

How to Play It Safe and Prepare for a Disaster

If a natural disaster such as an earthquake strikes, many Brentwood neighborhoods are likely to be cut off from any outside relief for up to 72 hours. For that reason, residents should prepare to be self-sufficient and develop an emergency supply, police advise.

“The governor’s Office of Emergency Services says to be prepared to be self-sufficient and live without running water, electricity, gas or phones for at least three days,” says Brentwood Police Lt. Brian Strock.

Stocking up and keeping supplies easily and quickly accessible in an emergency will increase comfort as well as safety during a disaster, Strock says.

During a disaster, Emergency Services will be committed to areas with the greatest priority — restoring essential services such as gas, telephones, water and electricity and to rescue efforts.

The state’s emergency supplies checklist, which covers everything from cooking to sanitation and tools, can be found at the following website: www.oes.ca.gov. Click on “[Earthquake Program](#)” then on “[Earthquake Preparedness](#),” which will take you to a page that offers 19 different tip sheets in either English or Spanish, including the supplies checklist.

Under essentials the supplies checklist recommends at least one gallon of water per person per day for roughly a week), water purification kits, essential medications, cash and change (computers to process credit and debit cards may not be functioning), baby supplies, food and leashes or pet carriers for pets.

Sanitation will be a significant issue and residents should stock large trash bags, bar soap, liquid detergent, shampoo, toothpaste and brushes and feminine hygiene supplies.

Sturdy shoes are also recommended along with a change of clothes, gloves, light sticks or flashlights, a garden hose for siphoning or firefighting, tent and a

communication kit.

A bicycle might be the best means of transportation if gasoline supplies are shut down. A bike can maneuver around many obstacles that can block a car. Axes, shovels, brooms, adjustable wrenches for shutting off gas, rope, plastic tape and sheeting for window

replacement are also recommended.

For cooking, stock plastic utensils, paper plates and cups, paper towels and heavy-duty aluminum foil as well as a camping stove for outdoor cooking. Indoor use of charcoal is hazardous and can result in carbon monoxide poisoning.

Emergency Center Now Open

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ment building, says Lt. Brian Strock.

In the event of a civil disaster or emergency, the Center will go into operation with a generator capable of powering it for several days, Strock says. Emergency services would continue to be dispatched by Antioch as they are now.

All efforts at determining the scope of the disaster and recovery progress as well as rescue efforts will be coordinated by Landeros at the center.

Equipped with the latest high-tech equipment, the Center will have the ability to access the internet and monitor news channels for reports on the scope and cause of the emergency or disaster.

“As soon as an emergency happens, different people will report to their assigned stations at the Center and set up tables and hook up telephones and computers to keep communications open between emergency personnel and the Center,” Strock says.

First Public Art on Police Building

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The panels installed at the police facility were designed and created by Emeryville artist Scott Donahue. They are bas-relief pieces depicting police officers, male and female, in community services with families or children and measure nine feet wide by six feet tall and 18 inches deep.

Donahue was invited to present his ideas to the committee overseeing the

police facility construction, Burr-Siegel says. Typically, artists will be invited to submit proposals.

Other pieces coming between now and the end of the year include one known as “Critters,” which will go in the Veterans Park. It will include five bronze sculptures of indigenous animals: a mallard duck, a kit fox, a coyote, an egret and a raccoon and their footprints leading to their natural habitat.

“Spiral Monkeys” is planned for the Granville Estates subdivision. Monkeys, whose bodies are made from spiraled metal, will be suspended between two trees as if they were real monkeys playing in the trees.

“Cloud Park” will be just that, clouds in the sky raining upside down in the Rosegarden subdivision off Lone Tree Way and Fairview Avenue. The structure is a water play feature for children of all abilities.

West Nile Virus Information

Residents who want information about West Nile Virus and controlling mosquitoes near their home, should call the Contra Costa Mosquito and Vector Control District at (925) 685-9301.

Dial “171” for information about mosquitoes that tested positive in Brentwood. Dial “3” for information about West Nile Virus.

For information online, log on to www.ccmvcd.dst.ca.us.