



Venice Neighborhood Council Disaster Awareness and Preparedness

As Venetians We Are Responsible & Must Prepare Ourselves for these Disaster Events As We Live In An Area Of High Risk!

Make copies of this document for each family member, for purse/ briefcase and car. Also put in kitchen drawer or on fridge for quick reference.

No matter what the type of emergency, there are steps that you should take to protect and prepare yourself and family. You have to **assume that you will be on your own**, with no water, electricity, or gas. Prepare for the worst, hope for the best!

TYPES OF DISASTERS – Lead times/notification

Earthquake: No Warning. Beware of the possibility of aftershocks.

Tsunami: If caused by an earthquake, may have warning and time to move inland. If caused by an ocean landslide off of Palos Verdes, it is only a matter of minutes. Latest information re. a landslide-generated wave is for a 42-foot wave, which would reach to Lincoln Blvd., a distance of one mile.

High Waves/Flooding: Both flooding and high waves are a consequence of rain and high tides in conjunction with wind, which can be predicted and the public should be notified. The County Fire Department is the lead organization for declaring emergencies.



WHEN THE DISASTER EVENT OCCURS

Earthquake: **TAKE** shelter next to a wall, sofa, bed, or any structure that can create a space for you to survive if the building caves in; cover head/face. Do not stay in the middle of a room, where the ceiling can come crashing down. Do not go outside. If outside, move to an open area. After a major earthquake ends, a tsunami is possible, so move inland. **If driving**, stay outside by the side of the car for protection, a crushed car provides protection, but not if you are in it. Take care of your family. **FOLLOW YOUR PLAN!** (See reverse for how to make your plan)

Turn ON your radio, TV, and/or computer—**DO NOT CALL 911** unless you need serious, life threatening emergency care. **DO NOT** wait for instructions from fire or police departments. **FOLLOW YOUR PLAN!** Get trained in First Aid and CPR—see reverse. Turn Off Gas **ONLY** if you suspect a leak. **DO NOT** turn gas back on until you have turned off water heater, force air heating, stove/ovens that have an open pilot light and then re-light separately. This is best left to the gas company, but can be done safely if they are not available. (Gas Company 800-427-2200) Shut off water to keep pollutants out of the hot water tank, which you may have to use for water. Check with neighbors and/or go to pre-arranged meeting place.

Tsunami/High Wave/Flooding: Evacuation routes: GO EAST past Lincoln Blvd. using Washington or Venice Blvds., or GO NORTH on Pacific, past Rose Ave. — or GO TO 3RD FLOOR or higher of a multi-story, reinforced-concrete building which you identified in advance. Sand bags for high waves/flooding are available at 2000 Abbott Kinney Blvd (obtain in advance!). If you are at the beach, immediately move away and go EAST. **FOLLOW YOUR PLAN!**

HOW TO PREPARE (the bare minimum!) *See more detailed info @ websites listed below*

FOOD and WATER for 5 days. *Food*, which can be eaten without cooking, and a can opener. Water, one gallon per person per day for drinking and food preparation, and some purification tablets. You can drain and use the water from your water heater, or melt ice in the freezer. Have a water supply in the car...and get in habit of keeping gas tank filled!!

SUPPLIES: *A Survival Kit (purchase at Red Cross offices or go to www.redcrossstore.org), or at least a First Aid kit. Sanitation needs: plastic bags and ties, remove water from toilet and save for other uses (your pet can use this water); put a plastic bag in the toilet, use disinfectant of one part bleach to 10 parts water for waste. And, don't forget toilet paper. **Flashlight** and extra **batteries**, or the new crank/shake model. **Portable stove** for cooking, would be nice. And, a **whistle** to call for help, for home, purse and car.*

MEDICATIONS LIST with the *prescription name*, amount, frequency of use, and prescribing doctor.

HOUSE PREPARATION: *Strap down* water heater!!! **Secure** bookcases, mirrors, etc., that can fall over. **Know where** your electric circuit breaker box, gas (need a wrench) & water main shut offs are. Know what **appliances** must be turned off at the source because they have a pilot that must be lit. Have a **Class "ABC" Fire Extinguisher**. **Items** to keep near where you sleep: especially shoes (most indoor injuries are cut feet), a flashlight, a loud whistle, candles and fireproof matches.

COMMUNICATIONS: Have emergency and family phone numbers—establish an out of area (preferably out of state) contact through which to communicate with family or friends. Land telephone may not work; cell phone may work, assuming provider's antenna is not down. A **portable radio** (crank, extra batteries, and/or solar model) is **essential**.

HELPING EACH OTHER: *Talk with your neighbors* and find out who and how many people are living in a neighbor's home and who may need special assistance. **Discuss a common family meeting place that may be at work or school**—be familiar with your child's school's procedures (for LAUSD, schools in the evacuation areas will evacuate to another LAUSD school not in the evacuation area). **Discuss** how each home can tell others that they need help. Find out which neighbors can add to greater preparation with tools and skills, ladders, chain saw, generator, etc. and use this to create a self-help network. **Take** a Red Cross, CPR, or CERT class. At least one **MEMBER** of your household should be trained. — Emergency Responders can/will be delayed.

MAKE YOUR EVACUATION/MEETING PLAN: *Where to meet* or stay put with family and/or neighbors. **Your home**, if habitable and you are safe, is your best place to stay unless tsunami or flooding prevent. You don't know how many people are going to be at an evacuation shelters. **Know** where the local shelters are located: Mark Twain Middle School and Venice High School. Go to ready.gov/america/makeaplan/index.html for instructions and sample forms to use to make your PLAN with your family—MAKING YOUR PLAN is of utmost importance! It is also highly recommended that you obtain the Home Safety Emergency Plan from the Red Cross.

EMERGENCY DOCUMENTS AND CASH: Cash on hand should include small bills. **Keep** copies of important documents in a safe, in purse/briefcase AND off site: medical cards, driver's license or ID, will, contracts, deeds, passports, SS cards, bank & credit card acct numbers; insurance policies & photo/inventory list of household goods; birth, marriage & death certificates.

PET CARE: *Provide* food, water, and shelter. ["It is critical to note that more than 30% of individuals who refused to evacuate during Hurricane Katrina were unwilling to leave their pets behind. Nearly half of respondents did not have a family or pet evacuation plan, and over 65% refused to leave pets behind or go to an evacuation shelter that did not accept pets." (ASPCA Survey)] **Pet owners** should view video and view/download the brochure at: www.ready.gov/america/getakit/pets.html

Resource Information, Contact Numbers and Web Sites:

Tsunami Warning Center: wcatwc.arh.noaa.gov

Venice Lifeguards: 310-394-3261 or 310-577-5700

CERT (Community Emergency Response Training): www.cert-la.com or 818-756-9674 to sign up for classes

Preparation: www.fema.org/areyouready or www.ready.gov

American Red Cross: www.redcross.org to view/download forms or 310-642-0217 to have forms/pamphlets mailed

Venice Police, Pacific Division: Front Desk/Info: 310-482-6334; Emergency: 911; Non Emergency Dispatch: 818-734-2223

City of Los Angeles Emergency Preparedness: www.lacity.org/epd/epdec1.htm

Venice Neighborhood Council: www.venicenc.org