

**Glen Ellen Traffic and Safety Committee**  
**Emergency Response Plan Development meeting notes**  
**11/8/17, 11/15/17 and 12/6/17 combined concepts**

**Next committee meeting January 3, 3:00 Jack London Lodge**

11/8/17 Participants: Stacey Vilas, Larry Davis, Mona Wilson, Nick Brown, Archie Horton, Marge Eldridge, Leslie Vaughn, John Wilson, Candice Ludlow, Beverly Rodondi, Anna Bryant, Alice Horwitz, Bill Olson

11/15/17 Participants: Archie Horton, Stacey Vilas, Nick Brown, Larry Davis, Katherine Hargitt, Anna Bryant, Bill Olson, Leslie Vaughn, and Candice Ludlow

12/6/17 Participants: Anna Bryant, Bev Rodondi, Judy and Ron Smalley, Larry Davis, Poppy Darby, Archie Horton, Michael Wray, Candice Ludlow, Pat Chiono, Marge Eldridge, Stacey Vilas

**GE Emergency Preparedness Plan is being developed gleaning from existing programs -**

**S.C.O.P.E.** - Sonoma Citizens Organized to Prepare for Emergencies - SCOPE is Sonoma County neighborhood response training for emergencies, less intensive and less involved than CERT- build leadership teams, census of neighborhoods, get to know neighbors and their needs, info on homes, know where the utility shut-offs are, etc.

**C.E.R.T.** - Citizen Emergency Response Team - CERT is a FEMA sponsored Citizen Emergency Response Team that trains people as first responders for all emergencies- medical, terrorism, fire, psychology, etc. Sebastopol, Russian River, Tomales and Napa have CERT.

**Neighborhood Watch** - A national organization that emphasizes crime prevention. 3-tier like a three legged stool. Crime needs 1- Motive, 2 - Opportunity, 3 - Anonymity. The program also emphasizes neighborhood networking, telephone trees, and working together. Looting...develop tactics to remove the opportunity and anonymity

**SMALL COMMUNITIES** - We are also going to look at other small communities with existing emergency response plans

**OUR STORIES** - We can learn from the experiences we had during the Oct 8-9 fire. People are encouraged to write about their evacuation experience and share with our committee and others. What would help if we had to evacuate today?

**What are the emergencies this plan is looking to plan for?**

Fire, Floods, Earthquakes, Crime... Hazmat - Chemical Spills, Warfare and Nuclear.

IN CASE OF REGIONAL EMERGENCY, GLEN ELLEN WILL BE ON IT'S OWN FOR SEVERAL WEEKS IF NOT MORE! Any plans need to address long term community survival in addition to short term. Some emergency scenarios could cause Glen Ellen

and other communities to be without assistance or resources for several weeks if not longer. We need to have plans for medical assistance, emergency gathering places, evacuation routes, stay in place plans, food, search and rescue, and more.

The likelihood of a fire in Glen Ellen remains high. Lake County fires repeated a year after the big fire a couple of years ago. Research indicates the chances of a repeat fires in our region is 39 to 79 percent over the next 20 years.

**Emergency preparedness is creating** “what if” scenarios and mentally responding to them, gathering the tools needed, sharing information with our neighbors, get the training you want for first aid, radio operation, and more.

### **Specific issues discussed...**

- \* Community education and participation is key to success
  - \* Communication (community alert system) loss of power, clean water, fuel, no access to money were discussed and will be addressed in the plan.
  - \* Many people were not alerted to the emergency. Glen Ellen FD has a siren which could have been used to alert the town. (Glen Ellen FD was called out to the Nuns Canyon fire at 10:30 and were not able to activate the siren when the fire went totally out of control)
  - \* Educate people if/when evacuating, make noise! Honk horns, blow whistles...
  - \* Telephone trees only work if you have phone service. Plan must have alternative method of communication just in case.
  - \* In Case of Emergency (ICE) who to contact? Add to list for education.
- Use CPA/book keeping templates for ICE
- \* Immediate access to money? Bury money on property
  - \* Water- Water purifier tablets/filters
  - \* Plan needs to be sustainable for generations
  - \* Create and post evacuation routes and maps, include off road options if available
  - \* Meeting places in case of emergency- family and/or community
  - \* Buddy system for improved communication/evacuation and safety
- check-ins
- \* Medical triage locations in case of stay in place scenarios
  - \* Develop special skills and/or tool list of volunteers, neighbors...who has generators, medical training, plumbing, search and rescue...
  - \* Utility shut-off information and plan for each house
  - \* How to assist people with special needs in case of evacuation
  - \* If there were another emergency, who would you call?
  - \* Plan must include off the grid scenarios
  - \* Can we use “One Call” system for our local area similar to how the schools contact all parents?
  - \* Plan must have alternative alert activation options. Discussion was about “who” activates emergency alert system.
  - \* Emergency alert system could use of air horns for alerts, in addition to the fire department siren, phone trees, door to door knocking, car horns, whistles.

- \* In case of evacuation create volunteer patrols/work with law enforcement to ensure access and communication
- \* Drop Dead Time...develop specific times and methods to communicate with-in your own family/network.
- \* Empty house sticker... When leaving your house during mandatory evacuations you could post a prearranged sticker indicating your location is empty, people are safe, and leave emergency contact information on your door. This led to the discussion of looters and volunteer patrols.
- \* The Glen Ellen emergency response plan is to supplement local and state emergency plans. Our goal is to enhance the first response efforts and step up if/when the need arises. The group also discussed the need to be independent from government rules and restrictions at the same time of working with the government at times of needs, gain resources to develop the plan and acquire training.
  - \* We need to develop a written guideline for distribution to Glen Ellen residents. Print and downloadable formats.
  - \* Work needs to be done on details of the plan. examples...If siren is used, how long should it sound? Can we use the same system that SDC/Eldridge uses-do they have an evacuation siren sound? ... If airhorns are used, how long should they be sounded?
  - \* Create evacuation plan for pets, include what to do if the cat will not cooperate...leave food, water out, exit options
  - \* Create evacuation plan for livestock

### **Education/Resources – Tools, Emergency Kits**

Subcommittees are developing and gathering educational tools to share. Information and training will include:

#### **- Develop and provide emergency preparedness guidelines.**

- Go-bags - What to pre-pack
- ICE list... Emergency contacts, credit card and other financial information, medical cards, house/renter insurance info, passports
- Medication lists
- Utility shut-off
- Garage Door operation w/out electricity Tools -
  - \* Home safety checklist
  - \* Evacuation plans - human, pets, livestock
  - \* Phone tree system
  - \* Airhorn/Whistles
  - \* CB Radios/ Walkie talkies/ Scanners
  - \* Emergency Kits - Home, Car
  - \* List Radio/TV stations that provide local information

Each household will be encouraged to do their own assessment of their property and develop their emergency plans.

\* Bill Olson suggested using the LDS **food storage** method -  
[Food Storage - The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints](https://www.lds.org/topics/food-storage)

<https://www.lds.org/topics/food-storage>

*There are three main components of food storage:*

- *Food supply (three-month and long-term)*
- *Water supply*
- *Financial reserve*

*Store foods that are a part of your normal diet in your three-month supply. As you develop a longer-term storage, focus on food staples such as wheat, rice, pasta, oats, beans, and potatoes that can last 30 years or more.*

*How much food storage do I need?*

*Take the amount of food you would need to purchase to feed your family for a day and multiply that by 7. That is how much food you would need for a one-week supply. Once you have a week's supply, you can gradually expand it to a month, and eventually three months.*

*For longer-term needs, and where permitted, gradually build a supply of food that will last a long time and that you can use to stay alive, such as wheat, white rice, and beans. A portion of these items may be rotated in your three-month supply.*

### **Create a GO Bag/ Emergency Kits**

- \* Bill Olson shared what he has in his GO Bag. The contents included space blanket, medical kit, first aid kit, duct tape, aspirin, water bottles, gloves, hat, food bars, matches, fire starter. He also brought up the idea of a survival barrel that can be kept in the basement.
- \* Other items - Flashlights \$2.99 @ Friedman's and another from Amazon – takes 3 AAA batteries. He went over a variety of face masks from heat resistant gas masks to respirators. Water filters. Siphon for water/gas. Electrical outlet adaptor for vehicle.
- \* Emergency kits should be three tiered for
  - Car
  - House – include most important items, passport, credit card info, etc.
  - Basement

\*\*\* Medications and medical information need to be included in emergency kits !!!

\* Gun Safe or Fire Safe can be used to store important papers and items- small enough to grab and take with you. Important docs, drivers licenses, credit card and financial information, insurance papers...

\* Advance planning can include making copies of credit cards, drivers licenses, important papers, wills, etc and sending to trusted person outside your region for long-term safe keeping. You can also send to yourself via email or store in the cloud or off site- bank safe deposit boxes can also be used but if they burn will the safe deposit boxes be intact? Will you have access to your bank?

## **Neighborhood Block Safety Network**

Larry Davis offered to map the Glen Ellen area to help develop workable neighborhood blocks for creating telephone trees and informational gatherings. SCOPE suggests 10 to 20 households per block. Sign-up started at the Glen Ellen Forum free holiday meal, December 3 at the Madrone Winery. As of December 6, around 150 people have signed up to participate, some people offered to help organize.

### **THE NEXT STEPS :**

1 - Review the Emergency Response Plan with the Glen Ellen Forum for approval.

2 - Contact the organizers and set up an instructional meeting for developing telephone trees and communication networks.

Door to door contact,

Neighborhood social to discuss concerns, needs and solutions.

Coffee clutch - regular meet and chats at the corner

Email lists

Phone tree

Concerns:

\* Due to the rural and urban areas of Glen Ellen it would possibly work best in some areas to build the neighborhood blocks slowly, allowing the people in the neighborhoods to develop their bonds and then introduce the education components.

\* Confidentiality. The list of the neighborhood blocks need to remain within the network.

\* The emergency response plan and neighborhood network system are voluntary participation.

\* How to reach people in neighborhoods that are not associated with the forum? Start with the people we have and grow from there. Growth will happen, word of mouth, media, door to door by Forum volunteers, kiosk flyers...

3 - Develop educational curriculum, materials and trainers for neighborhood meetings. Include FD and Sheriff community outreach officers - SCOPE and Neighborhood Watch programs.

4 - Organize CERT training for individuals who want to take emergency response actions - Work with Sonoma Valley Fire Department for this training.

5 - Set up "Town Hall Meeting" specific to emergency preparedness.

- Go Bag contents

- Utility Shut-off information

- ICE documents

- Evacuation routes

- Emergency alert systems and what to do if you hear the siren/airhorns

6 - Set up community wide training scenario "Trial Run". Consider doing this once or twice a year. We could check into doing this with the county emergency preparedness training days

7 - **Health.** Physical and mental health issues need to be planned for. A health committee will seek research and assistance for the current disaster along with future planning.

8 - Document stories from the October fires and review to enhance this emergency response plan with actual experiences for Glen Ellen.

**Notes from follow-up after meetings....**

Megaphones for neighborhoods to help communication

Ventura has a really good web-site for emergency communication

The web site "Map Your Neighborhood" is also a good site.

Notes edited 12/13/17 by stacey