

**DISASTER PREPAREDNESS - AN UPDATE
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TCHA ANNUAL MEETING
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FIRST SLIDE - "DISASTER PREPAREDNESS - AN UPDATE"

ALL website links, and other information mentioned in this presentation can be found on our Timber Cove Homes Association (TCHA) website:

<http://www.timbercovehomes.org>

Before I start to update our Disaster Preparedness projects, for the last 4 years I have been monitoring the possibility of:

High Speed Internet - DSL

As of this April, DSL finally arrived in Timber Cove.

To request service, [contact Verizon at 1-800-VERIZON](http://www.verizon.com). Your location will need to be tested for suitability but most of the properties in the TCHA are eligible.

SECOND SLIDE -- NEW LOCAL DISASTER RESOURCES

OUTAGE for Long Distance Telephone service & 911 calls - May 10, 2013

Thieves broke in to a Monte Rio telephone main trying to steal copper cables. Sonoma County Emergency Services was advised of the outage. We had a complete loss of service if attempting to call outside of TC or Cazadero. The service outage lasted ~ 18 hours. Not self-announcing - only fast busy signals

Local first responders were put on alert and could communicate through their radios with Sonoma County dispatch. Amateur radio operators were activated and sent to our local Fire House to monitor radio operations. Fred Lief was in charge of the Coast Auxiliary Communications force. Ham radio operators could communicate with Sonoma County dispatch if someone needed emergency services. (Luckily, there were no fires or car accidents locally that day and no one needed significant medical attention.)

Should this type of telco outage happen again, and you have an emergency but don't have phone service ----- the local procedure is:

- Go to our Timber Cove Fire Department (we hope to have someone there) or
- Contact our local Sheriff at home who has radios to Sonoma County **847-3116**

The CHCP Bulletin

Is an excellent online community resource for local events and information?

To subscribe: [Email: chcp-join@lists.mcn.org](mailto:chcp-join@lists.mcn.org)

NEW: If personnel are available, the CHCP Board recently agreed to work with the Fire Department and has authorized a small group of us to access the CHCP database, allowing us to **transmit real-time local emergency information alerts**. A district wide test is coming soon.

Another type of online bulletin - ALERT US Bulletin

There is a local Broadband Company called "Black Mountain Communications", serving the coast for 5 years. They also provide an email alert bulletin, which reports spot fires,

signs of smoke, closed roads, etc. Most of the reports are for the second ridge but useful particularly for trees down or big fires and roads will be closed.

To subscribe: email: ALERTusList@theboonies.net and send the email address you would like to have notified.

ONLINE Police Scanner

So, you aren't a ham radio operator and don't have a handheld police scanner, but want to know why all those sirens are blaring down the road.

"Black Mountain Communications" also provides a new service via Broadcastify.com. Broadcastify is an online scanner service which allows users to listen to first-responders' radio transmissions throughout the US. Black Mountain created a new special link for the **live coastal Sonoma County Fire and CALFIRE Dispatch feed**.

Click below for the Coastal Feed:

<http://www.broadcastify.com/listen/feed/14698>

Select the audio Player you use from The Pull-down menu on right (iTunes recommended). Select the "speaker" or "arrow" on the left to load iTunes etc and listen. Use the Left/Right control on your computer or audio device to listen to only TAC/Local channels, IE to the RT you will not hear REDCOM & CDF dispatch etc.

Going from high tech to low tech....

NEXT SLIDE - EMERGENCY SIGNAGE

EMERGENCY SIGNAGE

Good signage prepares you and your home for local disasters, and, greatly assists and speeds up emergency responders who are trying to find you.

"Sonoma County Fire Safe Standards Sec. 13-39. *Intent.*

This division establishes minimum signing and building numbering requirements to facilitate locating a fire and to avoid delays in response.

Sec. 13-47. Size of letters, numbers and symbols for addresses.

For one and two- family dwellings. Numbers for one and two- family dwellings shall be a minimum of 4 inches (101.6m) high

Sec. 13-48. Installation, location and visibility of addresses.

(a) All buildings shall have a permanently posted address, which shall be placed on the building and shall be plainly visible and legible from the road on which the address is located, or at the primary driveway. The numbers shall contrast with their background.

(b) All buildings shall have a permanently posted address, which shall be placed at each driveway entrance and shall be visible and legible from both directions of travel along the road on which the address is located." See Sonoma County Permitting and Resource Management Department website for more details

NEXT SLIDE: PHOTO OF ADDRESS SIGN

LEGAL HOME ADDRESS signs:

Here is a sample of a legal home address sign -- how many of you have one?

They are easy to make. If you don't have one, please install one this year.
Check out www:abcsigns.com amongst many other vendors

Please also be sure to clean off your signs every year or two to make them more reflective at night.



PROPANE TANK Signs

These particular signs are not required by our County but are strongly recommended by our Fire Department

Why? The first thing fire fighters are *required to do* when responding to a fire call is they must turn off the propane gas before entering the structure.

If your propane tank is buried, or if it is well enclosed and/or camouflaged, please install a night visible sign, which says PROPANE TANK to assist fire fighters in finding the tank quickly.





This striking photo was taken by our CalFIRE Battalion Chief Marshall Turbeville. His comments are:

- This is a very good reminder to not build propane tanks next to your house,
- This photo shows why you should **clear the area around your propane tank of fuels, such as fire wood, and especially to clear above your propane tank, at least up to 30 feet.**
- By the way, the tank relief valve in this photograph operated properly. It vented and released the expanding gas inside of it. The gas ignited. Once the amount of gas was burnt off and/or the radiant heat subsided, the flame went out.

NEXT SLIDE: NO TITLE

SPECIAL EQUIPMENT IS NEEDED BY OUR FIRE DEPARTMENT
SCBAs // Self Contained Breathing Apparatus

There is an urgent request for help by the Timber Cove Fire Protection District purchase life-saving equipment called SCBAs.

The SCBAs worn by our fire fighters are 1991 vintage, do not comply with national safety standards, and several units failed in recent fire-fighting incidents.

The Department has submitted numerous grant requests to buy new SCBAs but has not been granted any of the FEMA money. The TCFPD Board has decided they cannot wait any longer and is borrowing money to outfit the firefighters properly.

Please help them fund this effort. Send your donation checks to the:

TCFPD
30800 Seaview Road
Cazadero, CA 95421

(Please note in the memo line on your check: SCBA Fund) Thank you!

Local CELL PHONE Service - NOT

Provide status on Parks project

So, how many Verizon customers do we have in the room?

I suggest you all make a call to customer service (611 if you are a current Verizon Wireless customer) and say you'd like to register a request for cellular service to operated in Timber Cove and along Highway 1-West County. Even if you are not a Verizon Wireless Customer, please call them and tell them you'd like to be if there was cellular service operational on our Timber Cove coast

The project proposal is now in a State review mode. It may help if we all sign a petition of support if the review drags on... Stay tuned.

911 CALL BOXES

Brand NEW PROJECT just starting

COMMUNITY DISASTER GENERATOR

The Disaster Preparedness Task Force has been trying for at least 4 years to work with the County Sheriff's department to obtain an emergency generator that can power up the School, or the Water District, or wherever it is needed in a major emergency power outage.

I would especially like to thank Mark Provost for pursuing this promise with vigor. Mark was successful on getting the Sheriff's Department to donate to our Fire Department a 125 KW generator that was confiscated from a drug raid. And the generator is mobile -- so it can be usefully moved wherever needed. SO thank Mark whenever you see him.

FIRE-WISE and WATER-WISE Plants for Timber Cove

One easy way you can prevent a fire from burning your home and neighborhood is to clear a defensible space and landscape with Fire - Wise plants.

Cathy Schezer has prepared for us a list of Water-Wise and Fire-Wise **Trees, Shrubs and Plants which grow in Timber Cove.**

To view this very useful list please visit: www.Timbercovehomes.org - the list is included separately from this presentation under the same Documents tab

(2013 draft) Produced by Cathy Schezer, (owner, Cathy's Landscaping)

For more information and the website links I mentioned please visit:

<http://www.timbercovehomes.org>

Thank you very much for your interest and support in helping make the people, and our community of the Timber Cover Fire Protection District, more prepared for a disaster... Preparedness is not a destination, but a journey.

G.OMALLEY