

Advisory from the Placer County Office of Emergency Services
-Jenyth Gearhart Utchen, SLPOA Board Member
10.13.2017

Referred by Truckee Fire District

Spoke with John McEldowney of the Placer County Office of Emergency Services
(530)-886-5300

Recommended actions for our community:

I. Urge all residents to register with Placer Alert in order to receive live time fire alerts, warnings, and evacuation orders.

- A. Available at www.placer.ca.gov
- B. Left icon "Emergency Alerts" click, sign-up by creating an account
- C. County does not share this information
- D. New Tri-County group includes Sacramento and Yolo counties. Can opt out and select "Auburn".
- E. Your land lines are already registered, but you should include them with this registry
- F. List all of your addresses, include where you work, where kids go to school, home or second home into their system. Include your cell phone, landline, workphone and all will be included in notification system.
- G. Vitally important that cell phone only users register! John recommended getting a landline as service will be spotty during an emergency. They are worried about second homeowners with only cell phones in the more rugged areas.

II. They requested we email all residents, make flyers to post at water district buildings, Soda Springs Post Office, Soda Springs General Store. At least, to print the Frequently Asked Questions page and post those. Ask all residents to read the FAQs.

III. Sample scenario:

- A. 911 call alerts fire station to fire; arrival time in 3-5 minutes in most areas.
- B. 95% of fires are contained very quickly and pose little threat.
- C. If residences are threatened, fire supervisor on site contacts both the OES and the Placer Co. Sheriff. Dispatcher draws a polygon around fire area, clicks on computer, and the auto-dial function is employed. Computer can now call 4000 numbers in one minute. Call will either say there is an advisory evacuation, or a mandatory evacuation. The OES does this.
- D. The Sheriff's department dispatches officers to affected areas and utilize a bullhorn to give evacuation orders, and/or knocks on doors of most threatened areas.
- E. Software company is called Everbridge and our county has updated to best programs.

IV. Learning from Santa Rosa:

- A. Subscribe to Nixle, an online emergency service developed by Everbridge and used by residents, businesses, and government agencies.
- B. Text 888777 and put your zip code in the message section. You will be alerted by text if there are any severe weather, missing persons, criminal activity, fire, or severe traffic alerts in

your zip code. This was used by several wineries and it is different than the county Office of Emergency Services.