



# CITY OF RIVERSIDE COMMUNITY PREPAREDNESS NEWSLETTER

RIVERSIDE FIRE  
DEPARTMENT

FALL 2012

Volume II, Issue II



OFFICE OF  
EMERGENCY  
MANAGEMENT

## This September: "Pledge to Prepare."

As we prepare for **September's National Preparedness Month (NPM)** it is also a time to be at the top of our game. Children are back in school, take extra care, be observant, expect the unexpected, be patient, obey the rules of the road and drive safely. **September also brings us to a critical point in fire season in Southern California.**

While September is the month for recognizing national preparedness, the goal is to make preparedness a part of our daily lives every day and not just one single month. So, this September, **Pledge to Prepare** in the event you must go for days without electricity, water service, and access to a supermarket, or local services.

Vegetation is at its driest point of the season, temperatures often are extreme this time of the year, humidity levels are often very low and then we see the Santa Ana winds kick up during late summer and early fall. These hazardous fire conditions cause concern and require extra preparation. This year's **NPM** campaign focuses on the theme: **"PLEDGE TO PREPARE - AWARENESS TO ACTION."** Do your part by taking this month to: **Make a Family Emergency Plan; Build a Home Disaster Kit; Be Informed** on Changing Threats and Hazards such as hazardous fire or weather conditions; and **Get Involved** in community emergency preparedness.

Major disasters can affect families, communities and businesses. It takes all aspects of the community to effectively prepare for, respond to, and recover from disasters. Communities must work together to develop capabilities to respond quickly, and recover in a way that increases our community's resilience.



Make a difference by learning more about how local emergency services & resources respond by attending the **Riverside Fire Department - OEM - 2nd Annual Ready Riverside Emergency Preparedness Fair** on Wednesday, **September 26, 2012 from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm 3900 Main Street**, (in front of City Hall). Purchase emergency supplies at discounted prices! View emergency response vehicles and get tips on developing a family emergency plan, (see back page for details.) We hope to see you there!

Emergencies can happen unexpectedly in communities just like ours, to people like us. We've seen tornado outbreaks, flash floods, historic earthquakes, tsunamis, and even water main breaks and power outages in U.S. cities affecting millions of people for days at a time.

Sincerely,  
Riverside Fire Department  
Office of Emergency Management  
[www.readyriverside.com](http://www.readyriverside.com)

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# WILDFIRE ACTION PLAN CONTINUED...

## AS THE FIRE APPROACHES:

- Alert family and neighbors.
- Dress in appropriate clothing (i.e., clothing made from natural fibers, such as cotton, and work boots).
- Have goggles and a dry bandana or particle mask handy.
- Ensure that you have your brush fire survival kit on hand that includes necessary items, such as a battery-powered radio, spare batteries, emergency contact numbers, and ample drinking water.



Stay tuned to your TV or local radio stations for updates. Remain close to your house, drink plenty of water and keep an eye on your family and pets if you did not evacuate.

## OUTDOOR CHECKLIST

- Gather up flammable items from the exterior of the house and bring them inside (e.g., patio furniture, children's toys, door mats, etc.) or place them in your pool.
- Turn off propane tanks.
- Connect garden hoses to outside taps.
- Don't leave sprinklers on or water running - they can waste critical water pressure.

- Leave exterior lights on. Back your car into the garage. Shut doors and roll up windows.
- Have a ladder available.
- Patrol your property and extinguish all small fires.
- Seal attic and ground vents with pre-cut plywood or commercial seals.

## INDOOR CHECKLIST

- Shut all windows and doors, leaving them unlocked.
- Remove flammable window shades and curtains and close metal shutters.
- Remove lightweight curtains.
- Move flammable furniture to the center of the room, away from windows and doors.
- Shut off gas at the meter. Turn off pilot lights.
- Leave your lights on so firefighters can see your house under smoky conditions.
- Shut off the air conditioning.
- **IF YOU ARE TRAPPED: SURVIVAL TIPS**
- Shelter away from outside walls. Patrol inside your home for spot fires and extinguish them.
- Wear long sleeves and long pants made of natural fibers such as cotton.
- Stay hydrated.

Ensure you can exit the home if it catches fire (remember if it's hot inside the house it is four to five times hotter outside).

After the fire has passed,

- Check your roof and extinguish any fires, sparks or embers.
- Check inside the attic for



hidden embers. Patrol your property and extinguish small fires.

- If there are fires that you cannot extinguish with a small amount of water or in a short period of time, call 9-1-1.



FOR MORE INFORMATION ON "READY - SET—GO!" WILDFIRE PERSONAL ACTION PLAN VISIT:

[www.riversideca.gov/fire/pdf/readyssetgo-2009.pdf](http://www.riversideca.gov/fire/pdf/readyssetgo-2009.pdf)

Source: Riverside County Fire Chiefs Association - Wildfire Action Plan Guide

# HOW READY IS YOUR BUSINESS?

## BE INFORMED

- ✓ Know what kind of emergencies might affect your company.
- ✓ Know what you will do in an emergency situation.

## DEVELOP A BUSINESS CONTINUITY PLAN

- ✓ Know which staff, procedures, and equipment are absolutely necessary to keep operating.
- ✓ Have back-up plans for those operations.
- ✓ Know what you will do if your building or plant is not accessible.
- ✓ Know what to do if your suppliers are affected by the disaster.
- ✓ Be ready for utility disruptions.

## PREPARE YOUR EMERGENCY PLAN

- ✓ Have an evacuation and shelter-in-place plan.
- ✓ Have a plan to communicate with employees before, during, and after an incident.
- ✓ Have copies of building and site maps with utilities and emergency routes marked.
- ✓ Train your employees for medical emergencies.

## PRACTICE THE EMERGENCY PLAN

- ✓ Practice and coordinate with other businesses in your building or industrial complex.

- ✓ Review your plan often.

## REVIEW YOUR INSURANCE COVERAGE

- ✓ Review your coverage to see if you're covered in a disaster.

## SECURE YOUR FACILITY AND EQUIPMENT

- ✓ Secure entry for people, products, and supplies into your building.
- ✓ Conduct a room-by-room walk-through to determine what can be strapped down.

## IMPROVE CYBER SECURITY

- ✓ Install patches and firewalls to your computers and software.
- ✓ Update your antivirus software regularly.

## PROMOTE FAMILY AND INDIVIDUAL PREPAREDNESS

- ✓ Encourage employees to have a personal emergency/disaster supply kit and a family emergency communication plan.



**AT LEAST  
ONE IN  
FOUR  
BUSINESSES  
NEVER  
REOPEN  
AFTER A  
DISASTER.**



**Every  
Business  
Should Have  
A Plan.**

Go to <http://www.ready.gov/business> to find more resources for your business. A **sample Business Disaster Plan** can be found at: <http://www.ready.gov/business/downloads/sampleplan.pdf>. A suggested list for business emergency supplies is at [http://www.ready.gov/business/downloads/emergency\\_supplies.pdf](http://www.ready.gov/business/downloads/emergency_supplies.pdf).



# HIGHLIGHTS AND UPDATES

## HELLO, CERT MEMBERS!

### Get Ready to ShakeOut!



At **10:18 a.m.** On **October 18, 2012**, millions of Californians will "**Drop, Cover, and Hold On**" in The **Great California ShakeOut**, the largest earthquake drill ever! All CERT Members are encouraged to participate in the drill at their home, school, work or neighborhood.

Major earthquakes can happen anywhere you work, live, or travel in California. The **ShakeOut** is our chance to practice how to protect ourselves when the shaking starts. The goal is to prevent disasters from becoming catastrophes.

**Why is having a "Drop, Cover, and Hold On" drill important?** As with anything, to act quickly you must practice often. You may only have seconds to protect yourself in an earthquake before strong shaking knocks you down, or before something falls on you.



Over 8.6 million Southern Californians participated in the 2011 ShakeOut. Now statewide, the **Great California ShakeOut** will be held on the third Thursday of October each year.

In **MOST** Situations you will reduce a chance of injury during an earthquake if you:

- ◆ **DROP** down onto your hands and knees (before the earthquake knocks you down). This position protects you from falling but allows you to still move if necessary.
- ◆ **COVER** your head and neck under a sturdy table or desk. If there is no shelter nearby, get down near an interior wall (or next to low-lying furniture that won't fall on you), and cover your head and neck with your arms and hands.
- ◆ **HOLD ON** to your shelter (or to your head and neck) until the shaking stops. Be prepared to move with your shelter if the shaking shifts it around.

So CERT Members be counted in the **Great California ShakeOut**; and encourage others to do the same, to register your participation go to [www.shakeout.org](http://www.shakeout.org).

*Let's join millions of Californians who don't want to leave their safety up to chance!*

Sincerely,

Gina Perez

Community Preparedness Coordinator

Riverside Fire Department - Office of Emergency Management

[gperez@riversideca.gov](mailto:gperez@riversideca.gov) (951) 320-8112

# CONGRATULATIONS CERT CLASS # 42



Cristina Araujo, Ericalynn Avalos, Don Bower, Glenn Byers, Elyse Chabot, John Doucet, Sylvana Elali, Jim Graves, Herminia Haro, Dionne Henry, Kelli King, Frankie Lewis, Brian Moore, Yesenia Sedano, Berenice Sedano, Bijan Sharifi-Tabesh, Gene Sherman, Sharyn Sherman, Arianna Sherman, Easton Sherman, Joyce Swalley, Carol Townsley, Hugo Zuniga, CERT "Refreshers/ Victims": Sandy Bower, Melvin Dawson, Rudy Moreno, Marlene Odebralski, Thomas Slone, Cathy Jensen



Capt. John Peurifoy instructs the Fire Suppression hand on training



CERT Members -"Victims"



Capt. Lisa Holloway instructs CERT- Team Organization Class

## CERT ADVANCED TRAINING— "CALLING 911 & E.M.D. SYSTEM"

On May 23, Fire Captain Tyler Stanford was our Instructor for the CERT Adv. Training, Calling 9-1-1 & Emergency Medical Dispatching System. Captain Stanford provided information on how the Public Safety Communication Center works when you call 9-1-1 for emergencies. He also explained that our Riverside City Public Safety Communication Center utilizes an Emergency Medical Dispatch (EMD) Program. The EMD is a medical priority dispatching system that uses proven protocols in gathering medical information to send the most appropriate resources to medical emergencies and also gives post-



dispatch instructions to callers to assist with such emergencies as CPR, child delivery, and bleeding control until emergency responders arrive. **Great Training Thanks Tyler!**

# 2012 - RIVERSIDE AIRPORT AIRSHOW



CERT Members helped with setup: Cliff Fish, Joe Hamlin, Greg Crouch, Jay Duman and David Bell



CERT Member: Carol Crouch and CERT Coordinator: Gina Perez



(HAM Radio) Mike Cirocco, CERT/ HAM Operator: Robert Connerly

The Riverside Airport Airshow was held on March 31. This one-day show attracts 90,000 spectators from Riverside & the Inland Empire to see the most exciting aerial performers in the airshow business today.

CERT Members staffed a booth with emergency preparedness information and demonstrated how to turn off utilities in emergencies. CERT also distributed free smoke detectors.



## GREAT JOB! CERT Volunteers!

- |                   |                  |                    |
|-------------------|------------------|--------------------|
| Lena Barraza      | Tony Crowder     | Kay Graham         |
| David Bell        | Ivan Cruz        | Lauren Grecian     |
| Sandy Bower       | Jay Duman        | Joseph Hamlin      |
| Regina Brown      | Maria Egbert     | Loretta Johnson    |
| Gregory Crouch    | Nicholas Esparza | Mehrdad Najand     |
| Carol Crouch      | Clifford Fish    | Marlene Odebralski |
| Stephania Crowder | Ann Foster       | D. Yanire Zayres   |



## Riverside Chamber of Commerce Small Business Resource Expo



May 24th - Greater Riverside Chambers of Commerce - Riverside Convention Center  
CERT Members: Ivan Cruz & Angelina Robles  
Community Preparedness Coordinator: Gina Perez

**CERT Volunteers Needed**

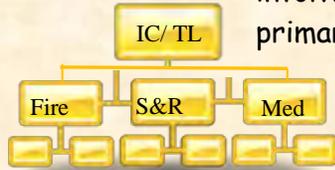


Help promote CERT/Disaster Preparedness by volunteering to staff a display booth at Community events. Call (951) 320-8112 or e-mail Gina Perez at [gperez@riversideca.gov](mailto:gperez@riversideca.gov). Volunteer for at least two hours; this still leaves time to enjoy the event.



# CERT ADVANCED TRAINING— ICS

On April 18, 2012, Anthony Coletta, Emergency Services Manager instructed the CERT Advanced Training on the Incident Command System. CERT Members reviewed how to mobilize in a disaster situation. A Tabletop exercise involving CERT decision-making, emphasizing the primary concern for rescuer safety.



Great training!



## CERT HAMS IT UP FOR GOLDEN GUARDIAN



On Tuesday, May 15, Amateur Radio Licensed or "HAM" CERT Members participated in the 2012



Golden Guardian - Communication Exercise held at the Riverside Fire Department - EOC. We tested our Amateur Radio Communications Equipment &

CERT HAM RADIO OPERATOR capabilities by transmitting on our hand held HAM Radios.

First implemented by former Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger in 2004, Golden Guardian, California's Annual Statewide Exercise Series, has become the most comprehensive state-



level exercise series program in the country. The goal of Golden Guardian is to exercise and assess emergency operations plans, policies, and procedures for all-hazards/catastrophic incidents at the local, regional, and state levels. This year the



Golden Guardian 2012 Exercise tested the Southern California Catastrophic Earthquake Response Plan. Thanks to CERT Members; **Lena Barraza, Greg Palmer, Doreen Reinke, Rick Schirmer and Robert Connerly** along with EOC Amateur Radio Licensed Staff, Emergency Services Coordinator Phil McCormick and Community Preparedness/ CERT Coordinator Gina Perez.

We practiced using our HAM Call Signs to contact each other using amateur radio protocol procedures. We hope to expand our members and offer training again soon. Keep checking our website for dates.



Also visit <http://www.arrl.org/> for classes and testing being offered in your area.

# SAVE THE DATE: CERT ACTIVITIES AND CLASSES

## **CERT 20-Hour Basic Course Training For Deaf and Hard of Hearing- Access & Functional Needs**

We are partnering with Riverside County Fire Office of Emergency Services to offer FREE CERT Basic Course Training, with priority given to people who are **deaf and hard of hearing or who have access and functional needs**. This course includes translation services for American Sign Language.

**Location:**

Riverside City Fire Training/EOC  
3085 St. Lawrence Street  
Riverside, CA 92504

**Dates:**

- ♦ Oct 5, 2012, Friday  
5:30 pm to 9:30 pm
- ♦ Oct 6, 2012, Saturday  
8:00 am to 5:00 pm
- ♦ Oct 7, 2012, Sunday  
8:00 am to 5:00 pm

You must attend all dates to receive the FEMA certificate. To sign up, call (951) 955-4700 or register online at: [www.rivcocert.org](http://www.rivcocert.org)

## **CERT 20-Hour Basic Course Training**

Prepare family, co-workers, and neighbors for disasters with the CERT Basic Course. To register call (951) 320-8100 or online at: [www.riversideca.gov/readyriverside/cert/](http://www.riversideca.gov/readyriverside/cert/)

**Location:** Same as above

**Dates:**

- ♦ Nov 2, 2012, Friday  
6:00 pm to 9:00 pm
- ♦ Nov 3, 2012, Saturday  
8:00 am to 5:00 pm
- ♦ Nov 4, 2012, Sunday  
8:00 am to 5:00 pm

You must attend all dates to receive the FEMA certificate. Course registration fee :\$15.00.

♦ **September 26, Wed.**  
**Riverside Fire—Office of  
Emergency Management—2nd  
Annual Ready Riverside  
Emergency Preparedness Fair**  
Need help to make this a success!  
**3900 Main Street**-in front of  
Riverside City Hall Breezeway  
**10:00 am to 2:00 pm.** Shifts  
Available—To Volunteer call Gina  
Perez at (951) 320-8112 or email  
[gperez@riversideca.gov](mailto:gperez@riversideca.gov).

**October 6, Wednesday**  
**Riverside Police Dept.- 15th  
Annual Traffic Safety Fair**  
CASTLE PARK - 3500 Polk St.,  
Riverside. Help Staff - CERT/  
Emergency Preparedness Info  
Booth **-9:00 am to 2:30 pm**

**October 10, Wednesday**  
**Goeske Center- Fifty and  
Better Health Fair**  
5257 Sierra Street, Riverside  
Help Staff - CERT/ Emergency  
Preparedness Info Booth  
**8:00 am to 2:30 pm**

## **CERT Advanced Training CERT Members Only**

Less than 15 CERT Members registered will have to be cancelled.

♦ **September 19, Wednesday**  
**CERT HAZ-MAT Safety Ops.**  
Riverside Fire Department-EOC  
3085 Saint Lawrence Street  
Riverside, CA 92504  
**6:00 pm to 8:00 pm**

♦ **October 20, 2012, Saturday**  
**Disaster Search Dogs and the  
CERT volunteer**  
Riverside Fire Department-EOC  
3085 Saint Lawrence Street  
Riverside, CA 92504  
**8:00 am to 12:00 pm**

**Final Drill— CERT Basic Course**  
Be an "injured" victim for the Basic  
Course Training (Disaster Scenario)  
Riverside Fire Department-EOC  
**2:00 pm to 4:00 pm - Sun. Oct.7  
& Sun. Nov 4**

To Register call (951) 320-8100 or  
online at: [www.readyriverside.com](http://www.readyriverside.com)

## **November 23, Friday**

**20th Annual Riverside Festival of  
Lights on Main Street**

### **NEED CERT VOLUNTEERS FOR:**

- ♦ TRAFFIC/ CROWD SAFETY
  - ♦ SECURE BLOCKED OFF AREAS
  - ♦ PROVIDE INFORMATION
- 3 hr Shifts Available starting at 9:00  
am. To volunteer call Gina Perez at  
(951) 320-8112/email -  
[gperez@riversideca.gov](mailto:gperez@riversideca.gov).

### *September*

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
|     |     |     |     |     |     | 1   |
| 2   | 3   | 4   | 5   | 6   | 7   | 8   |
| 9   | 10  | 11  | 12  | 13  | 14  | 15  |
| 16  | 17  | 18  | 19  | 20  | 21  | 22  |
| 23  | 24  | 25  | 26  | 27  | 28  | 29  |
| 30  |     |     |     |     |     |     |

### *October 2012*

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
|     | 1   | 2   | 3   | 4   | 5   | 6   |
| 7   | 8   | 9   | 10  | 11  | 12  | 13  |
| 14  | 15  | 16  | 17  | 18  | 19  | 20  |
| 21  | 22  | 23  | 24  | 25  | 26  | 27  |
| 28  | 29  | 30  | 31  |     |     |     |

### *November 2012*

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
|     |     |     |     | 1   | 2   | 3   |
| 4   | 5   | 6   | 7   | 8   | 9   | 10  |
| 11  | 12  | 13  | 14  | 15  | 16  | 17  |
| 18  | 19  | 20  | 21  | 22  | 23  | 24  |
| 25  | 26  | 27  | 28  | 29  | 30  |     |

# RIVERSIDE NEIGHBORHOOD CONFERENCE



CERT Volunteers: Margo Miley, Lauren Grecian, Greg Crouch, David Bell, Not pictured: Carol Crouch, Sylvia Job, Karen Jensen, Carol Townsley, Maria Egbert, Angelina Robles, Angel Sanchez, John Doucet

The 2012 Neighborhood Conference was held on Sat. June 2, on Main Street Downtown Riverside.

The annual event included neighborhood leaders that shared how neighborhoods



CERT Volunteers: David Bell, Carol Crouch, Margo Miley, Lauren Grecian

transformed from a collection of houses and businesses into a caring and proactive community. Workshops

included how to organize a neighborhood associations, neighborhood communication, and what tools and programs are available to neighborhoods.

CERT was one of the 40 exhibitors from City departments, non-profits and other agencies of interest to neighborhoods and provided Emergency Preparedness and CERT Training information and how important this information can help make a neighborhood the best it can be.



CERT Volunteer: John Doucet.



## 2012 AMATEUR RADIO FIELD DAY - CERT ADV. TRAINING - JUNE 23 RIVERSIDE - RCARA & RACES & CERT

On June 23, 2012, the City of Riverside Fire Department -Office of Emergency Management partnered with Riverside County Amateur Radio Association

(RCARA) and Riverside County, California Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service (RACES) in support of the 2012 Amateur Radio Field Day & CERT Adv. Training- Radio Communication in Disasters. The Training included an orientation on how Amateur Radio originated and it's capabilities along with an overview of Amateur Radio Field Day objectives.

Many Thanks to Don Williams & Bob Trujillo & Mike Cirocco from the RACES - RCARA- Amateur Radio



Art Mayor Don

"I was pleased that Riverside Mayor Ron Loveridge and Councilman Chris McArthur showed up at Field Day. The Mayor seemed very impressed after making a 2 M contact with one of our local hams on the W6TJ repeater.

While talking with Councilman McArthur he



Councilman Bob

suggested that a month prior to our next Field Day we get on the City Council Agenda and make a presentation on our event. Since the Council Meetings are televised on streaming video this would give the RCARA Field Day wide exposure throughout Riverside and surrounding areas"

Groups for instructing our class and allowing us to be part of their Annual Field Day Event! We are looking forward to participating next year!



**CITY OF RIVERSIDE COMMUNITY PREPAREDNESS NEWSLETTER**

City of Riverside  
Fire Department  
Office of Emergency  
Management

Phone: 951-320-8100  
Fax: 951-320-8102  
e-mail: [rivcitycert@riversideca.gov](mailto:rivcitycert@riversideca.gov)

Local website:  
[www.readyriverside.com](http://www.readyriverside.com)  
National website:  
[www.citizencorps.gov](http://www.citizencorps.gov)

Executive Editor:  
**Anthony Coletta,**  
Emergency Services  
Manager

Editor:  
**Gina Perez,**  
Community Preparedness  
and CERT Coordinator



Riverside Fire Department - Office of Emergency Management

**Ready Riverside  
Emergency Preparedness Fair**



Wednesday, September 26, 2012

10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

3900 Main Street

In Front of Riverside City Hall

**PREPAREDNESS IS EVERYONE'S RESPONSIBILITY**

- Learn your risks and responses
- Make a family communications plan
- Build an emergency supply kit
- Get involved in preparedness in your community

*Make a Difference for Yourself & Your Community!*



**Simpler Life Emergency Provisions, Inc.**

**Purchase Readiness Supplies at Discounted Prices!**

For More Information contact Gina Perez at [gperez@riversideca.gov](mailto:gperez@riversideca.gov) or (951) 320-8112

**IMPORTANT**

Have you moved or changed your email address or phone number?



Give us a call (951.320.8100)  
or send an email  
([rivcitycert@riversideca.gov](mailto:rivcitycert@riversideca.gov))  
and update your contact  
information.