



CITY VIEWS

A PUBLICATION OF THE CITY OF LAGUNA HILLS • SPRING 2006

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

In the wake of Hurricane Katrina and the terrorist attack of September 11th, 2001, emergency preparedness has become more paramount than ever. In Laguna Hills we are subject to earthquakes, fires, floods, landslides, hazardous spills, and possibly terrorism. In response to these realities, your City has recently updated its Emergency Operations Plan and has conducted training exercises with the Office of Homeland Security and the State Office of Emergency Services. Even so, local officials and relief workers may be delayed in responding to a crisis and everyone should be

A Look Inside:

Call 2-1-1	2
Water Runoff.....	2
Household Waste Disposal.....	3
Emergency Preparedness.....	4-5
Leasing Opportunities	6

prepared to sustain themselves for at least 72-hours. Make sure your family is ready to handle a disaster because knowing what to do is your best protection.

All of us bear the responsibility for being prepared and the

following steps are recommended:

- 1. IDENTIFY YOUR RISK.**
What are the hazards where you live and work?
 - * Contact your local American Red Cross chapter and get informed.
 - * Check with your insurance company to see if your home is in a high risk area for fire, flood, or earthquakes. Make sure your insurance coverage is up-to-date on an annual basis.
 - * Eliminate and reduce hazards in the home and workplace.

Continued on Page 4

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED! **ANNUAL CITY TRAILS CLEAN UP ON EARTH DAY**

Make a difference in your community in April by participating in the City's Annual Volunteer Connection Day. Volunteers of all ages are encouraged to participate in the annual trail clean-up project. Volunteers must check in at 9 a.m. Saturday, April 22, at the Laguna Hills Community Center and Sports Complex and select trail sections throughout the City for picking up litter. The event is held in conjunction with Earth Day.

Continued on Page 5

FIRST CLASS AT CITIZEN'S DISASTER ACADEMY GRADUATES

The Citizen's Disaster Preparedness Academy is an eight-week program designed to educate the community in how to prepare for and survive a major natural or man-made disaster. The academy provides an overview of City government, law enforcement and fire protection in our community, domestic and international terrorism, search and rescue, fire life safety, earthquake preparedness, 9-1-1 systems, first aid,

Continued on Page 5

USEFUL TIPS ABOUT OUR TELEPHONE SYSTEM

WHEN TO CALL 9-1-1

9-1-1 is the number to call to get help in a police, fire or medical emergency. A 9-1-1 call goes over dedicated phone lines to the 9-1-1 answering point closest to the caller, and trained personnel then send the emergency help needed.

9-1-1 should only be used in emergency situations. An emergency is any situation that requires immediate assistance from the police/sheriff, the fire department or an ambulance. If you are ever in doubt of whether a situation is an emergency you should call 9-1-1. It's better to be safe and let the 9-1-1 call taker determine if you need emergency assistance.

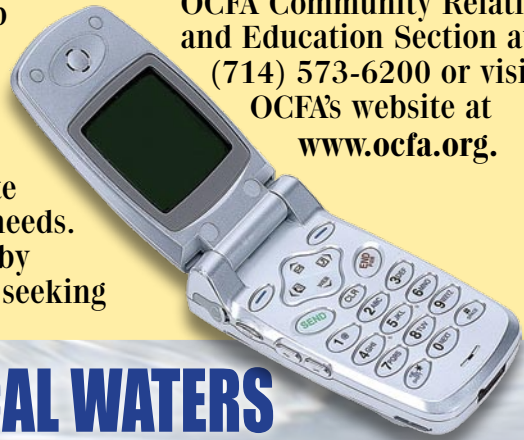
WHEN TO CALL 2-1-1

2-1-1 is a free accessible telephone number that will enable everyone to access the vital community services they need. 2-1-1 provides a one-stop service for vital information by providing the right phone number for the right resource needed. It is the equivalent of 9-1-1 but for non-emergency health and human services.

The 2-1-1 system has been developed to help members of our communities find the information and referral services they need or the appropriate agency to meet those needs. It helps provide unity by linking together those seeking

essential services with the right organization. 2-1-1 eliminates the need to navigate the complicated web of health and human services by providing one simple number to link community services to the people who need them.

To obtain a flyer with additional information on the 9-1-1 and 2-1-1 phone systems, please call the OCFA Community Relations and Education Section at (714) 573-6200 or visit OCFA's website at www.ocfa.org.



TIPS TO IMPROVE OUR LOCAL WATERS

URBAN RUNOFF POLLUTION

Urban runoff is the excess water from outdoor cleaning, irrigation, or car washing. Runoff carries litter, lawn clippings, motor oil, pet waste, and other pollutants into the storm drain. Unlike water that enters the sewer (from sinks and toilets), water that enters the storm drain is not treated before entering our waterways.

A few quick steps to improve the health of our creeks, rivers, bays, and ocean by reducing the quantity and improving the quality of urban runoff from your home include:

- Sweeping up debris and disposing of it in the trash.
- Using dry cleanup methods for outdoor spills.
- Watering the lawn and garden by hand. Set irrigation systems to reflect seasonal water needs.
- Covering trash cans securely.
- Taking hazardous waste, such as paint, batteries and cleaners, to a household hazardous waste collection center. (See Page 3.)
- Storing toxic products in closed, labeled containers inside or under a cover.
- Picking up after your pet and placing the waste in the trash.
- Following directions for pesticides and fertilizers. Always measure and never over water after applying.
- Take your car to a commercial car wash rather than washing it at home.
- At home, use vegetable and citrus-based products to clean your car; shake floor mats into the trash can or vacuum clean.
- Do not pour washwater onto your driveway, sidewalk, street, gutter or storm drain.
- Use a nozzle to turn off water when not washing your car.

Continued from Page 4

- Can Opener - non-electric
- Blankets or Sleeping Bags
- Flashlight, spare bulbs & batteries
- Portable radio, spare batteries
- Essential medications, spare eyeglasses
- Fire Extinguisher - A-B-C type
- Cash and change
- Food and water for Pets
- Baby Supplies

TOOLS AND SUPPLIES

- Axe, shovel, sledgehammer, broom
- Adjustable wrench for turning off gas
- Tool kit - include screwdriver(s), pliers and hammer
- Coil of 1/2 " rope
- Plastic tape, staple gun, and sheeting to seal or replace window
- City and regional maps
- Bicycle
- Dust masks

SAFETY AND COMFORT

- Sturdy Shoes
- Heavy Gloves for cleaning debris
- Candles and matches; Light sticks
- Change of clothing (seasonal), rain poncho
- Knife, utility tool, razor blades
- Garden hose for siphoning and firefighting
- Tent
- Communication kit - paper, pens, envelopes, stamps, address book

COOKING

- Plastic knives, forks, spoons
- Paper plates, cups
- Paper towels
- Heavy-duty aluminum foil
- Camping stove for outdoor cooking (Always check for gas leaks first)

SANITATION SUPPLIES

- Large plastic trash bags for waste
- Bar soap, shampoo, liquid detergent, toothpaste, toothbrush
- Feminine hygiene supplies
- Toilet paper
- Household bleach

PORTABLE DISASTER KIT: FOR WORKPLACE OR CAR

- Water - 2 quarts to a gallon
- Food - energy bars
- Flashlight - spare batteries
- Portable radio - spare batteries
- Light sticks or flares
- First aid kit - to include medications
- Whistle - to signal for help
- Blanket or sleeping bag
- Moist towelettes for sanitation, trowel or sealable bags for sanitation
- Gloves
- Clothes and shoes - for walking
- Rain gear
- City and regional maps
- Rubber hose for siphoning

EARTH DAY VOLUNTEERS!

Continued from Page 1

Volunteers should wear comfortable clothes and shoes. Children ages 12 and under must be supervised by an adult. Volunteering your time can be a wonderful experience and at the same time support your City. Residents can expect a day filled with community spirit.

A "thank you" lunch will be held at the Community Center following the conclusion of the trail clean up project.

For more information, please call 707-2680.

DISASTER ACADEMY GRADUATES

Continued from Page 1

CPR, and AED certification, disaster psychology, and Neighborhood Watch program.

The intent of the course is to prepare citizens to take care of themselves, their family, co-workers and neighbors in the wake of a disaster. By preparing our community, we are better able to respond to those who are in true need of public services in the aftermath of a major incident.

The first class graduated March 23, 2006 after a practical application/ final exam at the Regional Fire Training Facility. A list of interested citizens is being compiled for a future class. If demand is sufficient, another class will be scheduled later this year. For information, call 707-2645.

The class is a joint venture between the Orange County Fire Authority, Orange County Sheriff's Department, the City of Laguna Hills, and local businesses in the community (Doctor's Ambulance and O'Connor Mortuary.)

EMERGENCY BROADCASTING SYSTEM: local emergency television stations for Orange County. (Note: Service providers will interrupt television programming for emergency broadcasts to provide vital emergency information to residents.)

Cox	Emergency Channel 3 KOCE Channel 10	Countywide Laguna Hills
DirecTV	KOCE Channel 50	Laguna Hills
Dish Network	KOCE Channel 50	Laguna Hills

Continued from Page 1

Strap down electronics, anchor tall furniture, secure cabinet doors and overhead objects such as ceiling fans.

2. CREATE A FAMILY DISASTER PLAN.

Designate a meeting place outside your home where family members can go. Have a backup meeting place in your neighborhood in case your first rendezvous is inaccessible. Make sure your children's schools, daycare providers or caregivers have a disaster plan. Use the Family Communication Plan cards provided in this article.

- Identify an out-of-state contact for everyone to check in with.
- Know your area's emergency alerting radio station. See Emergency Alerting System/ Emergency Broadcasting System in this article for emergency radio and cable stations in Laguna Hills.
- * Keep a touch-tone phone that does not require an electric outlet and plugs into a home phone jack. Cell phones and wireless phones may not be working.
- * If you are in the car, find a place to pull over safely and listen to important information over the radio on where to go.
- * Pets-Microchip them and keep their tags up-to-date. Store extra food and water for them as well.

3. PRACTICE YOUR DISASTER PLAN.

After you have written down your plan--

practice it! Ensure that every family member knows how to respond in the event of a disaster.
(See *Sample Disaster Plan.*)

4. BUILD A DISASTER SUPPLY KIT FOR YOUR HOME, WORK AND CAR.

See the Disaster Preparedness Kit and the Portable Disaster Kit lists provided in this article.

5. DON'T FORGET THOSE WITH SPECIAL NEEDS.

Infants, seniors, and persons with disabilities may require specific medications or equipment. Be sure to include them in your emergency supplies.

6. LEARN CPR AND FIRST AID.

Contact your local chapter of the American Red Cross today to train in basic first aid and CPR.

The City is currently educating and training residents of various neighborhoods to enhance the level of readiness. Please access the City website below and click on "Citizen's Disaster Preparedness Academy" for more information. Several other links are also listed below with emergency preparedness information.

- * City of Laguna Hills: <http://www.ci.laguna-hills.ca.us/> and click on "Emergency Preparedness"
- * American Red Cross: http://www.redcross.org/preparedness/cdc_english/CDC.asp
- * Orange County American Red Cross: <http://www.oc-redcross.org/>

- * Orange County Fire Authority: <http://www.ocfa.org/>, click on "Safety & Education"
- * U.S. Department of Homeland Security: <http://www.ready.gov/>

Please join us in our efforts to better prepare our community for a disaster.

Family Communications Plan

Family Contact: _____
 Phone # Home: _____
 Work: _____
 Cell : _____
 Out-of-State Contact: _____
 Phone #: _____

Family Communications Plan

Neighborhood Meeting Place:

Other Information: _____

FAMILY COMMUNICATION PLAN:

Create card for each family member, complete with relevant information.

All important Documents should be centralized and kept in a Fireproof /Waterproof Container.

DISASTER PREPAREDNESS KIT:

Store enough supplies for 72-hours. Pack supplies in easy to carry cases, backpacks, or totes. Water, food, medications, first aid kits, and batteries must be replaced regularly (approximately every 6 months).

SURVIVAL

- Water - 1 gallon/person/day
- First Aid kit - freshly stocked
- First Aid booklet
- Food - packaged, canned, no-cook, baby food and juices, special diets

HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE DISPOSAL

Orange County's Integrated Waste Management Department (IWMD) has extended the hours at the four Household Hazardous Waste Collection Centers (HHWCCs). The new hours of operations at the Centers are Tuesday through Saturday from 9 am to 3 pm. The Centers will also now accommodate the collection of Consumer Electronic Devices. The following items are to be taken to the HHWCCs for proper

disposal and are no longer to be placed in the trash:

- ◆ Batteries (AA, AAA, C, D, and 9-volt; rechargeable used in security system alarms, computers, and toy vehicles; button-type used in watches, calculators, hearing aids.)
- ◆ Novelty items that contain batteries (singing greeting cards, flashing athletic shoes, and jewelry)
- ◆ Cathode Ray Tubes (CRTs

such as televisions, computer monitors)

- ◆ Consumer Electronic Devices (flat-panel TVs and monitors, CPUs, computers, keyboards, cell and cordless phones, game consoles, stereos, microwaves, etc.)

Please be mindful that it is your responsibility to remove or destroy any personal and valuable information from the hard drives.

The following is a list of typical home, vehicle and yard products brought to the HHWCCs:

HOME:	◆ Batteries ◆ Cleaning Products ◆ Cosmetics	◆ Latex paint ◆ Oil Paint ◆ Paint in Aerosol Cans	◆ Fluorescent Tubes and Compacts ◆ Personal Care Products
VEHICLE:	◆ Antifreeze ◆ Batteries ◆ Degreasers	◆ Gasoline ◆ Motor Oil	◆ Unused Road Flares ◆ Waxes & Polishes
YARD:	◆ Fertilizers ◆ Fungicides	◆ Herbicides ◆ Pesticides	◆ Pool Chemicals
OTHER:	◆ Aerosols ◆ BBQ Propane Tanks	◆ Hobby Chemicals ◆ Varnishes ◆ Wood Preservatives	◆ Mercury Products ◆ Medications

Household Hazardous Waste Collection Locations in Orange County

San Juan Capistrano Regional HHWCC: 32250 La Pata Ave., San Juan Capistrano, CA

Irvine Regional HHWCC: 6411 Oak Canyon, Irvine, CA

Anaheim Regional HHWCCL: 1071 N. Blue Gum St., Anaheim, CA

Huntington Beach Regional HHWCC: 17121 Nichols St., Huntington Beach, CA

Laguna Hills residents may dispose of household hazardous waste at the collection centers for FREE. The HHWCCs will continue to serve households only, no business waste is accepted. For more information, please go online to IWMD's website at <http://www.oclandfills.com/>.

General Information

Operating Hours:

8 a.m. - 5 p.m., Monday-Friday

Engineering, Planning and Building Counter Hours:

1 p.m. - 5:30 p.m., Monday-Thursday

1 p.m. - 5 p.m., Friday

Regular City Council Meetings

are held on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month.

Planning Agency Meetings are held on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month.

Traffic Commission Meetings will meet on the third Wednesday of Jan., March, May, July, Sept. and Nov.

Parks and Recreation Commission Meetings will meet on the first Wednesday of Feb., April, June, Aug., Oct., and Dec.

All meetings begin at 7 p.m. in the City Council Chambers.

The Laguna Hills City Council:

R. Craig Scott, Mayor

Melody Carruth, Mayor Pro Tem

Randal J. Bressette

Joel Lautenschleger

L. Allan Songstad, Jr.

Leasing Opportunities Still Available at the City's Civic Center

Space is still available for lease at the newly renovated Laguna Hills Civic Center.

When the renovation and construction was completed in December 2004, and the building was 70 percent occupied. Since then the City has entered into five new leases, bringing the building's occupancy to 90 percent.

Available suites range from 664 to 5,439 square feet. The City is seeking professional office tenants

who are interested in a premiere location, just off the I-5 Freeway in the heart of the Saddleback Valley.

Recent tenant signings include the Orange County Clerk-Recorder, Heritage Escrow, Apple One Employment Agency, Carno and Peters, LLP and McWilliams Financial Corp.

Interested parties should call Essex Realty Management at 218-3801.

ALL telephone numbers are in the 949 calling area unless otherwise indicated.

Planning & Building Public Counter Hours Extended

The City's Public Counter is now open for business a half-hour longer Monday through Thursday. The Public Counter hours are:

- Monday through Thursday from 1 to 5:30 p.m.
- Friday from 1 to 5 p.m.

Note: Cashier services end 15 minutes prior to closing, in order to complete the day's financial transactions.

CITY VIEWS is published by the City of Laguna Hills and is distributed as a public service to City residents and businesses. We welcome your suggestions and feedback and value your involvement in the community. Please send or call in any comments or questions to:

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