

CITY OF SAUSALITO

DISASTER PREPAREDNESS - EMERGENCY OPERATIONS PROGRAM

"Preparing and Protecting our Community"

PREPARING FOR FLOODS

In recent years, storms in California have become more intense and longer lasting. Flash floods, mudslides, stream and creek flooding have all occurred in Marin County--claiming lives and damaging property. Wherever you live or travel, you should be aware of the dangers of a winter storm and be prepared to cope with one.

Knowing what to do (and not to do) before the storm, when you receive a storm warning, during the storm, and after the storm will allow you to make it through the storm successfully.

Sausalito and Marin County have prepared these brief safety tips to follow if a winter storm threatens you and your family. Keep this information handy.

For normal floods, knowing what to expect is half the battle. If you are a new resident, get to know something about your surrounding area. Has your house ever flooded? Is there a history of the streets in your neighborhood becoming impassable during a storm event? Do you need renter's or owner's flood (and earthquake) insurance? Find out. There are plenty of people around that can tell you about floods. Be sure to ask about various routes out of the area.

- · Keep first aid and critical medical supplies, such as prescription medications, on hand.
- · Keep a stock of food which requires little cooking and no refrigeration; electrical power may be interrupted.
- \cdot Keep a portable radio and flashlights in working order. Have extra batteries on hand.
- \cdot Keep your automobile fueled; if electric power is cut off, filling stations may not be able to operate.
- · Keep materials like sandbags, plywood, plastic sheeting and lumber handy for emergency waterproofing.

When You Receive a Storm Warning

- · Store drinking water in closed, clean containers. Water service may be interrupted.
- · If flooding is likely, and time permits, move essential items and furniture to upper floors of your home.
- · If advised to leave your home, move to a safe area before access is cut off by flood water. Leave a note telling friends and relatives where you are going.



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· As you are evacuating your home, cut off all electric circuits at the fuse panel by pulling the main switch, or disconnect all electrical appliances. Shut off the gas service at the valve next to the meter, and turn off the water service at the main valve.

STORM RELATED CONTACT INFORMATION

As we move into the winter storm season, we want to take this opportunity to remind our citizens what to do during a storm related emergency. Start by:

- Making sure that your flashlights have batteries
- Pull out the old telephone that does not need to be plugged into the electrical outlet
- Have some spare food (not required to cook) and make yourself comfortable.
- If your power goes out, <u>call PG&E at 800-743-5002</u> in order to get an estimate of when it may be back on. Remember to treat any downed power line as if it is "live" or carrying electric current. Do not touch or try to move it and keep children and animals away. Report downed power lines and other electric emergencies immediately by calling 911 or PG&E's customer service line at 1-800-PGE-5002.
- If you have a standby generator, make sure that it's installed safely and inform PG&E to avoid risking damage to your property and endangering PG&E line workers who may be working on nearby power lines.
- Never use barbeques or charcoal indoors to heat your home in order to avoid the risk of fire and carbon monoxide poisoning.
- If your power goes out, turn off or even unplug all electric appliances. Otherwise, when power is restored, several appliances may come back on at once and overload your circuits or hot appliances may come on while you're away or asleep and pose a fire hazard. Leave on a single lamp to alert you when power returns. Turn your appliances back on one at a time when conditions return to normal.
- Also remember that when the stop lights are out due to a power outage, you MUST stop and treat the non-functioning light as a four way stop.

During severe storms or flooding, please contact the Corporation Yard at 289-4113 for sandbags, or drop by the yard at 530 Nevada Street. If the Corporation Yard is closed, contact the Police Department and they will help you gain access to the yard.

And, as always, should you experience flooded roadways or trees down in the road, please contact the Sausalito Police Department at 289-4170 and advise them of any treacherous or hazardous situations you discover.