## INCLINE VILLAGE / CRYSTAL BAY

# EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

### GUIDE

BROUGHT TO YOU BY: NORTH LAKE TAHOE FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT



Personal accountability is the responsibility of each one of us. How many of us have a well defined and clearly understood evacuation plan for ourselves and family members? Emergency incidents or disasters can occur at anytime with or without warning. Are you prepared? The intent of this Incline / Crystal Bay Emergency Preparedness Guide is to assist our customers with being prepared for any emergency/disaster no matter what type. The North Lake Tahoe Fire Protection District along with our partnering agencies, Washoe County Sheriffs Department and Washoe County Emergency Management are striving to ensure that everyone is informed about a variety of different ways to stay informed during disasters that require the public to respond to evacuations or general information. Some examples of information sharing that can be carried out with the public could be through: Sheriffs Deputies along with Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) members alerting areas of our community by providing door to door contacts, electronic message boards, local media and utilizing the Emergency Alert System (EAS). These are all a means to provide information.

Please review this guide and make it a priority to understand how to acquire immediate information, have a disaster supply kit ready and be knowledgeable with the predetermined evacuation routes.

Together we can be prepared for an emergency or disaster, with a goal of ensuring the safety of our community members and visitors.

Michael D. Brown, Fire Chief, North Lake Tahoe Fire Protection District

People who visit this beautiful community rarely think of disasters that may occur. We all need to understand that most emergencies will happen without warning. So, please be a responsible member of your community by taking the time to prepare yourself (and family/friends) for identified hazards. Your local public safety officials have compiled this guide to assist you in preparing for the disaster we hope you never face. Whether you are a visitor or a resident, we hope this material serves you well by giving you ideas and tools to "Make a Plan, Assemble a Kit and Stay Informed."

Aaron Kenneston, Washoe County Emergency Manager

I want to commend you for taking the time to review this information so that you are more aware and informed as to how to respond during those rare moments when a potentially catastrophic event affects you and/or our community. As they say forewarned is forearmed. Please take the time to consider all of the information provided and then plan and prepare accordingly. A little effort now can avoid a lot of effort later. As emergency managers we recognize that when we have a well informed and prepared public it allows us to focus our resources more sharply on those who

have suffered the greatest impact during these events, and bring the entire incident to the most successful conclusion possible. It is our desire to provide the best possible public safety service to you.

Your participation in preplanning makes that possible.

Steven Kelly, Captain Incline Substation, Washoe County Sheriff's Office



### **GENERAL EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS**

An emergency can happen anytime. You and your co-workers should know what to do if an emergency happens at work. Even if you think you are not in a disaster-prone area, something like a chemical tanker truck overturning or a flood can prevent you from getting to or from work. No business should operate without a disaster plan. If you are a business owner developing a business disaster plan, consider how the disaster could affect your employees, customers and workplace. Consider how you could continue doing business if the area around your facility is closed or streets are impassable. Consider what you would need to serve your customers if your facility is closed.

### Employees Should:

- > Learn and practice emergency plans.
- > Know at least two exits from each room (if possible).
- > Be able to escape in the dark by knowing, for instance, how many desks or cubicles are between your workstation and two of the nearest exits.
- > Know the post-evacuation meeting location.
- > Know the location of fire extinguishers and how to use them.
- > Keep a copy of co-workers phone numbers at home.
- > Make a list of important personal numbers. Keep a printed list at your desk or near other phones. Do not rely on electronic lists, direct-dial phone numbers or computer organizers that may not work in an emergency.
- > Gather personal emergency supplies in a desk drawer: include a flashlight, walking shoes, dust mask, a water bottle and non-perishable food.
- > Report safety system damage or malfunctions.
- > Never lock or block fire exits or doorways. However, keep fire doors closed to slow the spread of smoke and fire.
- > Make specific plans to help each other. Determine how you will help each other in the event that public transportation is shut down or throughways are impassable. Offer to temporarily house, transport or feed your co-workers in case of emergency.

### Employers Should:

- > Ensure that an emergency plan is developed and practiced at least every six months.
- > Make specific plans for employees who are disabled or who may require assistance during an emergency.
- > Put together an office phone tree. Develop a list of everyone's home phone numbers who is responsible for making each contact. Provide a copy for each employee.
- > Keep a phone list of all key employees with you at all times.
- > If you have a voicemail system, designate one remote number on which you can record messages for employees and provide them a number.
- > Arrange for programmable call forwarding for your main business lines.
- > Leave keys and the alarm codes with a trusted employee or friend in case you cannot get to your facility.
- > Backup computer data frequently.
- > Purchase a NOAA Weather Radio with a tone alert system.

In the midst of rushing through everyday life, it is important to take a minute to prepare for emergencies. Being prepared helps you and your family minimize the impact of a disaster, such as an earthquake, or an emergency, such as a broken leg. Knowing what to do is your best protection and your responsibility. The best way to make your family and your home safe is to be prepared before disaster strikes.

 In our area we have the potential of disasters caused by earthquakes, wildland fire, and weather related emergencies. Take time to plan for the problems related to each type of disaster.



- > If you have pets make a pet plan. Animals may not be allowed inside emergency shelters due to health regulations.
- > Find out how to help elderly or disabled persons in your home or neighborhood.
- > Ask about disaster plans at your workplace, your children's school or daycare center and other places where your family spends time.

### MAKE A FAMILY EMERGENCY PLAN

- > *Meet with household members* Explain the dangers to children and your emergency plans. Work with them as a team to prepare your family to deal with emergencies.
- > *Discuss* what to do about power outages and personal injuries.
- > Post emergency telephone numbers near telephones.
- > Learn how to turn off the water, gas and electricity at your home.
- Decide where to meet in the event of an emergency; you may become separated from family members. Choose a place right outside your home in case of a sudden emergency, like a fire. Choose a location outside your neighborhood in case you cannot return home.
- Choose an "Out-of-Town" contact Ask an out-of-town friend or relative to be your contact in the event of a disaster. Everyone must know the contact's phone number. It is often easier to make a long distance phone call than a local call from a disaster area.
- > *Teach children* how to make long distance telephone calls.
- > <u>Complete a family communications plan</u> Your plan should include contact information for family members, work and school.
- > Escape routes and safe places In a fire or other emergency, you may need to evacuate very quickly. Be ready to get out fast. Be sure everyone in your family knows the best escape routes out of your home as well as where the safe places are in your home for each type of disaster. Draw a Home Family Escape Plan with your family outlining two escape routes from each room.

### PHONE NUMBERS AND WEB SITES

### ANY LIFE THREATENING EMERGENCY CALL 911

۲	Washoe County Sheriff's Office	775.832.4110	www.washoesheriff.com
<b>P</b>	North Lake Tahoe Fire Protection District	775.831.0351	www.nltfpd.net
	Washoe County Emergency Management	775.337.5800	www.readywashoe.com
<b>1</b> 0005.	Incline Village General Improvement District	775.832.1100	www.ivgid.org
÷	American Red Cross (Reno Office)	775.856.1000	www.nevada.redcross.org
۲	Department of Homeland Security		www.ready.gov
	National Weather Service		www.weather.gov/reno
<b>VEVADA</b>	Nevada Department of Transportation		www.nevadadot.com
١	Washoe County Roads		www.rtcwashoe.com

North Lake Tahoe Bonanza

www.tahoebonanza.com



### MAKE A PLAN IF YOU MUST LEAVE YOUR HOME

- Begin evacuation immediately when the official warning is issued. Your life might be in danger, do not waste time leaving your home.
- Have a place to go such as the home of a family member or friend, or a shelter. The Incline High School is the primary evacuation shelter for our area. Plan your route before the disaster.
- > *Listen to the radio* for updates on the situation.
- Notify family or friends of your plans, if possible. Tell them when you are leaving and where you are going.
- <u>Use travel routes</u> specified by local officials (see attached map for routes). Know where you are going before you leave.
- > *Bring extra cash.* Banks may be closed, ATMs may not work.
- > Take your disaster supplies kit.
- Secure and lock your home before you leave.
- > *Bring toys,* books and games for entertainment.
- If driving in smoke, turn on headlights, move as far to the right as possible and drive slowly.



- > When you arrive at a shelter make sure you register with official personnel.
- > *Don't panic*, drive slowly and arrive safely at your destination.

### MAKE A PLAN IF YOU MUST STAY AND SHELTER IN PLACE.

- > Have your disaster supplies kit in hand, including pet supplies.
- > You need to *store at least a three-day supply* of water for each person in your household. Stored water should be changed every six months.
- > Notify family or friends of the situation if possible.
- > *Work with neighbors* to develop a neighborhood plan that keeps everyone informed.
- > Listen to your battery operated *radio for emergency updates*.
- > Once you have decided to stay, *remain in your home* until the emergency is over.

Local officials have pre-determined three routes to drive out of Incline Village and Crystal Bay to be used in the event of a disaster. The type of emergency will determine which route will be used. Officials will notify residents through the use of media, telephone and if possible, by first responders.

- Evacuation Route A Highway 28 towards South Shore then East on Highway 50 to Carson City
- Evacuation Route B Highway 28 towards the California State Line then Highway 267 to Interstate 80
- > Evacuation Route C Highway 431 to Reno

Plan at least two ways out of your neighborhood and mark the route on the attached map.

### WATER EVACUATION

> If all highways are unavailable and conditions are unsafe, you may be directed to the Village Green for a water evacuation by boat.

### **HELICOPTER EVACUATION**

> If all highways are unavailable and conditions are unsafe, you may be directed to the former Ponderosa Ranch parking lot (located on Hwy. 28) for possible helicopter evacuation.

### IF YOU LEAVE YOUR HOME

- > If you leave your home *turn on a porch light and secure your residence*.
- Drive slowly, first responders and emergency equipment might be on the roadway. If you must drive through smoke – turn on your headlights and stay as far to the right as possible.

### **SHELTER LOCATIONS**

There are two emergency shelter sites in Incline Village.

- > The primary shelter location in Incline Village is Incline High School located on Village Blvd.
- > The secondary location is the Incline Village Recreation Center on Incline Way.
- > An additional shelter location is *Galena High School*.

During an emergency you will be directed to one of these locations. Listen to the radio or television for the correct location. If conditions change and a new site is needed you will be directed upon arrival at one of these two locations.

Wildland or forest fires continue to be the largest threat to the Tahoe Basin. During a fire emergency, safety of lives is the number one priority. In order for the Fire District to effectively work to control the fire or protect homes it is best if citizens are safely evacuated. Your life is the highest importance and if you, your family and neighbors are in a safe place the responders have accomplished the most important goal.

### WHAT TO EXPECT DURING A WILDLAND FIRE.

> *Wildland fires can start and move very quickly.* Smoke and embers will be moved by the wind created by the fire. The situation can change in minutes, listen to the radio or television for updates and be ready to leave if necessary.

### **BEFORE A WILDLAND FIRE OCCURS**

- > What should I wear and have with me?
- > Wear only cotton or wool clothes.
- > Proper attire includes long pants, long-sleeved shirt or jacket and boots.
- > Carry gloves, a handkerchief to cover your face, water to drink, and goggles.
- > Keep a flashlight and portable radio with you at all times.
- > Tune in to a local radio station and listen for instructions.

### > How should I prepare my car?

- > Place vehicles in garage, pointing out with the keys in the ignition.
- > Roll up the windows.
- > Close the garage door, but leave it unlocked.
- > If applicable, disconnect the electric garage door opener so that the door can be opened manually.

### > How should I leave my home?

- > Close all interior doors.
- Remove lightweight, nonfire-resistant curtains and other combustible materials from around the windows.
- > Close fire-resistant drapes, shutters and Venetian blinds.

### > What about the outside of my home?

- > Place combustible patio furniture in the house or garage.
- > Close all exterior vents if possible.
- > Prop a ladder against the house to provide firefighters with access to the roof.
- > Make sure that all garden hoses are connected to faucets and attach nozzles set on spray.
- > Close all exterior doors and windows.
- > Leave exterior doors unlocked.
- > Turn on outside lights.
- > If available and if there's time, cover windows, attic openings and vents with plywood that is at least one-half inch thick.
- > If you have an emergency water source (pool, pond, etc.) and/or portable water pump, clearly mark its availability so it can be seen from the street.

### **RED FLAG WARNINGS**

The National Weather Service (NWS) offices issue Fire Weather Watches and Red Flag Warnings for critical fire weather patterns that contribute to the extreme fire danger and/ or fire behavior.

A Fire Weather Watch is used to alert agencies to the high potential for development of a Red Flag event in the 12-72 hour time frame. The Watch may be issued for all or selected portions of a fire weather zone. A watch may be issued in the first 12 hour time period only for an expected dry thunderstorm event.

Red Flag warning/fire weather watches in discussions and headlines - In the discussion portion of the Fire Planning Forecast (FWF), NWS offices will mention critical weather patterns that might lead to conditions approaching or exceeding Red Flag criteria through the extended forecast. This will assist fire agencies in their allocating and moving resources in anticipation of increased fire activity. Fire Weather Watches and Red Flag Warnings will be headlined in spot forecasts, the fire weather narrative, and appropriate zone sections within the fire weather planning forcast. The headline will be in the same format as on the RFW product itself.

### WHEN A WILDLAND FIRE OCCURS

- Stay calm and do not panic. You will think more rationally if you remain calm. Keep family members and pets together. Wear long pants, long sleeved shirts made from natural fibers, and boots or sturdy shoes for protection from the heat. If advised to evacuate, DO SO IMMEDIATELY. Drive slowly, turn on your vehicle headlights and stay as far to the right of the road as possible.
- If evacuation routes are blocked you will be required to stay in your home during the fire. If you shelter in place, stay away from windows, move to an interior room or hallway. If the house does catch fire there will still be time to get out. Do not try and leave until the fire has passed and you can safely drive to a shelter location.



### WHAT TO EXPECT IN AN EARTHQUAKE

During an earthquake the "solid" earth moves like the deck of a ship. The actual movement of the ground is seldom the direct cause of death or injury. Most casualties result from falling objects and debris because the shocks can shake, damage or demolish buildings. Earthquakes may also trigger landslides, cause fires and disrupt utilities.

### **BEFORE AN EARTHQUAKE**

- Check your home for potential hazards. Place large and heavy objects on lower shelves. Securely fasten shelves to walls. Brace or anchor high or top-heavy objects. Strap water heaters to keep them from falling.
- Know where and how to shut off electricity, gas, and water at main switches and valves. Have the proper tools close by so that there is no delay when it is time to shut off the utilities.
- > *Hold occasional drills* so each member of your household knows what do in an earthquake.
- > Have your Disaster Supply Kit ready and accessible.

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### WHAT TO DO DURING AN EARTHQUAKE

Image courtesy of University of Nevada Seismology Department

- > First and foremost, stay calm. Think through the consequences of any action you take.
- > *If you are inside, stay inside;* take cover under a heavy desk or table. Stand under a supported doorway or along an inside wall away from any windows.
- > *If you are outside stay there,* stay away from tall buildings, look up and watch for falling objects. If you are in a moving car, safely stop the car and remain inside.

### WHAT TO DO AFTER AN EARTHQUAKE

- Check yourself and people nearby for injuries. Provide first aid if needed. Be prepared for additional earthquake shocks called "aftershocks". These are smaller than the main shock, some may be large enough to cause additional damage or bring weakened structures down.
- Check gas, electric, and water lines. If damaged, shut off valves. Turn off appliances. Do not light matches or candles. Check for natural gas leaks by odor only. If a gas leak is detected, open all windows and doors, leave immediately and do not re-enter the building until a utility official says it is safe.
- Check your home for damage, approach chimneys with caution. If there is any question of safety leave your home and do not re-enter until the item can be checked. Open any closet or cupboard cautiously due to falling objects.
- > *Do not flush toilets* until sewer lines are checked.
- > *Check with neighbors* to see if your assistance is needed.

### WHAT TO EXPECT WITH AN AVALANCHE

Snow avalanches are a natural phenomena resulting from the interaction of site-specific weather, terrain, and snowpack conditions. Because these factors are constantly changing, precise prediction of when destructive avalanches will occur is limited.

### **BEFORE AN AVALANCHE**

> Most avalanches occur on slopes with inclinations

*between 30<sup>o</sup>* and 45<sup>o</sup>. Slopes on leeward sides of windy ridges are likely areas for large accumulations of wind blown snow to form slabs. If there are no terrain features or trees to anchor the snow in place, these slopes become "starting zones" for slab avalanches.

### **DURING AN AVALANCHE**

- > *Warn those around you* of the impending slide.
- Try and get out of the way if possible; if on skis, move out diagonally. If on a snowmobile, move downhill.
- > *Drop anything in your hands that will drag you down.* Use a "swimming" motion thrusting upward to try and stay near the surface of the snow.
- > Try to keep your arms and hands moving so the instant the avalanche stops you can make an air pocket in front of your face by punching the snow around you before it sets.
- > *If you are in a house,* try and move to the opposite side of the structure of the slide and find a door or window to make an escape.

### AFTER AN AVALANCHE

- > The INSTANT the avalanche stops try to *maintain an air pocket in front of your face* by using your hands and arms to punch in the snow and make a pocket of air. Most deaths are due to suffocation, the snow will set very quickly.
- > *If you are lucky enough to be near the surface,* try and stick out an arm or a leg so that rescuers can find you.
- > *Do not panic*, keep your breathing steady to help preserve your air space and help your body conserve energy.
- If someone around you is caught in an avalanche, watch as they are carried downhill, paying particular attention to the last point you saw them. If possible mark the spot so that rescuers can reduce search time.

### **TSUNAMI AT LAKE TAHOE?**

Earthquake-caused large waves in a lake or closed body of water is called seiche (pronounced say'sh). The word originates in a Swiss French dialect word that means "to sway back and forth". Due to Lake Tahoe's size, depth and close proximity to earthquake faults it is at risk for a seiche. A large earthquake could cause a wave up to 33 feet in height to come ashore at any location around the lake. These waves could move back and forth across the lake for many hours.

### WHAT TO DO AFTER AN EARTHQUAKE

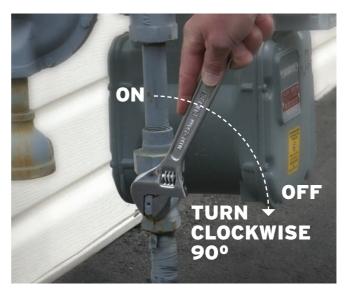
If you are close to the lake or on the beach during an earthquake, move immediately to higher ground. If a seiche occurs it will happen quickly.



- If you live in a home near the lake, move away from windows and doors that face the lake. If possible move to an upstairs location. Do not go outside after an earthquake until you are certain that there is no seiche approaching.
- > *If you are ordered to evacuate,* don't waste time, take an evacuation kit and leave. Do not return until the authorities have given the all clear.

Make sure all family members know how and when to shut off the gas supply.

- If you smell gas after an earthquake, shut off the main gas valve.
- Use a wrench to turn the valve either way until it is perpendicular to the pipe.
- Attach the wrench to the gas meter with a wire.



### WHAT TO EXPECT DURING A FLOOD EVENT

Flash floods, abundant rain, and rain-on-snow events are the three types of flood phenomena that occur throughout the state. At Lake Tahoe these events cause small creeks to overflow and homes in low lying areas can experience some localized flooding.

### **BEFORE A FLOOD**

Check drains and drainage to divert water away from your home. Build barriers and landscape around your home or buildings to reduce or stop floodwaters and mud from entering. Seal lower walls with waterproofing compounds and install "check valves" in sewer traps to prevent flood water from backing up into drains.

### **DURING A FLOOD**

- Listen for updates from the radio and television. Know the location for sandbags and sand. Move valuables out of the path of water or mud. Contact local authorities and notify them of the location of the flooding. If necessary, turn off utilities before problems escalate.
- > *If water is diverted* check with neighboring properties to ensure that additional damage is not occurring.

### AFTER THE FLOOD

Prior to entering a building, check for structural damage. Check the foundation walls and posts. Make sure it is not in danger of collapsing. Watch for electrical shorts or live wires before making certain that the main power switch is turned off. Remove all floodwaters from under structures as soon as possible.



In the event of a disaster, if you must evacuate, the most important thing you can do for your pets is to evacuate them, too. If you are away from your home when your neighborhood is evacuated you will not be allowed back to retrieve your pet, so make arrangements with neighbors before a disaster strikes.



Pets are not allowed at public shelters for health and space reasons, so arrangements must be made in advance for pets. Pets might not be allowed in hotels or motels so planning is crucial.

- Make sure that your <u>pets are current on their vaccinations</u>. Pet shelters may require proof of vaccines.
- > Keep a *collar with identification* on your pet and have a leash on hand to control your pet.
- > If possible, have a properly-sized pet carrier for each animal.
- > Have a supply of *pet food, water and any required medications*.

Animals brought to a pet shelter are required to have a proper identification collar, proper identification on all belongings, leash, food bowl, food and water.

### SPECIAL NEEDS AND VULNERABLE POPULATIONS

Certain individuals in the community may have special problems to deal with in a disaster, including the elderly, people with medical conditions, and people with certain disabilities (mobilty, visually impaired, hearing impaired, developmental or cognitive disabilites). If you have a family member who is one of these individuals, there are special considerations to think about and plan for before a disaster occurs.

If the family member has medications or equipment that they are dependent on, plan to bring those items with you if an evacuation is necessary. Shelters will not have additional medication or medical equipment available. Documentation about insurance and medical conditions should also accompany the person.

Plan ahead for transportation needs for family members with special needs. Transportation for the general public in an emergency evacuation may not be suitable for their situation.

If the famliy member has special dietary needs, bring these special foods and supplements with you.

Many special needs populations are easily upset and stressed by sudden and frightening changes. Plans should be made to ensure that a caregiver or trusted family member is able to stay with them at all times during an evacuation.

### **IS IT A WATCH OR IS IT A WARNING?**

A watch is intended to provide lead time for those who need to set their plans in motion. A watch means that hazardous weather is possible in and close to the watch area.

A warning means that weather conditions pose a threat to life or property; people in the path of the hazard need to take protective action.

These terms are used for Thunderstorms, Flashfloods and Winter Storms.

### WINTER STORMS – WATCHES & WARNINGS

*Winter Storm Watch* – Conditions are favorable for hazardous winter weather conditions including heavy snow, blizzard conditions, significant accumulations of freezing rain or sleet, and dangerous wind chills. The watches are usually issued 12 to 36 hours in advance.

*Winter Storm Warning* – Hazardous winter weather conditions that pose a threat to life and/or property are occurring, imminent, or likely. The term winter storm warning is used for a combination of two or more of the following winter weather events: heavy snow, freezing rain, sleet, and strong winds. The following event-specific warnings are issued for a single weather hazard: blizzard warning, heavy snow warning or ice storm warning.

Snow Advisory - Snowfall roughly half the amount required for a winter storm warning.

*Blizzard Warning* – Sustained winds or frequent gusts of 35 miles per hour or greater with considerable falling and/or blowing snow. Visibility will be reduced to 1/4 mile or less for a period of three hours or more.

*Evacuation Advisory* – An advisory is issued when there is reason to believe that the emergency will escalate and require mandatory evacuations. An advisory is meant to give residents as much time as possible to prepare transportation arrangements.

<u>Voluntary Evacuation</u> – Is used when an area is going to be impacted and residents are willing and able to leave before the situation gets worse. This is helpful for residents with medical issues, people with pets and those who will have difficultly making travel arrangements. Under this evacuation order you do not have to leave the area.

<u>Mandatory Evacuation</u> – You MUST leave the area IMMEDIATELY, your life is in danger. Under these circumstances the situation is severe and you may not have time to gather special belongings or paperwork, every minute you delay could increase your danger. Please do not take this order lightly; it is for your safety. Remember to follow any instruction you receive from a law enforcement or fire officer. Since no single method of communication is failsafe, regional public safety officials use a combination of four methods to keep the public informed during an emergency.

1. Local government Public Information Officers (PIO) gather key information from first responders and elected officials and produce press releases that are then *broadcast by local media outlets*.

2. Emergency Managers can initiate the Emergency Alert System (EAS). This system interrupts local *radio and television broadcasts with emergency alerts* and instructions to the public.

3. First Responders and *credentialed volunteers can go door-to-door* alerting citizens of impending hazards.

4. The Emergency Notification Phone System can be used to automatically *telephone residents* and *relay emergency information*.

The Emergency Notification Phone System is a computer system that calls telephones in particular geographic areas, and plays a recorded message. However, there are two issues to consider-availability of electric utility power, and ability of the system to contact a particular type of telephone.

In an emergency, the electric utility power may fail at any time. This means that any telephone which relies on power to function will not work.

The Emergency Notification Phone System can only contact hardwired telephones (so-called "wireline" or "PSTN" phones) which are serviced by SBC, AT&T, or another local telephone company.

The EAS Local Primary Stations: In an emergency tune to: KKOH 780 AM • KUNR 88.9 FM • KOWL 1490 AM • KRLT 93.9 FM • KTKE 101.5 FM

### WHAT IS DEFENSIBLE SPACE?

Defensible space is the area between a house and an oncoming wildfire where the vegetation has been modified to reduce the wildfire threat and to provide an opportunity for firefighters to effectively defend the house. Sometimes, a defensible space is simply a homeowner's properly maintained backyard.

### STEP ONE:

Determine the size of an effective defensible space.

### **STEP TWO:**

Remove dead vegetation.

### **STEP THREE:**

Create a separation between trees and shrubs.

### **STEP FOUR:**

Remove ladder fuels.

### **STEP FIVE:**

Create a Lean, Clean and Green Area extending 5 feet to 30 feet from the house.

### STEP SIX:

Create a noncombustible area at least 5 feet wide around the base of the house.

### **STEP SEVEN:**

Maintain the Defensible Space Zone.

Please visit **livingwithfire.info** to learn more about the above steps.

Prepare to care for yourself, your family and pets for a duration of at least three days and up to seven days. The best time to assemble a disaster supplies kit is well before you need it. Most of these items are already in your home, it is matter of assembling them before a disaster occurs.

- Water One gallon per person and per pet for each day. Store water in unbreakable containers. Identify the storage date and replace every six months.
- > Food A supply of non-perishable packaged or canned foods with a hand-operated can opener.
- > Anti-bacterial hand wipes or gel.
- > First Aid Kit, a first aid book and required prescription medications.
- > Blankets or sleeping bags at least one per person.
- > Battery-powered radio, flashlight and plenty of extra batteries.
- > Fire extinguisher ABC type.
- > Credit cards, cash and change.
- > An extra set of car and house keys.
- > Extra pair of eyeglasses.
- > Toothbrush, toothpaste, shampoo and toilet paper.
- > A list of family physicians.
- > A list of important family information including phone numbers.
- > Special items for infants, elderly, or disabled family members.

### **SANITATION SUPPLIES**

- > Large plastic trash bags for waste, tarps and rain ponchos.
- > Large trash cans.
- > Bar soap and liquid detergent.
- > Household bleach.
- > Rubber gloves.

Stocking up now on emergency supplies can add to your family's safety and comfort during and after a disaster. Store enough supplies for at least three days, preferably as many as seven days.



# YOUR IMPORTANT CONTACTS:



NORTH LAKE TAHOE FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT 866 ORIOLE WAY INCLINE VILLAGE, NV 89451-9439 TEL 775.831.0351 FAX 775.831.2072 WWW.NLTFPD.NET

MICHAEL D. BROWN FIRE CHIEF

**COOPERATIVE EFFORT BY:** 



