

# MONTE NIDO VALLEY



## COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION



## DIRECTORY

and

## EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

## HANDBOOK

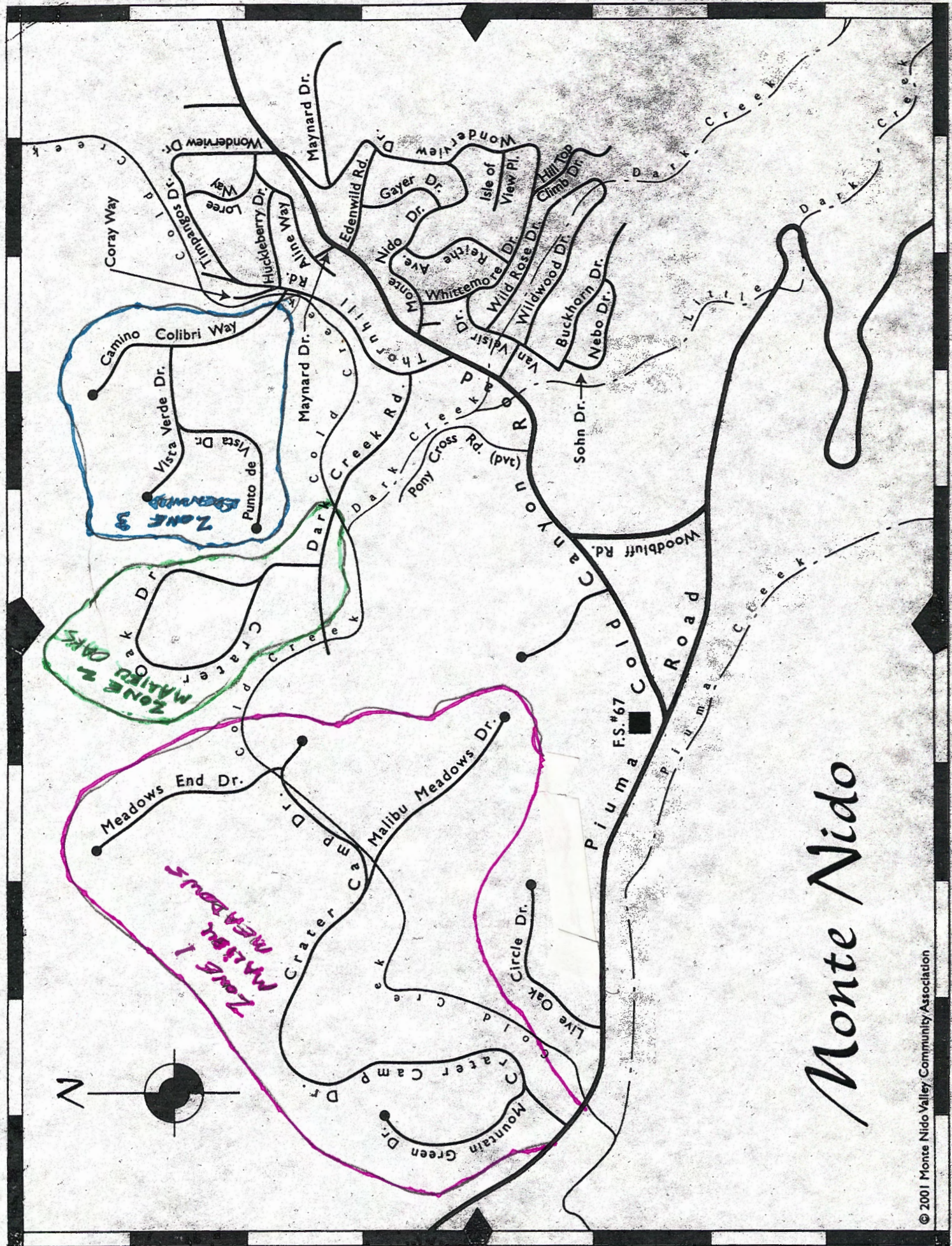
Parcels 2018



MONTE NIDO COMMUNITY



San Mateo Municipal Water Center is not responsible for the accuracy of this presentation. This presentation is for illustrative purposes only. Verify the physical location of all property lines, water lines and utility information prior to use.



# Monte Nido

## INTRODUCTION

### COMMUNITY BACKGROUND

Our community of Monte Nido (Spanish for “mountain nest”), with its creeks, oak/sycamore woodlands, and glorious mountain views, is undeniably a special place. Is it any wonder that visitors often say they cannot believe such an area exists in Los Angeles. We enjoy a unique, horse and animal friendly ambience, embracing the absence of street lights, sidewalks, sewers and other trappings of urban or semi-urban development.

Unfortunately, our neighborhoods concurrently face significant risks from natural disasters such as fire, flood and earthquake. Many years ago, Cold Canyon Road was washed out (it took 3 years to get the road repaired), and Piuma Road was also washed out for a brief period of time.



We were extremely lucky in escaping the widespread devastation of the Woolsey Fire, and other wild fires that have threatened our community over the past decades. But our neighbors in Malibu, Malibu Lake and Topanga weren't so fortunate. While mandatory evacuations have been called on a number of occasions over the past years, some amongst us have stayed to fight off the risk of damage and/or destruction to their homes. Others have chosen to abide by the urging of safety officials. This critically important subject is discussed more fully below.

### GOVERNMENTAL JURISDICTION

Monte Nido is located in an unincorporated portion of Los Angeles County.<sup>1/</sup> We are not a part of the cities of Calabasas or Malibu. There are *roughly 250 homes* in our valley, some of which are subject to C,C&R's created and enforced through smaller constituent homeowner associations.<sup>2/</sup> Developmental entitlements are generally procured from the County by permit; and there are strict requirements dealing with protected oaks and native vegetation, and the proximity of development to creeks, oaks, etc.

### ENVIRONMENTAL AND LAND USE ACTIVISM

Environmental and land use activism has been a key factor in preserving our way of life. Our members successfully fought off plans to build a Malibu Canyon freeway (during the late 1960s); forced the Law Virgenes Municipal Water District to upgrade its facilities so as to provide tertiary treatment (at a cost of roughly \$55 million); worked with other local activists to establish the Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area, and opposed the massive Ahmanson project northwest of the Ventura Freeway and Las Virgenes Road. We were also active in the litigation that prevented development of SOKA University at the corner of Las Virgenes Road and Mulholland.

*[Add additional background information]*

#### **DISCLAIMER**

This booklet contains a compilation of information provided from various sources, including the County of Los Angeles and American Red Cross. The Monte Nido Valley Community Association (“MNVCA”) and its officers, directors, agents and others involved in the preparation of this booklet make no representations or warranties whatsoever, express or implied, regarding the effectiveness of any safety and/or emergency preparedness methods and basic first aid suggestions and/or tactics, of any nature or kind. The reader or user of this booklet agrees to and shall bear all risks related to the use of the information contained herein. The information presented in this booklet may or may not reflect the most current procedures and should not be solely relied upon to make decisions

---

<sup>1/</sup>Our sole locally elected official is Sheila Kuehl, the Supervisor for the Third District (which contains roughly 2 million residents, a population larger than 14 states and the District of Columbia).

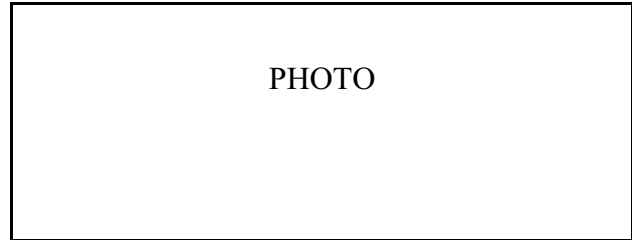
<sup>2/</sup>For example, there is the Malibu Meadows Association, which has approx. \_\_\_ homes, the Malibu Oaks Association (with approx. 20 homes), and the Edenwild subdivision, with approx. \_\_\_ homes.

**MNVCA BACKGROUND**

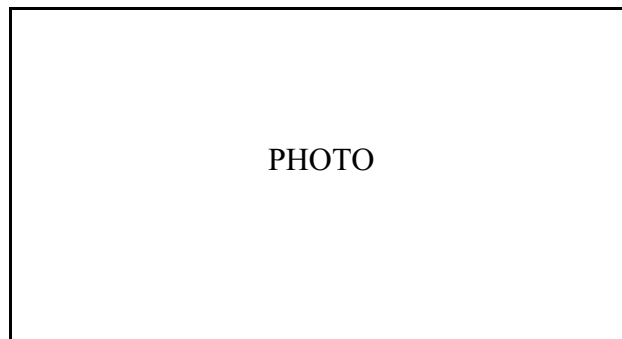
(page 2 of 2)

*PROVIDE ADDITIONAL INFO RE: COMMUNITY BACKGROUND & EVENTS, INCLUDING  
4<sup>TH</sup> OF JULY (W/ PHOTO) & SQUARE DANCE (ALSO W/ PHOTO)*

- FOURTH OF JULY



- SQUARE DANCE



ASSOCIATION INFO, ETC.

## IMPORTANT CONTACT INFORMATION

MNVCA WEBSITE: MONTENIDO.ORG

California Highway Patrol (office)	818-888-0980
California Highway Patrol (dispatch)	818-888-0980
Lost Hills/Malibu Sheriff Station 27050 Agoura Rd Calabasas, CA 91301	818-878-1808
Fire Station #67 25801 Piuma Rd, Calabasas, CA 91302	818-222-1099
LVMWD	818-251-2100
Caltrans	800-427-7623
Poison Control Center	800-876-4766
Road & Water Emergency help Line	800-675-4357
Southern California Edison	800-611-1911
Agoura Hills Animal Shelter	818-991-0071
Building & Safety	818-880-4150
Forestry Division	818-222-1108
L.A. County Road Maintenance	626-458-4357
Weed Abatement	818-833-6647
Las Virgenes Unified School district	818-880-4000
Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District	310-455-2467
Calabasas High School	818-222-7177
Agoura High School	818-889-1262
Sheila Kuehl, Supervisor, Third District <a href="mailto:Sheila@bos.lacounty.gov">Sheila@bos.lacounty.gov</a>	(213) 974-3333
Henry Stern, State Senator, District 27 5016 N. Parkway Calabasas, Ste 222 Calabasas, CA 91302	(818) 876-3352
<b>SIGN UP FOR EMERGENCY ALERT SYSTEMS</b>	
Malibu: Malibu, CA - Official Website - Sign up at "Notify Me"	
Calabasas City Notification System: <a href="http://www.cityofcalabasas.com/emergency-notificaiton.html">www.cityofcalabasas.com/emergency-notificaiton.html</a>	

## 4-STEPS TO GENERAL PREPAREDNESS

The time to start thinking about what to do in an emergency such as a major earthquake, fire, flood, or other disasters, is before it happens. The following represents an overview of the preparedness steps recommended by the County of Los Angeles.

**H**AVE A PLAN: A good place to begin emergency preparedness is to have a family emergency plan. This should include every member of the household, including your pets. Preparedness is especially important for horses and other large animals because of their size and special transportation needs.

- Learn the threats to our community.
- Identify meeting places outside your home and outside the neighborhood.
- Select an out-of-state contact to address the fact that in an emergency, local circuits could be overwhelmed..
- Identify evacuation routes -- alternate ways to leave the home.
- Know the location of utility shut-offs (water, gas, electricity).
- Know emergency policies of schools and other third parties.
- Assemble disaster supply kits.
- Review insurance policies

**M**AINAIN NECESSARY SUPPLIES: Make sure you have sufficient supplies to shelter in place. See checklist at page \_\_\_\_.

**S**TAY INFORMED.

**G**ET INVOLVED.

SEE NEXT PAGE REGARDING COMMUNICATIONS/NEIGHBORHOOD NETWORKS

## COMMUNICATIONS/NEIGHBORHOOD NETWORKS

The MNVCA is in the process of establishing an emergency status web page that will serve to gather, verify and push out critical information to the community via its web page (MONTENIDO.ORG).

Most of the communication systems that we rely upon (internet, TV, digital and cell phone) require electricity. When the power goes out, many of our connections to the world go out as well. This includes telecom providers such as Spectrum. While old-style copper telephone lines receive power from the service provider, and would continue to operate during a power outage (provided phone lines are still standing), many of us have VOIP service furnished by a telecom provider, which requires electricity. Generators can mitigate this problem (stand-by units can provide power for an entire household [cost \$7-\$10,000]); smaller gasoline powered units can provide power for a limited number of devices.

Battery powered AM radios offer access to AM news stations such as KNX 1070; KFI 640; KABC 790; and KRLA 870. Unfortunately, such stations do not necessarily provide real-time and location specific information.

It is imperative that we stay informed during emergencies notwithstanding power outages. FRS (family radio service) 2-way “walkie-talkie” battery operated radios are inexpensive and can be used without a license. Such devices enable members of our community to communicate with one another during an emergency. They operate on “line of sight” from one radio to another, and it is thus necessary to often find the best reception by moving around. Specific frequencies will be recommended for each neighborhood zone. During the Woolsey fire, certain members of our community utilized more powerful 2-way UHF radios (which technically require licences), which are the same as the devices used by fire fighters and law enforcement (e.g. Motorola Model Nos. XU-2100 [single channel] or 2600 [several channels]). Such devices facilitated dissemination of critically important real-time updates on the status of the fire as it approached our community.

Our Zone is:	
Zone Captain (Name/Phone/E-Mail)	
Zone FRS Channel	

## EMERGENCY NECESSITIES

<b>Water and Food</b>	
	Water for 3-10 days (1 gal/person/day, including water for pets)
	Food (including pet food) for 3-10 days, requiring no refrigeration, have long shelf life and require little or no water to prepare, e.g. ready-to-eat canned food, protein bars, dried fruit and crackers
<b>Medications/Hygiene</b>	
	Special need items such as inhalers, contact lenses, eyeglasses, hearing aid batteries
	Prescription Medications (3-10 days)
	Moist Towelettes/Hand Sanitizers
	Heavy Duty Garbage Bags and Ties
<b>First-Aid Kit</b>	
	Cleansing Agent (soap or towelettes)
	Rubber gloves (at least 2 pair)
	Antibiotic Ointment and Burn Ointment
	Cold Packs
	Adhesive Bandages, cotton balls and swabs
	Sterile Dressing, tape and elastic wrap
	Thermometer
	Non-prescription drugs (pain reliever, anti-diarrhea, antacid, etc.)
	Scissors, Tweezers
<b>Tools/Misc.</b>	
	Manual Can Opener
	Knives
	Eating utensils
	Flashlight, extra batteries/ Light stick
	Battery powered radio/2-way radio(s)
	Whistle to signal for help
	Wrench or pliers to turn off utilities
	Plastic sheeting and duct tape to shelter-in-place
	Matches in waterproof container

<b>Other Items</b>	
	Sleeping Bag/blankets
	Change of clothing/shoes (long pants, jacket/coat, sturdy shoes, hat, gloves, rain gear). Cotton, Wool and leather are best -- rayon/nylon, etc. will melt.
	Dust mask or cotton t-shirt to help filter air/ full face mask/ goggles
	Chlorine Bleach -- 9 parts water to 1 part bleach is an effective disinfectant
	Cell phones/chargers/other communication means
	Keys
	Cash (small bills)
<b>Home Equipment</b>	
	Generator with fuel
	Shovels, rakes, mops, chain saw/loppers
	Ladder to reach roof
	Trash barrels and smaller buckets filled with water/burlap bags/large towels
<b>Important Family Documents/Irreplaceable Items (keep these in waterproof container(s))</b>	
	Wills, insurance policies, contracts, deeds, stocks and bonds, titles
	Passports, birth certificates, social security cards, immunization records, copy of driver's license, copies of health insurance cards, list of prescriptions
	Bank account numbers, loan and investment info, first 2 pages of last year's tax records, computer usernames and passwords
	Credit card account numbers and companies
	Inventory (written, photo, video) of household goods, important telephone numbers
	Family records (birth, marriage, death certificates)
	Emergency contact list
	Photos and easy to carry valuables



## MAKE PLANS IN ADVANCE TO ADDRESS YOUR ANIMALS' SAFETY IN THE EVENT OF AN EMERGENCY

*Preparedness for emergencies requires consideration for those amongst us who cannot take care of themselves, whether they be family members, neighbors, and of course, our animals who rely upon us for their safety and well being. In a wildfire or other serious emergencies, the chaos of the moment can lead to panic.*

*Prudent planning for such events must include the option of evacuation of your animals, large and small. You should also address the potential that such an event could occur when you are away from home and can't get back in time.*

✓ Have transportation AND LEAVE EARLY! If you have horse(s) or large animal(s), you need to be able to transport them to a safe place. If you don't have a trailer, make sure you have someone who will be available to help get your animals out. To the extent possible, try to train them to load into a trailer or carrier.

✓ Decide ahead of time where you want your animals to go and how to get there. Make sure they can be identified, especially if you cannot be with them. Use duct tape to write your name, etc., and attach it to the animal's leather halter (*nylon halters and lead ropes can melt*). You can use cattle crayon to mark your horse/animal very visibly.

✓ Take/send along a "emergency kit," which should include non-perishable supplies stored in a portable container (trash can or duffle bag) which, at minimum, should include: feed/feed buckets; photo id/info for each animal; flashlight; medications & medical records; first aid kit with leg wraps; duct tape; and harnesses/leashes.

✓ Keep your veterinarian's name/no. handy and available to the people where your animals will be.

✓ If someone else is taking your animal(s), make sure you get their information: name, address, phone, drivers license number, etc., and where they're taking them. Keep in touch with them and keep checking on your animal(s) in person.

✓ If you don't have a private barn or stable to take or send your animal(s), contact the commercial barns that do take them. Keep in mind that Pierce College (especially limited) and Hansen Dam filled up early during the Woolsey Fire and could not take in all the horses that needed a place to go. Call ahead and leave early to keep your animal(s) safe!

✓ There are emergency horse trailer services. The Sheriff's Department and L.A. County Animal Care and Control have an Equine Response Team (ERT) and will notify them if you can't get your horse(s) out yourself. Website is [www.animalcare.lacounty.gov](http://www.animalcare.lacounty.gov). However, during a fire they may be too busy, so make sure you have someone you can call yourself if you can't take your horse(s) out.

✓ Tell friends and/or neighbors about your plans and needs. Have a list of names and phone nos. of neighbors/people who can help, especially if you can't get home in time to get your animals out.

✓ If you cannot get your animal(s) out, do not turn them loose where they could be hit by emergency or other vehicles. Put them in as safe a place as you can and make sure someone knows where they are so they can be cared for if you cannot get back in. There are always people who don't evacuate who could feed and water your animal(s) until you can get back.



### **SOME PHONE NUMBERS & CONTACT INFO:**

Agoura Animal Care and Control – 818 991-0071

[ERT@animalcare.lacounty.gov](mailto:ERT@animalcare.lacounty.gov)

-Pierce College – 818 710-2980\

-Hansen Dam Equestrian Center – 818 896-6514

-Ventura County Fairground – 805 648-3376

Evac-U-Pet has a mobile app to connect volunteers with people who need to evacuate horses, dogs, etc. Check out [www.evacupet.com](http://www.evacupet.com) 833 382-8738 It's a free service, to sign up before you need them.

### **OTHER RESOURCES**

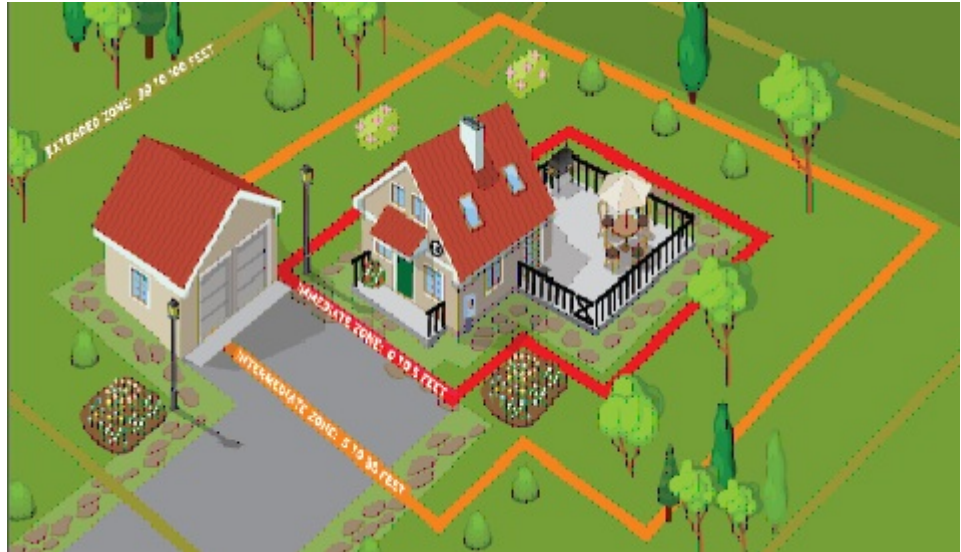
-"WHAT DO I DO WITH MY HORSE CAT, DOG, CHILD, GERBIL IN FIRE, FLOOD, AND/OR EARTHQUAKE?" Booklet is available to download via the [www.etinational.com](http://www.etinational.com) website under Forms and Documents <http://animalcare.lacounty.gov> -Ventura County Animal Services

## WILDFIRE PREPAREDNESS

The 4-steps to general preparedness discussed at page \_\_\_ above are clearly applicable to wildfires. Plan for the worst case scenario: road closures, a lack of water, power, natural gas and internet. During hot, dry, windy high fire danger (“RED FLAG”) days, monitor local media for information and be ready to implement your emergency plan. ANTICIPATE THE LIKELIHOOD THAT EVACUATION OF YOUR FAMILY AND ANIMALS COULD BE NECESSARY.

### HOW TO “HARDEN” YOUR HOME AND MAKE IT SAFER DURING A WILDFIRE

Wildfires are inevitable events in our region of the Santa Monica Mountains. It is a matter of when, not if. Although “fire season” conditions generally exist between September and December, when the combination of dry brush and chaparral, strong Santa Ana winds (blowing from the northeast to the southwest) and low humidity is more common, in the Santa Monica Mountains, such conditions can arise almost any time of year.



We’ve all seen pictures showing what is characterized as a “miracle” house that didn’t burn in the midst of structures that were all destroyed. Most of the time, the difference in outcome is not “luck.” Homes survive because potential ignition risks have been addressed by advance preparation. Homes are seldom lost because of the massive wall of flames associated with a firestorm. Photos of unconsumed vegetation and structures after a fire reveal that wildfires did not flow through the community like lava or a tsunami to “explode” houses into balls of flame. Ignition is instead almost always attributable to showers of firebrands (burning embers -- see photo at left) that ignite fuel at or adjacent to the structure. In high wind conditions, embers can be blown from 6 miles away or even more.

Although wildfire behavior is influenced by 5 main factors (topography, weather, fuel, vegetation and structure), the primary factor – which we can control – is removal of fuel, thereby reducing the risk of ignition. This is critically important given the fact that it is more than likely that you will not have a fire truck stationed at or near your home. In a sense, the homily “it takes a village” is certainly applicable to wildfire risk. If an inadequately “hardened” home or structure next door to you ignites, such ignition can trigger a chain reaction with fire skipping from house to house.

The area that primarily determines home ignition is called the “Home Ignition Zone,” which extends from the house (including attached structures like a deck) to a distance of 100 feet. Limiting the amount of flammable vegetation, utilization of fire-resistant building materials and construction techniques, and periodic exterior maintenance dramatically increases the chances your home will survive a wildfire when exposed to embers and/or a surface fire. Three (3) zones of attention have been developed: the **IMMEDIATE ZONE:** 0-5 feet around the house; **INTERMEDIATE ZONE:** 5 - 30 feet; and **EXTENDED ZONE:** 30 - 100 feet. The wildfire reduction steps that can make your home safer during a wildfire are set forth below.

Many of our neighbors declined to follow evacuation orders from local authorities during past wildfires that have threatened our community. Numerous studies have dealt with the concept of “shelter-in-place” where a seemingly knowledgeable and competent individual makes an informed decision to rely upon a properly prepared residential structure as a safe refuge while the wildfire passes by, exiting after the threat passes to extinguish small fires that may have developed. This decision is usually based upon the knowledge that most houses are lost as a result of ember attacks before or after the fire front has passed, not from the passing flame front. Needless to say, physical preparations including a wide range of measures to reduce fire risk to the property, provide for fire suppression, and ways to ensure personal safety (e.g. protective apparel, [full] face mask, etc.), as well as psychological readiness to respond to the fire, are critically important.

**LOCAL FIRE OFFICIALS DO NOT RECOMMEND IGNORING EVACUATION ORDERS.**

**ACTION CHECKLIST – BEFORE A FIRE THREATENS**  
**IMMEDIATE ZONE (0-5FT) – HOME AND ATTACHED STRUCTURES**

**Make Sure Your Address is Clearly Visible to First Responders From the Road**

**✓Chimney to Eaves**

● Your roof is the most vulnerable part of your home because it can easily catch fire from windblown embers. Replace wood shake and shingle roofs with fire-resistant types such as composition, metal and tile, and repair or replace those that are loose or missing. Routinely remove plant debris such as pine needles, leaves, branches and bark from the roof.



● Plug openings/gaps in roof coverings, such as the open ends of barrel tiles with noncombustible materials & cover vent openings with 1/8" metal mesh.

● Check for and cover (with 1/8" mesh) any nooks and crannies or other small spaces created by adjoining roofs where embers could collect and ignite litter (including bird nests – see photo at right). Box in eaves if practicable.



● Keep rain gutters free of plant debris during fire season using rain gutter covers to reduce maintenance.

● Replace plastic skylights with types constructed of double pane tempered glass.

● Install an approved spark arrester on chimneys.

**✓Exterior Walls and Windows**

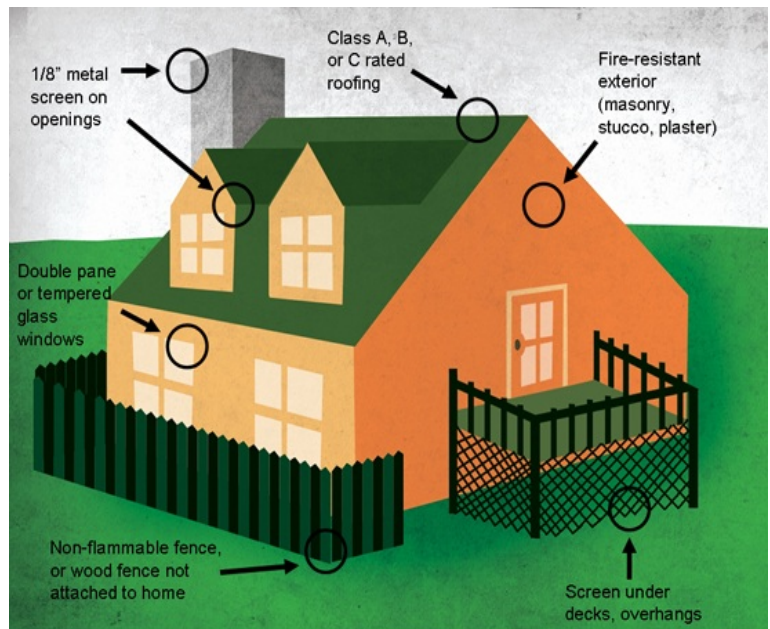
● Cover attic, eave and foundation vents and crawl space openings with 1/8" wire mesh or install new vent types designed to prevent ember entry. If wildfire is threatening, consider covering vent openings with precut plywood or aluminum foil folded several layers thick and stapled.



● Replace single pane, non-tempered glass windows with multiple pane, tempered glass types. Close all windows if wildfire is threatening.

● Fill gaps in siding and trim materials with a good quality caulk and replace building materials in poor condition

● Adjust garage doors to achieve as tight a fit as possible with the door frame. Consider using trim around the garage door opening to reduce the size of the gap openings. Close the garage door if wildfire is threatening.



### ✓Attached Decks/Other Structures

- Remove plant debris, wood piles and other easily ignited materials from the top of and under decks and between deck boards. Consider enclosing the open sides of the deck with siding materials that are properly vented or 1/8" wire mesh to reduce maintenance and deter ember entry. Do not use wooden lattice to enclose decks.



### INTERMEDIATE ZONE (5-30FT)/EXTENDED ZONE (30-50 FT)

### ✓Landscaping and Maintenance

- Eliminate areas of continuous dried/flammable vegetation within the intermediate (0-30 ft) zone, which could ignite and allow fire to travel to your home or other structures. Removing continuity by clearing, trimming, thinning, cutting back and removing fuel can prevent the potential for ignition spread. Your property does not have to be devoid of trees and other vegetation. But trees and shrub canopies should be discontinuous as singles or small clusters between the house and extended focus area.



- Prune branches of large trees up to (depending on their height) 6-10 ft from ground. No heavy surface accumulations of branches, twigs and foliage. Note possibility of overlapping home ignition zones between houses.



- Move firewood stacks, construction material, trash and woodpiles at least 30 ft from the house or other buildings. Consider covering combustible materials with tarps.



- Trim branches that overhang home, porch and deck, remove plants containing resins, oils and waxes and ensure mulches in immediate zone are non-combustible (e.g. crushed stone and gravel).



- Eliminate all continuous horizontal and vertical vegetation and/or materials that could create a "ladder" effect for spreading fire up a wall or along areas adjacent to home. While it might be the case that the vegetation looks green, it is entirely likely that there is dead, highly flammable material under the green facade, which could slowly smoulder and lead to flaming combustion some time later.

- Maintain wooden fences in good condition and create a noncombustible fence section or gate next to the house for at least 5 feet.





## Pre-Evacuation Preparation Steps

When an evacuation is anticipated and if time permits, follow these checklists to give your home the best chance of surviving a wildfire.

### Animals



- Locate your pets and keep them nearby
- Prepare farm animals for transport and think about moving them to a safe location early.

### Inside



- Shut all windows and doors, leaving them unlocked. Seal up any pet doors.
- If possible, place tarps over firewood, decks and other combustible materials that can't readily be moved out of danger.
- Remove flammable window shades, lightweight curtains, and close metal shutters.
- Move flammable furniture to the center of the room, away from windows and doors.
- Leave your lights on – inside and outside – so firefighters can see your home under smoky conditions.
- Shut off the air conditioning.
- Shut off the gas meter. Turn off pilot lights.
- Have fire extinguisher and tools, such as a shovel, rake, bucket and hoe available.
- Unlock garage door openers
- Leave front door unlocked.

- Take irreplaceable valuables, cash, changes of clothes, medicines and necessities for all family members and pets.

### Outside



- Gather up flammable items from the exterior of the house and bring them inside (e.g. patio furniture, children's toys, doormats, etc.) or place them in your pool
- Turn off propane tanks. Move propane BBQ appliances away from structures.
- Connect multiple garden hoses to outside water valves or spigots – long enough to reach any area of your home – for use by fire fighters. Fill water buckets and place them around the house.
- Don't have sprinkles on or water running. They can affect critical water pressure.
- Put your emergency supply kit in your vehicle.
- Back your loaded vehicle into the driveway with all doors and windows closed. Carry your car keys with you.
- Have a ladder available
- Seal attic and ground vents with pre-cut plywood or commercial seals, if time permits.
- Monitor your property and the wildfire situation. ***Don't wait for an evacuation order if you feel threatened and need to leave.***
- Check on neighbors and make sure they are preparing to leave.

## EARTHQUAKE PREPAREDNESS

**When the ground shakes, the key words are “Drop,” “Cover” and “Hold.”**

Running away is not a good idea. Most people get hurt because they run and things fall on them. The best thing to do is find a safe place within 3 or 4 seconds. **DROP** to the ground. Take **COVER** under a desk or table, and if not available, cover with your arms or a pillow and try to get beside an inside wall or heavy piece of furniture, or crouch low between rows of chairs. Standing in a doorway is not a good idea. It will not protect you, and you could even get hurt by the door swinging back and forth. During an earthquake, the most dangerous place to be is just outside a building.

- **BEFORE**

- Don't hang mirrors or framed art over your bed. Move your bed away from windows.
- Bolt tall furniture and electronic equipment to wall studs with straps.
- Move heavy objects to lower shelves.
- Install latches on your cabinets to prevent them from opening in a quake.
- Brace overhead light fixtures.
- Bolt your house to its foundations.
- Secure your water heater to wall studs.
- Identify safe locations in each room to take cover.

- **DURING**

- **Drop, cover and hold on.** Drop wherever you are. Crawl to a sturdy piece of furniture and take cover. Cover your head and neck. Hold on to a leg of the furniture. If the furniture moves, you should move with it.
- If you're not near cover, crouch by an interior wall.
- If you're in bed, stay there and cover your head with a pillow.
- If you're driving, calmly pull over to a clear area away from bridges and overpasses, and put the car in park.
- If you're outdoors, move to an open area away from buildings, trees and wires, then drop and cover.



- **AFTER**

- Stay alert.
- Be prepared for aftershocks. Some aftershocks may be strong. **Drop, cover and hold on for each one.**
- Fire is the most common hazard after an earthquake. Be ready to extinguish small fires. Look around your home for damage.
- If you feel at all unsafe, get everyone out. Don't return home until local authorities say it's safe.
- If your home suffered damage, contact your homeowners insurance company to begin the inspection and claim process.



## STORMS, FLOODS AND MUDSLIDES

### ***BEFORE THE FLOOD***

1. Consider purchasing flood insurance (Note -- 30-day waiting period before it becomes effective).
2. Assess the safety of your house and belongings in case of a flood or mudslide.
  - Are you near a creek?
  - Do you live above or below a steep hillside?
  - Do you have to drive over a creek or bridge to get to a main road?
3. Clean drains and gutters around the house in the fall before the winter rains come. Check drains on nearby streets. If blocked, notify the Dept. of Public Works at **1-800-675-HELP (4357)**.
4. If diversion of water or mud is necessary, plan to fill sandbags well before the rain starts; sandbags are available at your local fire stations. Take time now to find out what fire station serves your area and learn proper placement of sandbags.
5. If you live in a hilly area, maintain all slopes in a safe manner. Use appropriate plantings, slope coverage, and drainage channels. For information on drought and fire-resistant plants, the Fire Department has a guide to native plants on its website at [www.fire.lacounty.gov/Forestry](http://www.fire.lacounty.gov/Forestry) or contact the **Fire Department at (213) 456-7891**

### ***DURING THE FLOOD***

1. **TURN AROUND. DON'T DROWN.** Do not cross rapidly flowing streams. Stay on one side until the water recedes. Most streams will go down in a couple of hours, once it stops raining.
2. During a storm, check drainage systems at your home and driveways to maintain a safe situation and limit damage
3. Watch for mudslides and adjust drainage to reduce mudslides.
4. If you notice a major mud slippage either above or below your house, move your family to a safe location, notify your neighbors and call the Dept. of Public Works at **1-800-675-HELP (4357)**



*Flooded bridge over Cold Creek, in the Malibu Canyon community of Monte Nido during the "El Nino rain event", February 1992. Water at this location is about ten feet above normal levels.*

### ***AFTER THE FLOOD***

1. Don't return to your flood damaged home before the area is declared to be safe by law enforcement and health officials.
2. Assess damage; check hillsides, houses, etc. for slope movement, settling, and water damage.
3. Following a storm, drive slowly and carefully as many roads may have mud, debris, holes, and washed-out areas.
4. Check with the Dept. of Public Works at **1-800-675-HELP (4357)** or at [www.ladpw.org](http://www.ladpw.org) to find out what roads are damaged.
5. Remember, many mudslides occur as the soil dries after an extended wet period, so a mudslide may take place several days after the rain stops.
6. Winter is often the best time to plant slopes, so make plans and fix any problem areas before the rainy season begins.

## BASIC FIRST AID

### THE THREE CS OF EMERGENCY FIRST AID

**CHECK:** Check the scene and the person. Your safety comes first.

**CALL:** Call 9-1-1 or the local emergency number to activate the emergency medical services system.

**CARE:** Care for the person.

### Checking an Adult Who Appears to Be Unresponsive

1 Shout, tap and shout again while checking for normal breathing.

- Gaspings is not normal breathing.
- Check for no more than 5 to 10 seconds.



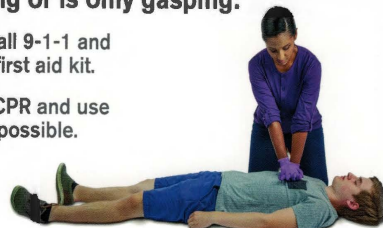
2 If the person responds but is not fully awake:

- Send someone to call 9-1-1 and obtain an AED and first aid kit.
- Do a head-to-toe check.
- Place the person into the recovery position if there are no apparent injuries.



3 If the person does not respond and is not breathing or is only gasping:

- Send someone to call 9-1-1 and obtain an AED and first aid kit.
- Immediately begin CPR and use an AED as soon as possible.



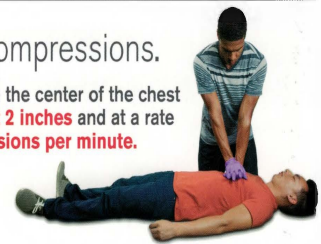
### CPR

1 Verify that the person is unresponsive and is not breathing or is only gasping.

2 Ensure that the person is face-up on a firm, flat surface.

3 Give 30 chest compressions.

- Push hard and fast in the center of the chest to a depth of **at least 2 inches** and at a rate of **100-120 compressions per minute**.



4 Give 2 rescue breaths.

- Open the airway, pinch the nose shut and make a complete seal over the person's mouth with your mouth.
- Blow into the person's mouth for about 1 second, ensuring that the chest rises.



*If the chest does not rise, retilt the head and ensure a proper seal before giving the second rescue breath.*



- Take a breath, make a seal and then give the second rescue breath.



*If the second breath does not make the chest rise, begin compressions. After the next set of chest compressions, open the mouth, look for an object and, if seen, remove it. Continue to check the mouth for an object after each set of compressions until the rescue breaths go in.*

5 Continue giving sets of 30 chest compressions and 2 rescue breaths.

## Choking

1 Verify that the person is choking and obtain consent.

2 Give 5 back blows.



3 Give 5 abdominal thrusts.



4 Continue giving sets of 5 back blows and 5 abdominal thrusts until:

- The person can cough forcefully, speak, cry or breathe.
- The person becomes unresponsive.



*If the person becomes unresponsive, lower him or her to the ground and begin CPR, starting with compressions. After each set of compressions and before attempting rescue breaths, open the person's mouth, look for the object and remove it if seen.*

## Stroke

1 Think FAST.

- **Face.** Ask the person to smile. Is there weakness or drooping on one side of the face?
- **Arm.** Ask the person to raise both arms. Does one arm drift downward or appear to be weak?
- **Speech.** Ask the person to repeat a simple sentence, such as "The sky is blue." Does the person have trouble speaking, or is his or her speech slurred?
- **Time.** If the person has difficulty performing any of these actions or shows any other signs and symptoms of stroke, call 9-1-1 immediately.

2 Stay with the person until EMS personnel arrive.

- If the person is responsive but not fully awake, put the person in the recovery position.

## External Bleeding

1 Cover the wound with a sterile gauze pad and apply direct pressure until the bleeding stops.

- If blood soaks through the first gauze pad, put another one on top and apply additional direct pressure.



2 Apply a roller bandage.

- Check for circulation (feeling, warmth and color) beyond the injury.
- Wrap the bandage around the wound several times to hold the gauze pad(s) in place.
- Tie or tape the bandage to secure it.
- Check for circulation (feeling, warmth and color) beyond the injury and loosen the bandage if necessary.



*If the bleeding does not stop, call 9-1-1 if you have not already and give care for shock if necessary.*

## Burns

1 Stop.

- **Thermal burn:** Remove the source of the heat.
- **Chemical burn:** Remove contaminated clothing. Flush the area with cool water for 20 minutes (wet chemical) or brush the chemical off and then flush with cool water for 15 minutes (dry chemical).
- **Electrical burn:** Turn off the power at its source. Do not touch the person until the power has been turned off.

2 Cool.

- Use cool or cold water that is suitable for drinking.
- Cool the burn for at least 10 minutes.

3 Cover.

- Cover the burn loosely with a sterile dressing.

# **SUPPLIES AND RESOURCES**

SOS Survival Products

Sosproducts.com

1-800-479-7998

First Aid Supplies

Water Barrels, etc.

CASCO Industries

Protective Apparel/Face Masks, etc.

1-800-551-8787