

Preparedness: The Path to Safety



Oakland Community Preparedness & Response Program Workshop

Doug Mosher
Program Manager

Oakland Community Preparedness & Response Program (OCP&R)

OCP&R is a community program...

to provide education in the form of workshops, materials and support...

to increase disaster preparedness levels and to improve disaster response capabilities...

for all of Oakland.

Complements CERT training



www.oaklandfiresafecouncil.org



What Does OCP&R Cover?

- ✓ Organized Neighborhoods
 - ✓ Alerts and notifications
 - ✓ Evacuation plans, Go-Bags/Stay-Boxes
 - ✓ Power outages
 - ✓ Hardening against earthquake/wildfire
 - ✓ Responding during a disaster
 - ✓ Safety after a disaster
- + GENOAK 2-way radio network
- www.genoak.org



All information online
and detailed in Guides
on our site:

www.oaklandcpandr.org

OCP&R Partners/Sources



**California Department of
Forestry & Fire Protection**

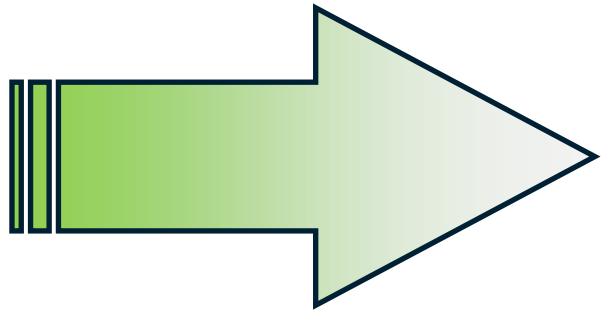


Workshop Focus

- ✓ Why we need to prepare
- ✓ How to prepare at home and in the neighborhood
- ✓ How best to respond
- ✓ How best to recover
- ✓ Actions to take

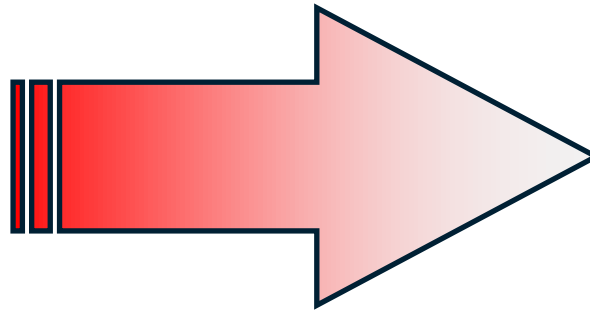
Process Flow

Organize and
Prepare



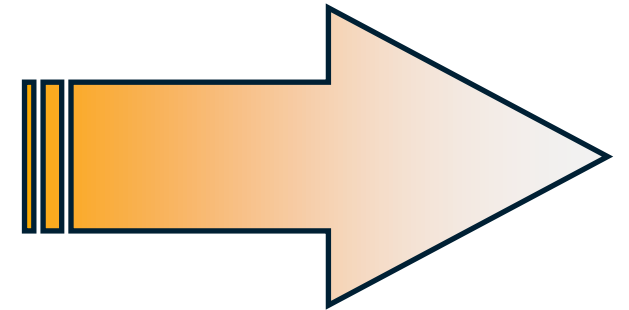
Before an
Emergency

Respond



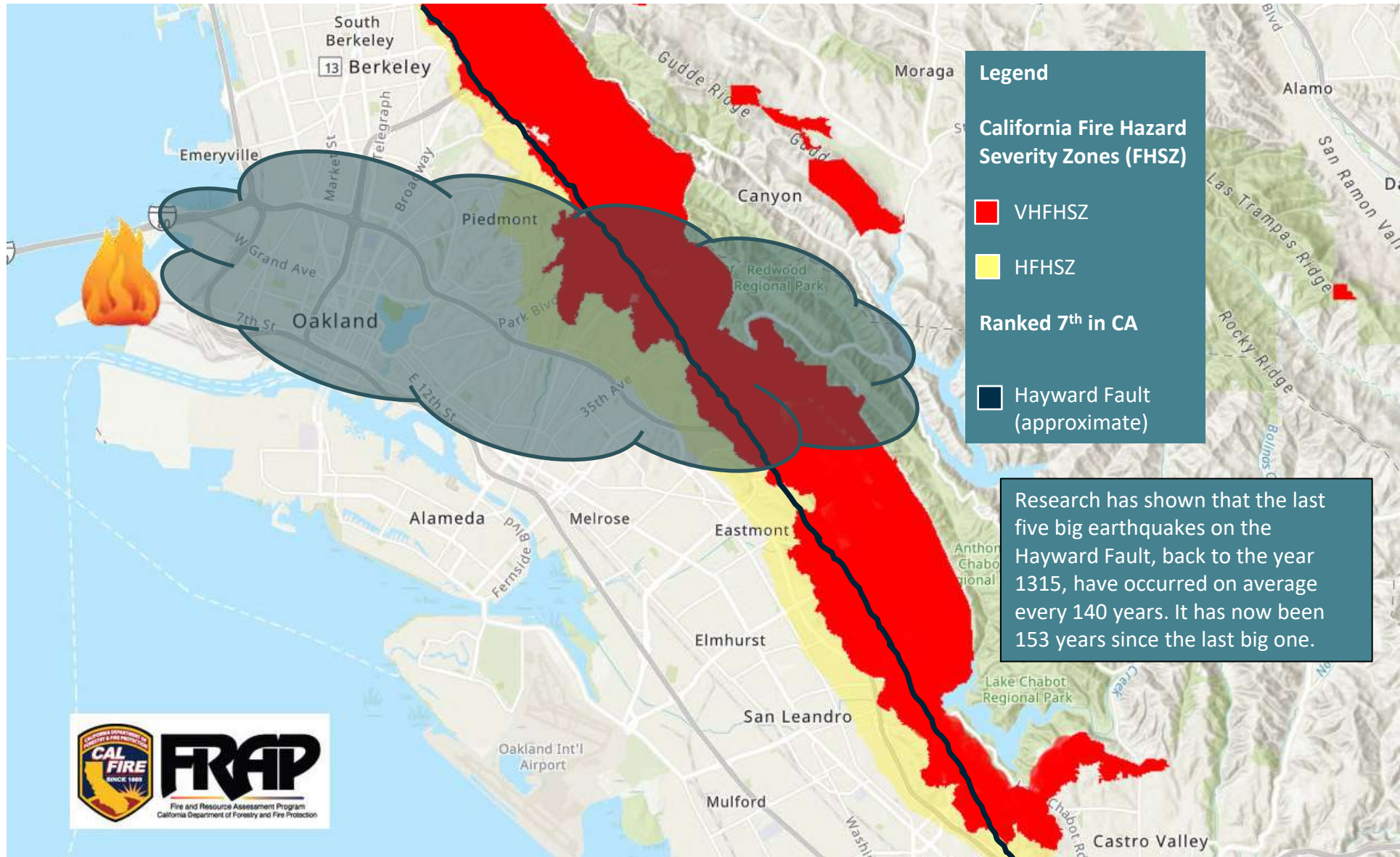
During an
Emergency

Recover



After an
Emergency

Why We Need to be Prepared



We Respond First*

(Or, “You are the help until help arrives”)

We need to be able to care for ourselves, our families and our neighbors for several days, as first responders will likely be engaged elsewhere.

Effectively responding to an emergency requires being prepared!

* However, most of us are **not** First Responder professionals!

PREPARE

BEFORE AN EMERGENCY

- ✓ **Be Organized**
- ✓ **Be Ready!**

Many Advantages of Being Organized

- ✓ Know and help each other – trusted support network
- ✓ Prepare for and respond to an emergency – strength in numbers
- ✓ Create a safer area and help reduce crime (Neighborhood Watch)
- ✓ Improve the neighborhood
- ✓ Build a more connected community

Address parking and traffic concerns!



Photo: Paul Chinn, The Chronicle

How to Organize Your Neighborhood

Form a startup team

- ✓ Identify boundaries, create a map

Meet your neighbors

- ✓ Hold a kick-off Zoom/social event
- ✓ Build a roster of contact information
- ✓ Poll neighbors for their priorities

Identify opportunities, e.g.:

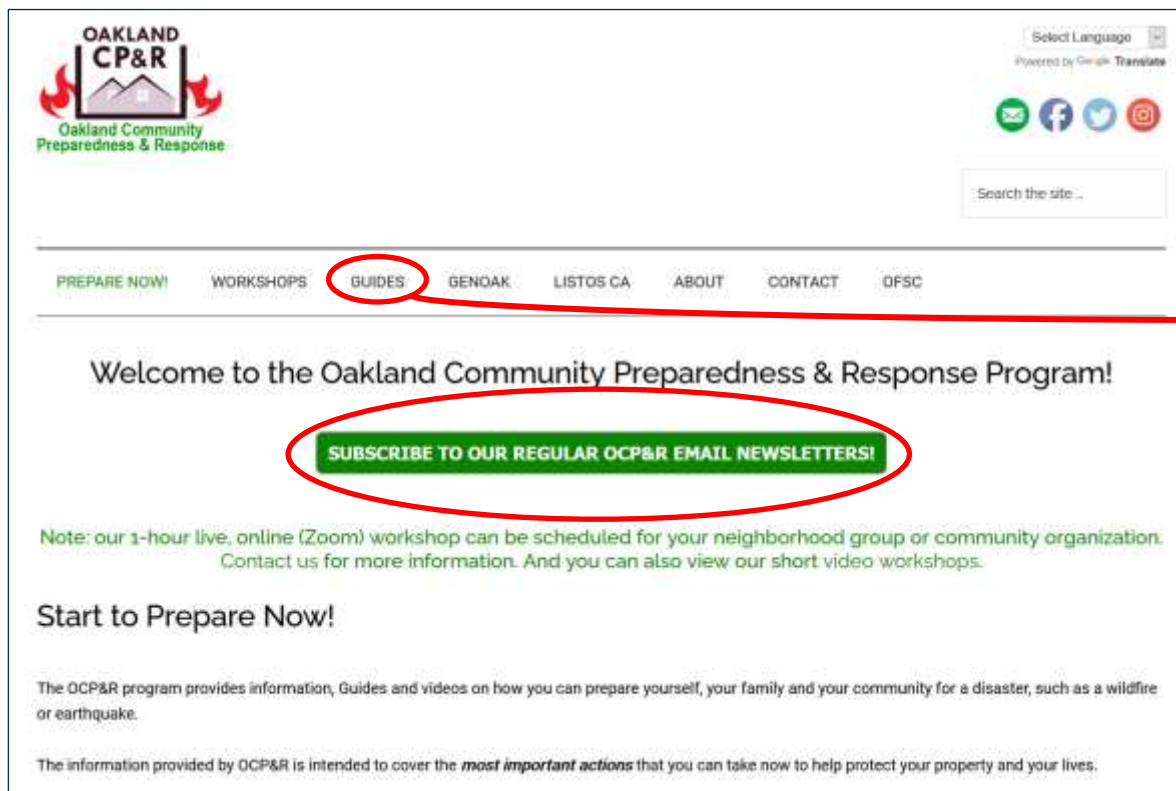
- ✓ Increase readiness for earthquake/wildfire
- ✓ Become Neighborhood Watch trained



Plan a neighborhood party!

Detailed Guides are Available!

www.oaklandcpandr.org
(www.cpandr.org)



Receive Alerts and Notifications



- Will deliver emergency information and instructions to your **home phone, cell phone and/or by email**
www.acgov.org/emergencysite
- Cell Wireless Emergency Alerts
- Nixle, Twitter, Citizen, Nextdoor, etc.
- 2-way radio networks (GENOAK)

Radio Alerts

- Emergency Broadcast News
 - **KCBS - 740 AM**
 - KGO - 810 AM
 - 530 AM (emergencies only)
- FM Stations
 - **KQED - 88.5 FM**



AM/FM/NOAA Radio

Follow all instructions given by police, fire or emergency responders!

Watches, Warnings and Orders

- Fire Weather Watch: Prepare for Wildfire
 - Red Flag Warning: **Exercise Caution – Be Ready!**
-



- Evacuation Warning: Prepare to Evacuate
 - Evacuation Order: **Take Action – Leave!**
-



- Shelter-in-Place: Stay Put
-
- Oakland Emergency Siren System: Monitor Radio

Create Your Disaster/Evacuation Plan

- ✓ Study a map to identify routes in every direction that may be potential evacuation options, plus local potential sheltering sites
- ✓ Know your Zonehaven Zone Name (e.g. OKL-E029)
- ✓ Have your Go-Bags/Stay-Box packed and accessible
- ✓ Know which neighbors may need help, plan to assist
- ✓ Have a checklist of items to quickly grab
- ✓ For pets have carriers, harnesses and water/food/supplies ready
- ✓ Designate meeting locations to reunite with family members and an out-of-area contact to update
- ✓ Practice, practice, practice!



Build Your Go-Bag to Survive 1 - 2 Days

- ✓ Headlamp/flashlight
- ✓ AM/FM/NOAA radio
- ✓ Cell phone charger/backup battery
- ✓ Change of clothes, comfortable shoes
- ✓ Gloves, mask and eye protection
- ✓ Personal items/extra glasses
- ✓ Medication and prescriptions
- ✓ Water and snacks/food
- ✓ Gas shut-off wrench, First Aid kit, whistle, emergency blanket
- ✓ Copies of important documents, money
- ✓ Extra batteries (don't store batteries in devices!)



Pack items in a backpack, duffle bag or sturdy shopping bag

Build Go-Bags
for your
home,
vehicles and
workplace

Build Your Stay-Box to Survive a Week

To create your Stay-Box, store Go-Bags in or next to large container(s) with:

- ✓ Extra food and water
- ✓ Fire extinguishers
- ✓ Sanitary supplies
- ✓ Camping supplies, etc.



Prepare for Power Outages/PSPS

Be Ready (note: PSPS typically on RFW days)

- Sign-up at PG&E's Website for notices and information
- Prepare for your own medical needs
- Charge your devices and backup batteries
- Know how to open your garage door manually, consider installing a garage door opener battery back-up
- Consider an alternate power source such as a generator or a solar-charged, large storage battery
- Know that cell phone service isn't guaranteed!



www.pge.com



Harden Your Home Against Earthquake

Minimize structural and non-structural hazards inside and outside your home!

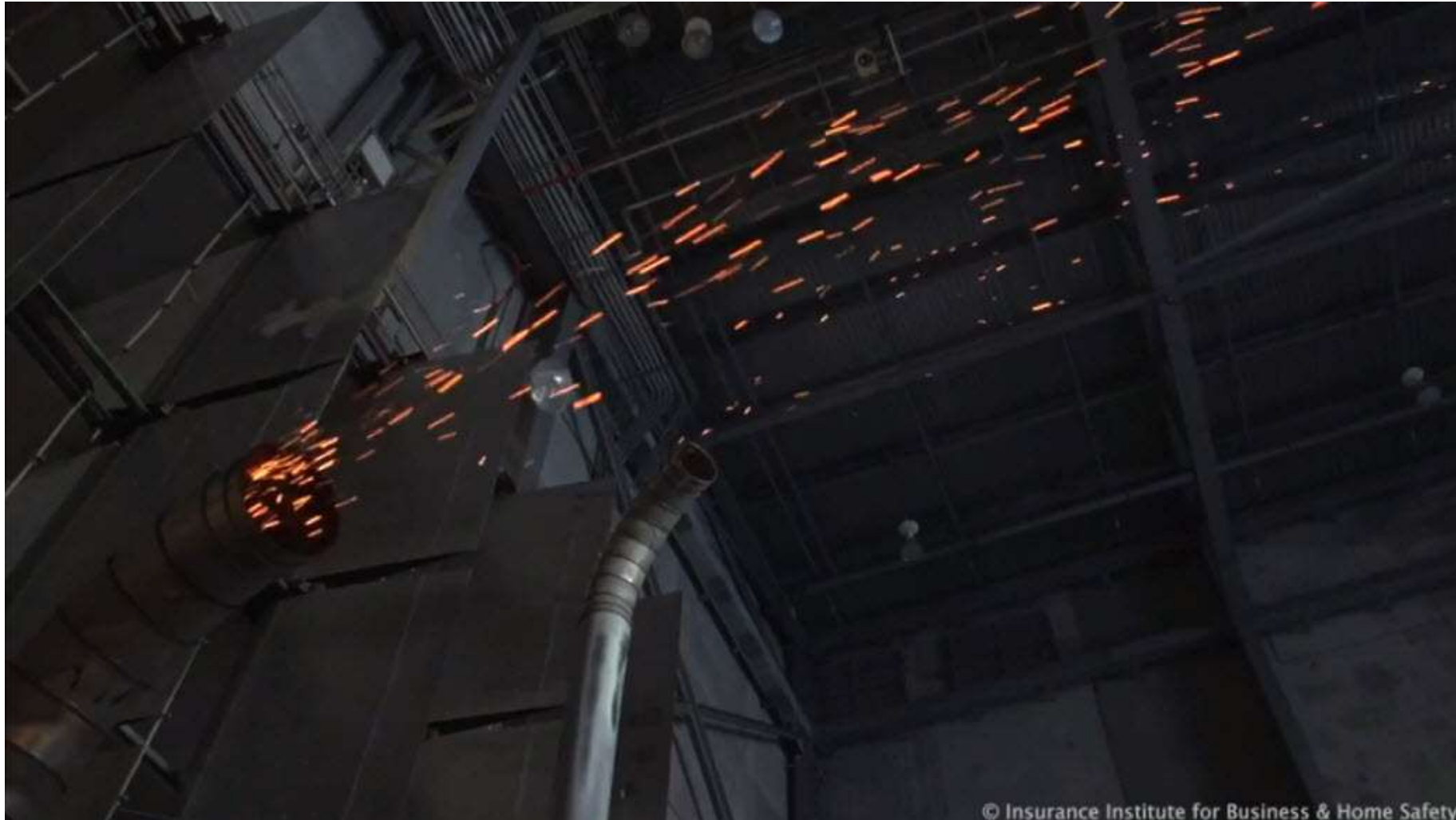
- Secure appliances, bookshelves, hot water heater, etc.
- Install safety latches on cabinets
- Ensure porches and decks are secured to the house
- Have chimneys frequently cleaned and inspected
- Label utility shut-offs, consider installing an Auto (Seismic) Gas Shutoff Valve
- Have your home inspected by a contractor or engineer certified in seismic work and consider recommended seismic upgrades



Photo: Joe Pugliese / Los Angeles Times

Why Embers are Dangerous!

Insurance Institute for Business & Home Safety



© Insurance Institute for Business & Home Safety

<https://vimeo.com/79340385>

Harden Your Home Against Wildfire

Embers, radiant heat and direct flame contact will ignite structures!

- Create 5' of no combustibles around your home
- Limb tree branches 6' or more up from ground level
- No overhanging limbs within 10 feet above the roof
- Install vent screens (1/8" mesh or less) to prevent embers from entering
- Remove flammables on or under porches and decks
- Fences should have non-combustible sections next to structures
- Ensure roof is Class A rated, tempered double-pane windows ideal



Regularly clean roofs and gutters!

But I Don't Live in the "Hills/WUI"!



Tubbs Fire — Coffey Park, Santa Rosa, CA — Oct 11, 2017

Photo: Elijah Nouvelage/AFP/Getty Images

Additional Training

CORE: Communities of Oakland
Respond to Emergencies



CORE is now a broader
volunteer program

CERT: Community Emergency
Response Team (FEMA)



CERT is the new
training curriculum

<https://www.oaklandca.gov/topics/oaklandcert>

RESPOND

DURING AN EMERGENCY

- ✓ **Take Action**
- ✓ **Be Safe!**

What Should I Do?!



Photo: Elise Amendola, AP

If a major earthquake occurs:

- Drop, Cover and Hold On until the shaking stops
- Check yourself, family and home, go outside if home is damaged
- Monitor surroundings, watch for fires, expect aftershocks
- Help others in your neighborhood
- You may not need to evacuate (unless ordered or if you feel unsafe)

What Should I Do?!

If a wildfire approaches:

- Monitor AC Alert, AM/FM radio, 2-way radio and surroundings
- Evacuate if ordered, or if you feel unsafe at any time, leave
- Help others in your neighborhood if possible
- When evacuating it's usually best to remain in your vehicle



Emergency Evacuations

- Follow all orders and instructions and your plan!
- Monitor AC Alert, AM/FM/2-way radio, Zonehaven and your surroundings
- Have animals secured, bring them with you
- Assist neighbors that need help, take one vehicle or carpool
- Remember all your possible ways out
- Seek a refuge area if all your escape routes are blocked
- Schools will protect children
- Remain as calm as possible



RECOVER

AFTER AN EMERGENCY

- ✓ **Be Aware**
- ✓ **Be Helpful!**

Evaluate Your Family and Home

- ✓ Breathe, recompose and check yourself
- ✓ Evaluate your family's health and well-being
- ✓ Check your home for unsafe conditions
- ✓ Wear a mask, gloves, eye protection, hard-soled shoes, long sleeves and pants
- ✓ Do not consume water, food or medicines that have been exposed to fire or smoke



Assist Neighbors and Check In

- ✓ Help neighbors as needed
- ✓ Check in with your contacts
 - ✓ Get in touch with your out-of-area contact
 - ✓ Send text messages during limited cell service
 - ✓ Post your status on social media
- ✓ City and American Red Cross may open shelters
- ✓ Notify your insurance company



Next Steps!

Your Next Steps

- ✓ Register for AC Alert: www.acgov.org/emergencysite
- ✓ Create an evacuation plan and practice it
- ✓ Create your Go-Bags/Stay-Box
- ✓ Prepare for power outages
- ✓ Harden your home against earthquake and wildfire
- ✓ Help organize your neighborhood (if not already)
- ✓ Take additional training - CERT



And Finally

Take preparedness steps one at a time

Anything you do, you are better off than before!

Review the OCP&R Guides on the website as well as online sources like LISTOS California and Ready.gov

If your friends and neighbors haven't prepared, encourage them to do so

Reach out to OCP&R with any questions

Contact Us

Oakland Community Preparedness & Response

ocpr@oaklandfiresafecouncil.org

510.575.0916

www.oaklandcpandr.org

www.oaklandfiresafecouncil.org

www.genoak.org

