: If you shut the gas off – you must call the Gas Company to turn it back on**

Tip: Develop a plan for your home and teach responsible members in your family how to turn off the gas

### Propane Shut Off

If you have propane (gas in a tank) Turn off the main gas supply valve on your propane tank if it is safe to do so. To close valve, turn it to the right (clockwise)



### Electricity Shut Off

Teach responsible members of your family how to turn off electricity at the main switch. This switch may be found on the circuit breaker panel or it may be separately located near the meter. Remember - do not operate any electrical switches if a gas leak is suspected.

To shut off the electricity to your home:

Turn off: Individual breakers first, then the main switch.

Turn back on: Main switch first, then individual breakers.

Disable garage door opener when electricity is turned off to avoid reopening when electrical power is restored.

## WATER

Water is essential for survival but in an emergency, may be limited or unavailable. For that reason, storing water is more important than storing food. Each Household should store enough water to last at least (3) three, but preferably (10) ten days, for all household members.

What you need :

- A normally active person needs to drink at least two quarts of water each day. Children, nursing mothers, and ill people need more.
- Store at least one gallon per person per day, for drinking and cooking
- Store water in thoroughly washed plastic, glass, or enamel-lined metal containers.
- Recycle self-stored water every six months. Recycle commercially bottled water every 12 months.

### Sources of Drinking Water

For Emergency purposes you can use water already in your water heater tank, in your plumbing, and in ice cubes. Do not use water from the reservoir tank of your toilet.

- Access the water in the water heater by opening the spigot at the bottom of the tank, attach a garden hose and strain the water through a coffee filter or clean cloth.
- Before you access the water in your plumbing locate the water inlet/shutoff valve for house, condominium or apartment and turn off the water.
- Pools, spas, waterbeds and similar sources of water can be used for sanitary purposes only. Do not drink the water from these sources.

### Water Purification

#### Ratios for Purifying Water with Bleach

(Note: After adding bleach, shake or stir the water container and let stand 30 minutes before drinking)

Water Quantity	Bleach Added
1 quart	4 Drops
1 Gallon	16 Drops
5 Gallons	1 Teaspoon
50 Gallons	10 Teaspoons



## INDIVIDUALS IN NEED OF SPECIAL ASSISTANCE



Elderly \*\* Casual workers \*\* Pregant woment or parents with newborns  
Homebound individuals \*\* Non-English-speaking individuals \*\* Post-surgery patients  
People with physical or emotional handicaps \*\* The physically impaired  
Individuals with no access to transportation

In the event of an emergency, all of these individuals should interpret an **Evacuation Warning** as an **Evacuation** and make arrangements to leave their residence or place of business immediately.

### INFORMATION / COMUNICATION SOURCES

Stay informed with reports broadcast on local radio and TV. **DO NOT USE THE TELEPHONE** unless absolutely necessary. Cities designate the following as emergency broadcast stations

KFWB	980 AM	Los Angeles	KHTS	1220 AM	Santa Clarita
KNX	1070 AM	Los Angeles	KMIX	106 FM	Palmdale
KFI	640 AM	Los Angeles	KLKX	93.5 FM	Palmdale
KRLA	870 AM	Los Angeles	KTPI	103.1 FM	Palmdale
KABC	790 AM	Los Angeles			
KAVL	610 AM	Antelope Valley			
KHJ	1380 AM	Palmdale			

EMAIL / CELL PHONE / VOICE OVER IP #

To register

EMAIL/ HOME PHONE/TEXT ALERT:

To register

EMAIL / TEXT ALERT:

To register:

**LA County Emergency Notification**

[www.alert.lacounty.gov](http://www.alert.lacounty.gov)

**Santa Clarita Emergency Notification System**

[www.santa-clarita.com](http://www.santa-clarita.com) or **661-259-CITY**

**KHTS Radio**

[www.hometownstation.com](http://www.hometownstation.com)

## ANIMAL PREPAREDNESS

.....AVOID PANIC.....BE PREPARED.....EVACUATE EARLY!

### DOGS & CATS...and other Small Animals



#### Assemble a Portable Pet Disaster Supplies Kit

Whether you are away from home for a day or a week, you'll need essential supplies. Have transportable pet carriers with identification tags ready. Keep items in an accessible place and store them in sturdy containers that can be carried easily (duffel bags, covered trash containers, etc.). Keep non-expired medications and food ready at all times.

#### PET DISASTER SUPPLY KIT CHECKLIST

- Name tags and telephone numbers on collars and harnesses
- Leashes, harnesses, and carriers, tagged with identification, to transport pets safely and securely
- (7) Seven to (10) ten day food & portable water supply, bowls, cat litter and pan, manual can opener, foil or plastic lids for cans
- (7) Seven to (10) ten day supply medications and medical records (stored in a waterproof container)
- Current photos of your pets in case they get lost or are evacuated by first responders (See House Window - Pet Alert Card)
- Information on feeding schedules, medical conditions, behavior problems, and the name and number of your veterinarian in case if you have to board your pets (See Pet Information Card)
- Pet beds and toys, if easily transportable
- First Aid kit (including large/small bandages with elastic tape, scissors, tweezers, Qtips, antibiotic ointment, saline eyewash, & hydrogen peroxide.

#### Be Sure All Your Pets are Clearly Identified

- Be sure all dogs and cats are wearing collars with securely fastened current identification
- Attach the phone number and address of your temporary shelter, if you know it, or of a friend or relative outside the disaster area if you don't
- Identification microchips are highly recommended for all pets. Contact Animal Care & Control or your vet for more information. Register your pet's microchip and keep the telephone number of your microchip data carrier with your important evacuation papers.

## DOGS & CATS...and other Small Animals (continued....)

**Choose Evacuation Locations and have two (2) options for evacuation of your animals. Routes in opposite directions ( i.e. Lancaster or Santa Clarita depending on direction of fire )**

- Contact hotels and motels outside your immediate area to check policies on accepting pets and restrictions on number, size, and species
- Asks friends, relatives, or others outside the affected area whether they could shelter your animals as Red Cross does not house pets inside shelters
- If you have more than one pet, they may be more comfortable if kept together, but be prepared to house them separately
- Prepare a list of boarding facilities and veterinarians who could shelter animals in an emergency (include 24-hour phone numbers)

### Safety Tips

- When you get an **EVACUATION WARNING** -- gather up small animals and confine them so they can be crated quickly. (i.e. use your bathroom or other appropriate space)
- Transport cats in a pet carrier only. Do not carry a cat in your arms. Cover the carrier with a light cloth, which will help keep the cat quiet.



## EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS - HORSES



Emergency preparedness is important for all animals, but it takes extra consideration for horses because of their size and transportation needs. It is imperative that you are prepared to move your horses to a safe area.

Horses should be evacuated as soon as the **EVACUATION WARNING** is made. Do not wait for the EVACUATION ORDER. If you are unprepared or wait until the last minute to evacuate, you could be told by emergency management officials to leave your horses behind. To help avoid this situation, we have prepared information and suggestions to help you plan for emergencies.

### **HORSE DISASTER SUPPLY KIT CHECKLIST:**

- Halter with identification tag and lead rope for each horse.
- Vaccination and identification forms with current photos (See Emergency Stall Card).
- Food, feed bucket, and any medications for (7) seven to (10) ten days.
- Information on feeding schedules, medical conditions, behavior problems, and the name and number of your veterinarian in case you have to board your horse(s)
- First Aid Kit with wraps
- Duct tape to write identification on horse halter
- Headlamp light (much better than flashlight when working with large animals)
- Have your horses micro-chipped if desired

### Have An Evacuation Plan For Your Horses:

- If you have livestock, evacuate when you hear the **EVACUATION WARNING** -Do not wait for the **EVACUATION ORDER**.
- Train horses to lead and trailer so that they become comfortable with the process.
- Keep your truck and trailer in safe, working condition (gas tank full). If you don't have a truck and trailer make arrangements in advance to have someone evacuate your horses.
- Know who is evacuating your horse(s). A safe responsible choice would be a friend or well-known acquaintance, or a properly identified person. Be sure to exchange all phone numbers, California Drivers License numbers and **KNOW WHERE YOUR HORSES WILL BE EVACUATED TO.**
- Make prior arrangements for sheltering at two (2) locations in opposite directions (i.e. Lancaster or Santa Clarita) depending on direction of fire
- Network with your neighbors prior to an emergency. Work together to help horse/pet owners on your street who do not have horse trailers, or, who are not home during an emergency.

### Safety Tips

- Mount fire extinguishers near barn entrances and around stable for easy access in the event of a barn fire
- Store hay outside the barn in a dry covered area when possible
- Fire extinguishers in horse trailers and tack rooms (certify extinguishers yearly at your local Fire Station)



## SHELTER-IN-PLACE

**NOTE: FAILURE TO FOLLOW AN EVACUATION ORDER MAY RESULT IN ENDANGERMENT TO THE LIVES OF OTHERS, PERSONAL INJURY OR DEATH!**

**WE DO NOT ENDORSE THE SHELTER IN PLACE STRATEGY**

A shelter in place means providing optimum shelter on your property for your horses and / or livestock in the case you cannot evacuate your animals

### **IF YOU MUST SHELTER IN PLACE CONSIDER THIS AT A MINIMUM:**

- DO NOT TURN HORSES LOOSE – they may return home to a burning barn. Loose horses also cause serious problems for first responders
- L.A. County Fire Department now recommends 200 ft. clearance around your property
- Turn horses into arena with sufficient brush and tree clearance – METAL PIPE CORRAL NOT PVC OR WOOD !
- Fire hose(s)
- Generator
- Multiple shovels placed strategically around property, axe, hoe, rake, broom (all with good handles)
- Multiple ladders extended and placed at both ends of house and one or two ready for use near barn
- Portable AM/FM radio with spare batteries
- Hand held FRS radios (walkie talkies) and hand held scanner with spare batteries
- Masks, goggles, heavy working gloves and bandanas
- Out of state contact info and neighbors cell numbers
- Use leather halters not nylon

**TIP: Post these important addresses & phone numbers by your phones in the house and in the barn:**

Castaic Animal Shelter ( **661-257-3191** )

Lancaster Animal Shelter ( **661-940-4191** )

Pierce College Equestrian Center...6201 Winnetka Ave., Woodland Hills, CA 91371

(No Stallions–non-emergency) ( **818 – 719- 6401** )

Antelope Valley Fairgrounds 2551 West Avenue H, Lancaster, CA 93536 @ Gate #3 (non-emergency ( **661-948-6060** )

Palmdale Sheriff's Department – ( **661-272-2400** )

Santa Clarita Sheriff's Department – ( **661-255-1121** )

# FOR BARN – EMERGENCY EVACUATION STALL CARD

**HORSE'S NAME**

\_\_\_\_\_

**SEX**

**EQUINE - EMERGENCY  
EVACUATION STALL CARD**

**BREED**

\_\_\_\_\_

**COLOR**

**MARKINGS**

\_\_\_\_\_

**OWNER'S NAME**

\_\_\_\_\_

**OWNER'S PHONE Numbers (with area code)**

**DAY:**

**EVENING:**

**CELL**

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**OWNER'S ADDRESS**

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**VET'S NAME:**

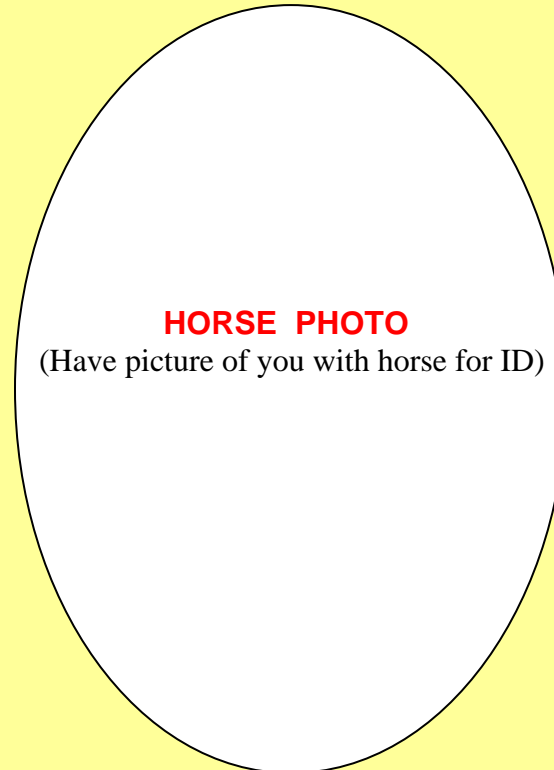
\_\_\_\_\_

**VET'S PHONE NUMBER**

\_\_\_\_\_

**SPECIAL NEEDS (MEDICAL, ALLERGIES, FOOD)**

**See back of card**



\*LAMINATE AND KEEP IN BARN IN VISIBLE AREA, ON STALL DOOR, OR DESIGNATE A BULLETIN BOARD FOR EMERGENCY

**Tip: Make sure Equine Emergency Stall Cards and Pet Emergency Window cards are visible for first responders**

**HOUSE - WINDOW – PET ALERT CARD**

**PET ALERT!**

**FIRE  
RESCUE**

**PLEASE SAVE OUR  
HOUSE PETS!**

**DOGS**

**CATS**

**OTHER**

---

**Tip: Place in several windows near front & back doors of house and place copy in barn with stall cards.  
PET INFORMATION CARD (KEEP INSIDE HOUSE)**



## PET INFORMATION CARD

**DOG/CAT/OTHER**      **COLOR**

\_\_\_\_\_

**BREED**

\_\_\_\_\_

**OWNER'S NAME**

\_\_\_\_\_

**OWNER'S PHONE Numbers (with area code)**

**DAY:** \_\_\_\_\_

**EVENING:** \_\_\_\_\_

**CELL** \_\_\_\_\_

**OWNER'S ADDRESS**

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

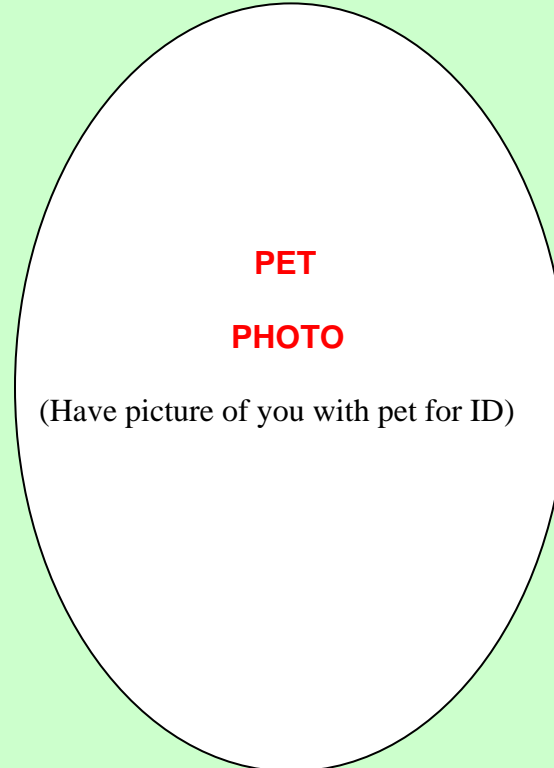
**VET'S NAME:**

\_\_\_\_\_

**VET'S PHONE NUMBER**

\_\_\_\_\_

**SPECIAL NEEDS (MEDICAL, ALLERGIES, FOOD)**  
**(Attach to back of card, including vaccinations)**



KEEP COPY IN YOUR PET EMERGENCY EVACUATION KIT

## SCHOOL SAFETY PREPAREDNESS



If you have children attending school in Acton/Agua Dulce it is very important for you to obtain a copy of the school's disaster plan and include it in your Family Plan. The school's disaster plan information page should answer the following questions:

### YES NO

- |                          |                          |  |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Will my child be sheltered in place during a wild land fire or other emergency?  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | If so, do I know what precautions my school has taken to ensure my child's safety?   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Does the school maintain a parent-provided disaster supply kit for my child?   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | If so, have I recently updated it so it is current?  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Does the school have adequate emergency supplies on hand to care for my child?   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Will I be able to pick up my child, or send someone else to pick up my child?  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Will my child be evacuated?  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | If so, do I know to what location my child might be evacuated?   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | If my child requires special medications, can a short-term supply of these medications be kept at the nurse's office for use during any emergency? |

Acton / Agua Dulce Unified School District has an established Emergency Disaster Plan. The District has developed alternate plans, each designed for the following situations:

### School Closure

#### **Before school has begun for the day:**

If one or all schools cannot open due to hazardous road conditions or other factors, the district superintendent will declare a school closure for one or all schools. Employees will be notified by telephone. The superintendent or designee will notify local radio stations to announce the school closing. If conditions allow, district office personnel, custodians, maintenance personnel, and school secretaries will report to work

#### **Once school has begun:**

School will not close early once the school day has begun. Once school has started for the day, each student will remain at school until the regular dismissal hour or until the student is checked-out by an adult listed on the emergency card. During inclement weather, the site principals or designee will remain on campus until all bus runs have been completed and all students have been picked up from school.



### **School underway (cont'd)**

The coordinator of transportation will immediately notify the principal and superintendent if road conditions necessitate the return of students to school.

Examples: The event of an earthquake or other disaster that prevents parents, other designated adults or guardians from picking up students when school is over, students will remain at the school. The district will maintain food and other supplies on site as may be necessary needed for an extended stay. **Please discuss the possibility of students staying overnight in the event of a disaster – this will help your child to be prepared and stay calm.**

### **School Evacuation:**

If an individual school must be evacuated due to flooding, fire, or destruction of facilities, students will be evacuated by school bus or other means to another district school site. In this event, the superintendent or designee will notify parents through local radio stations of the evacuation relocation site and will coordinate the evacuation with the principals.

Tip: In case of any type of emergency, do not call the school directly. School phone lines are limited for personnel to summon emergency aid and/or coordinate evacuations. Visit the Acton/Agua Dulce Unified School District website at <http://aadusd.k12.ca.us> and listen to KMIX 106.3 FM, KLKX 93.5FM, KHJ 1380 AM, KUTY 1470 AM (SPANISH), KIIS 97.7 FM, KTPI 103.1 FM, KFI 640 AM OR KHTS 1220 AM for public school information.

Students attending other schools in other districts are subject to different policies. Contact those schools for their emergency plans to stay informed.

### **BUSINESS PREPAREDNESS**

Businesses located in Agua Dulce are encouraged to develop Emergency Response and Continuity Plans. Plans should include:

- Outline logical action to take to prepare for an emergency, using the instructions for family preparedness in section 3 of the guide.
- Share information with employees and casual workers
- Training for employees (including casual workers)
- Zone maps and information regarding the Regional Red Cross Shelters, Community Safety Areas, and Neighborhood Survival Areas (Information provided by Fire Dept. Public Information Office for each occurrence).
- Lists of employee contact numbers and current phone trees.
- Emergency phone numbers, including landline AND cell phone numbers for clients, staff, and service providers (such as delivery services).
- Pre-identified helpers/neighbors that know your children and pets and who can step in when you are at work.

## RED FLAG WEATHER AND SPECIAL PRECAUTIONS

What is “Red Flag Weather”...and how should I react?



Red Flag Weather refers to certain weather conditions that lead to a greater possibility for a wildland fire to start and to spread rapidly.

**These conditions generally exist when the winds exceed 25 mph and relative humidity is below 15%.**

On days such as these, listen to the news on radio or TV to see if a Red Flag Warning or Alert has been issued. There are protective measures you can take:

1. Park your car heading out with doors and windows closed, turn air vents to recycle and know where your car keys are.
2. Disconnect automatic garage door openers and use the manual function (in case of power failure before you are able to exit).

**NOTE: Try manually opening your garage door prior to an emergency to make sure you are able to do so!**

3. Place your box of important documents, photos, and keepsakes near the door and readily available.
4. Keep pet carriers readily accessible.
5. If you have time, and can prepare before you leave take the following precautions:
  - Keep drapes or other combustible window coverings OPEN (or remove them completely).
  - Keep fire-resistant window coverings CLOSED.
  - Close all interior doors of the house (this slows the spread of fire).
  - Close all windows.
  - Leave lights on (as long as power remains, your home will be more visible to firefighters through the smoke or darkness).

## WILDLAND FIRE PREPAREDNESS

### EVACUATION CONDITIONS

#### EVACUATION WARNINGS

**EVACUATION WARNINGS** will be issued for a particular Sector(s) in the event of a wildfire by Sheriff Department, Fire Department or in some instances possible the California Highway Patrol.

In some cases, there may be no time for a “warning” to leave so try to be organized and ready to go.

When you first hear a warning it is time to gather your essential belongings and prepare to leave.

**Most EVACUATION WARNINGS become EVACUATION ORDERS.**

Begin to evacuate those in need of special assistance and your livestock (large animals) when you hear the WARNING

- Contact family members and make sure they are prepared and ready to leave.
- Put personal belongs and documents in your vehicle.
- Cover windows, attic openings, eaves, and vents with fire-resistant material such as ½-inch or thicker plywood. Close window shutters and blinds only if they are fire-resistant.
- Fill sinks, bathtubs, trash cans, and buckets with water. Place portable containers around your house for easy access.
- Close all windows and doors around your home to keep sparks from blowing inside.
- Shut off liquefied petroleum gas or natural gas valves.
- Move furniture away from windows and sliding glass doors to avoid ignition from the fire’s radiant heat.
- If you have children in school, know and follow the school’s Disaster Plan.
- Attach garden hoses with nozzles to spigots and place them so that they can reach all areas of your home. (These can be used by firefighters engaged in structure protection to put out spot fires once the fire has passed. They are ineffective for fighting a wildland fire.)



## **EVACUATION ORDER**

An EVACUATION ORDER is a directive from the Sheriff or Fire Departments to leave your home or business immediately for your own safety.

Failure to follow an EVACUATION ORDER may result in endangerment to the lives of others, personal injury, or death.

### **WHEN AN EVACUATION ORDER HAS BEEN ISSUED FOR YOUR AREA:**

- Gather your family, pets, and disaster supply kit into your car and immediately leave your home or business.
- Follow the evacuation plan instructions and the directions from Sheriff and Fire Department's personnel.
- Drive carefully at a normal speed with your headlights on.
- Keep car windows rolled up and turn air vents to recycle



## QUAKE! PREPAREDNESS

The time to prepare for an earthquake is now...not after it happens. Protect your family by taking care of the items on the **BEFORE Checklist** as soon as you can. It's a good idea to make copies of the **DURING Checklist** and post them as reminders by your house and garage exits and in all your family cars.

### Before the Earthquake

- Before an earthquake, identify safe spots in each room of your home. Note under sturdy tables or desks against interior walls. Know the danger spots: near windows, mirrors, hanging objects, fireplaces, and tall, unsecured furniture.
- Conduct practice drills so you and your family know the safest locations in your home.
- Decide how and where your family will reunite if separated during an earthquake.
- Choose an out-of-state friend or relative to report your whereabouts and condition.
- Learn First Aid and CPR .
- Learn how to shut off gas, water and electricity in case the lines are damaged.
- Check chimneys, roofs, walls, and foundations for stability – Make sure your house is bolted to its foundation.
- Secure your water heater and major appliances as well as tall, heavy furniture, hanging plants, mirrors, and picture frames (especially those over beds).
- Keep breakables, heavy objects, and flammable or hazardous liquids such as paints, pest sprays, and cleaning products in secured cabinets or on lower shelves.
- Organize your neighborhood to be self-sufficient after an earthquake



## During the Earthquake

- If indoors, stay there – Get under a desk or table or stand in a corner. Stay away from windows, bookcases, file cabinets, heavy mirrors, hanging plants and other heavy objects that could fall. Watch out for falling plaster and ceiling tiles. Stay under cover until the shaking stops. Hold onto your cover – if it moves, move with it.
- If outdoors, get into an open area away from trees, buildings, walls, and power lines.
- If driving, pull over to the side of the road and stop. Avoid areas around power lines. Stay in your car until the shaking is over.



- If in a crowded public place, do not rush for the doors – Crouch and cover your head and neck with your hands and arms.
- Do not attempt to use the telephone unless there is an immediate, life-threatening emergency.
- If it is safe, check for gas and water leaks, and broken electrical wiring or sewage lines. If there is damage turn the utility off at the source and immediately report gas leaks to your utility company.
- Stay away from downed power lines and warn others to stay away.
- Do not attempt to relight the gas pilot unless a thoroughly inspection of your gas lines has taken place. Call the Gas Company for assistance.
- Check your building for cracks and damage, including the roof, chimneys, and foundation.
- Turn on your portable radio for instructions and news reports.
- For your own safety, cooperate fully with public safety officials and follow instructions.
- Do not use your vehicle unless there is an emergency.
- Be prepared for aftershocks – Stay calm and lend a hand to others.
- If you evacuate, leave a message at your home telling family members and others where you can be found.



## OTHER DISASTERS

### Hazardous Materials

If you suspect a problem with hazardous materials follow these important steps and remember **RAIN**:

**R**ecognize that an incident involving hazardous materials may exist.

**A**void approaching the incident.

**I**solate the area and keep others from entering a potentially dangerous situation.

**N**otify authorities...Call 911.

Remember to stay **uphill**, **upwind**, and **upstream** from any potentially hazardous materials incident.

### What is a safe distance?

There is no concrete answer to what constitutes a safe distance. It is recommended that you follow the “rule of thumb”: look toward the incident, hold your thumb out in front of you at arm’s length. If you can still see the incident (e.g., overturned tanker truck) on either side of your thumb, then you are too close. Back away from the incident until your thumb covers the entire scene.

### Terrorism

It is important to understand the terrorism threat levels and how it relates to your family’s preparedness. Here are the four threat levels defined by the U.S. Government:

#### **GREEN** – LOW

Low risk of an attack occurring exists.

**INDIVIDUAL’S RESPONSE:** Develop a personal disaster plan and create a disaster supply kit.

#### **BLUE** – GUARDED

General risk of an attack exists

**INDIVIDUAL’S RESPONSE:** Be alert to suspicious activity and report it to your local police or workplace security; review your disaster supply kit and replace any outdated items; develop an emergency communications plan; review your children’s school emergency plan; establish an alternate meeting place away from home.

#### **YELLOW** – ELEVATED

Significant risk of an attack exists.

**INDIVIDUAL’S RESPONSE:** Be alert to suspicious activity and report it to your local police or workplace security; review your disaster supply kit and replace any outdated items; develop an emergency communications plan; review your children’s school emergency plan; establish an alternate meeting place away from home.

#### **ORANGE** – HIGH

High risk of an attack occurring exists.

**INDIVIDUAL’S RESPONSE:** See “Elevated” Individual Response section. Exercise caution when traveling; practice your family’s communication plan; discuss children’s fears concerning possible terrorist attacks; stay calm and be prepared to donate blood if the need is announced.

#### **RED** – SEVERE

Severe risk of attack occurring, or an attack has already occurred.

**INDIVIDUAL’S RESPONSE:** See “High” Individual Response section. Listen to the radio or TV for current information and/or instructions; contact your business or school to determine the status of work or school for that day; adhere to any travel restrictions announced by local authorities; be prepared to shelter in place or evacuate if instructed to do so by authorities.

**FIRE STATION 81 COMMENTARY**  
**8710 Sierra Hwy**  
**Agua Dulce, CA**

Los Angeles County Fire Station 81 has been proudly serving the Agua Dulce area since 1929 when it was a temporary building set up during the summertime. In 1931 Station 81, the old rock fire station, was built and put into service. It was located at Eastern Ave and Sierra Hwy and manned with a Lieutenant operating a 1931 Ford Patrol Pumper.

In 1948 the Lieutenant was promoted to the rank of Captain and two more personnel (Engineer and Fire Fighter) were added to the station - along with its first fire engine, a 1947 Ford Pumper.

In 1986 the old rock fire station was taken out of service and Fire Station 81 was relocated to its present location on Sierra Hwy near Anthony Rd. Fire Station 81 presently houses one Paramedic Assessment Engine Company, a 1998 KME fire engine (Captain, Engineer, and Fire Fighter Paramedic), one Fire Patrol and one 2000 gallon Water Tender.

Engine Station 81 responds to approximately 600 emergency calls each year in the Agua Dulce area. While most of these responses are handled by Fire Station 81, the area also receives service assistance from neighboring Fire Station 80 in Acton and Fire Station 132 in Canyon Country. Engine 81 responds to traffic collisions and fires on Hwy 14 and also many medical calls and fires in the Agua Dulce area. In 2007 the "Buckweed" fire started in Agua Dulce, burning 38,000 acres including, 15 homes, 17 out buildings and 40 vehicles.

Station 81 is responsible for approximately 1600 brush clearance inspections each year. Brush clearance inspections help keep a defensible space around your homes while helping us, and you, save your property during wildland fires.

To learn more about the Los Angeles County Fire Department visit its website at [www.fire.lacounty.gov](http://www.fire.lacounty.gov) and click on "Safety Preparedness".

Your Los Angeles County Fire Department - proud protectors of life, property, and the environment.

## BRUSH CLEARANCE INFORMATION FOR AGUA DULCE

### PRIVATELY OWNED LAND:

- Brush inspections begin by the local fire station May 1 for Agua Dulce, CA.
- The minimum requirement for brush clearance is 200' from a structure.
- If not cleared, the local fire station will issue a notice of non-compliance, and the property owner will be given 30 days in which to bring the property into compliance.
- If still non-compliant, the local fire station will forward to the Brush Clearance Unit for enforcement. (The local fire station may, at its discretion, issue the property owner an additional 14-day extension to bring the property into compliance.)
- If property is inevitably turned over to the Brush Clearance Unit for enforcement, County Agriculture Weed Abatement Services will clear the property and include this service cost in the property owner's tax bill.

### IF THE LAND IS NOT PRIVATELY OWNED:

Brush clearance requirements vary between different government-owned lands, and are not enforced by the Los Angeles County Fire Department.

For additional fire safety information call the Los Angeles County Fire Department's community relations office @ 323-881-2411 or your local fire department.



## REDUCING YOUR STRESS DURING A DISASTER

1. Instead of moving too fast, running, or yelling...  
*Slow down, take a deep breath, and think!*  
*You will get things done more efficiently.*
2. Instead of getting angry, becoming aggressive, and blaming others...  
*Stop before you hurt yourself or someone else.*  
*Try to control only that which is possible for you to control.*
3. Instead of denying yourself basic needs...  
*Make sure you and your family members eat and drink water as often as possible.*  
*Do not take stimulants, such as coffee, without eating food. Limit alcohol use.*
4. Instead of feeling anxious about not knowing what is happening...  
*Listen to KHTS 1220 and/or local news*  
*Check [www.addisasterplanning.com](http://www.addisasterplanning.com)*

## AFTER THE DISASTER

Some Common Responses to Disaster Are...

- Irritability and anger
- Fatigue
- Loss of appetite
- Inability to sleep
- Nightmares
- Sadness
- Headaches
- Nausea
- Hyperactivity
- Lack of concentration
- Hyper-alertness
- Increase in alcohol or drug consumption

**IF STRESS, ANXIETY, DEPRESSION, OR PHYSICAL PROBLEMS CONTINUE,  
YOU MAY WISH TO CONTACT THE POST-DISASTER SERVICES PROVIDED BY THE  
AMERICAN RED CROSS, A COUNSELOR, OR A MENTAL HEALTH CENTER.**

## ***FIRST AID REMINDERS***

### **Administering Basic First Aid**

#### **Choking**

If the person is unable to speak, cough, or breathe, call 911. If the problem is resolved, you can call back and cancel.

1. Identify yourself and ask if you can help victim. They can nod yes or shake their head no.
2. Stand behind the person.
3. Place the thumb side of your fist against the middle of the abdomen just above the navel.
4. Grasp your fist with your other hand.
5. Give quick upward thrusts.
6. Repeat until the object is coughed up. Stop if the person becomes unconscious.

#### **Head, Back and/or Neck Injuries**

For Severe Pain or Pressure in the Head, Neck, or Back

1. Check the scene first and then check the victim.
  - Identify yourself and ask the victim if you can help.
  - Apply basic precautions to prevent disease transmission.
2. If you think the victim has a head, neck, or back injury, call or have someone else call 911.
3. Minimize movement of the head, neck, and back.
  - Place your hands on both sides of the victim's head and support and maintain the victim's head in the position you found it.
  - If the head is sharply turned to one side, do not try to align it.
  - Remember – Support the victim's head as you find it.

#### **Shock**

1. Check the scene first and then check the victim.
2. Cover the victim and keep her/him lying down. Cover only enough to keep her/him from losing body heat.
3. Do not give food or water.
4. Raise feet.
5. Obtain medical help as soon as possible

## **Administering Basic First Aid (continued)**

### **Controlling Bleeding**

#### For an Open Wound

1. Check the scene first and then check the victim.
  - Identify yourself and ask the victim if you can help. Apply basic precautions to prevent disease transmission.
2. Cover wound with dressing.
  - Press firmly against the wound (direct pressure).
3. Cover the dressing with a roller bandage.
  - Tie the knot directly over the wound.
4. Elevate the injured area
  - Keep the wound above the level of the heart (only when you suspect that a bone is not broken).
5. If bleeding does not stop:
  - Apply additional dressing and bandages.
  - Use a pressure point to squeeze the artery against the bone.
  - Call or have someone else call 911.

### **Applying a Sling to Arm or Shoulder**

#### If You Cannot Move or Use an Injured Arm

1. Check the scene first and then check the victim.
  - Ask the victim if you can help.
  - Apply basic precautions to prevent disease transmission.
2. If the victim is unable to move or use an injured arm...call or have some else call 911.
3. Support the injured arm above and below the site of injury.
4. Check for feeling, warmth and color below the injured area.
5. Place the Sling
  - Leave the arm in the position you find it.
  - Place a triangular bandage under the injured arm and over the injured shoulder to form a sling.
6. Tie the ends of the sling at the side of the neck.
  - TIP: Place pads of gauze under the knots to make it more comfortable for the victim.
7. Recheck for feeling, warmth, and color below the injured area.

## **Agua Dulce CERT Disaster Response Members**

CERT is an organization under (the Office of Grants and Training) -recognized by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. CERT stands for **C**ommunity **E**mergency **R**esponse **T**eam. The basic training courses, taught by members of the Los Angeles County Fire or Sheriff's Departments, enable community members to better care for themselves their families; and to assist others in the community in the event of a disaster when traditional services are overwhelmed or unavailable. During a disaster or emergency the Sheriff or Fire Department may activate the Agua Dulce CERT Disaster Response members, if not, CERT trained individuals should use their skills to help their family and neighbors. The Agua Dulce CERT Disaster Response members are a volunteer organization and they may not self-activate in response to emergencies. If extreme emergency conditions exist and normal means of communication are interrupted, the CERT Disaster Response members have the option of activating their response plan until local or county agencies arrive to assume responsibility.

All Members of the CERT Disaster Response Team may hold first aid and CPR certifications in addition to CERT certification in Earthquake Preparedness & Response, Fire Suppression, Medical Operations, Light Search & Rescue, and Disaster Psychology. Advanced CERT certifications in Mass Care & Shelter, Search & Rescue, and Triage & Treatment are included in continuing education made available to Disaster Response Team members. CERT training is designed to help communities mitigate disasters during the first 72 hours of a disaster when damaged roads, disrupted communications, high telephone call volume, etc. may restrict service from professional emergency response teams.

**For more information on CERT classes see the following websites:**

**Antelope Valley visit;**

[www.lasdavcert.com](http://www.lasdavcert.com)

**Santa Clarita visit:**

<http://www.santa-clarita.com/community/safety/cert.asp>

**Los Angeles County visit;**

<http://fire.lacounty.gov/ProgramsEvents/Cert>

**For more information on the formation of an Agua Dulce CERT Disaster Response Team contact the Agua Dulce Town Council – Disaster Planning Committee**

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## **OTHER RESOURCES**

Web sites with emergency preparation updates, links, articles and information.

White House/Homeland Security [www.whitehouse.gov](http://www.whitehouse.gov)

State of California [www.oes.ca.gov](http://www.oes.ca.gov)

California Department of Health Services [www.dhs.ca.gov](http://www.dhs.ca.gov)

Disaster Help & Resources [www.disasterhelp.gov](http://www.disasterhelp.gov)

Federal Bureau of Investigation [www.fbi.gov](http://www.fbi.gov)

National Weather Service [www.nwsia.noaa.gov](http://www.nwsia.noaa.gov)

Center for Disease Control Emergency Preparedness [www.bt.cdc.gov](http://www.bt.cdc.gov)

Agua Dulce welcomes this opportunity to encourage residents to be prepared and use this booklet to make emergency preparedness a priority. If you have questions concerning this handbook should email the Agua Dulce Town Council Disaster Planning Committee at [adtc@aguadulce-ca.com](mailto:adtc@aguadulce-ca.com). or write us at 33201 Agua Dulce Cyn. Road, Box 8, Agua Dulce, AD 91390, ATTN: Agua Dulce Disaster Planning Committee.

## **DISCLAIMER**

**This information included in this booklet is for information purposes only. It is not intended to be and should not be considered legal or professional advice, nor substitute for obtaining such advice. The user bears all risks related to the use of this information, which is presented “as-is” without warranty or indemnity of any kind. The information presented here may or may not reflect the most current and should not be solely relied upon to make decisions of a substantive nature.**