



CHRISTMAS TREE HILL NEIGHBORHOOD RESPONSE GROUP

Neighbors-helping-neighbors prepare for, respond to, and recover from disasters

See <https://www.cthnrg.org/maps--blocks.html> to find out which Zone and Block your home is in and who your Block Captain is.

March 2023

Dear Neighbors,

Greetings from your Christmas Tree Hill Neighborhood Response Group Team.

When clocks change in March and November each year NRGs across central Marin engage in disaster preparation drills in an effort to better prepare residents and NRG volunteers to respond to disasters and emergencies like wildfires, earthquakes and power outages. **THIS MARCH OUR NRG TEAM WILL FOCUS ON EVACUATION BY URGING YOU TO PARTICIPATE AT HOME IN AN EVACUATION PREPAREDNESS EXERCISE ON MARCH 12th.** Evacuation may be required due to the threat and impact of natural hazard events such as wildfires and earthquakes so as to save and protect the lives of CTH residents exposed to actual or imminent danger. When an evacuation warning or order is received, timely and rapid movement to safer locations and places of shelter will be essential. In a wildfire situation there may be a need to evacuate in a very short period of time and because CTH has narrow streets and only 2 vehicular exit routes planning for an evacuation is critical.

WE URGE YOU TO PARTICIPATE AT HOME IN THIS EXERCISE ON SUNDAY, MARCH 12, 2023 from 10:00 – 11:00 AM BY TAKING THE STEPS OUTLINED IN THE CHECKLIST PROVIDED TO ENSURE THAT YOU, YOUR FAMILY, LOVED ONES, AND PETS CAN EVACUATE OFF THE HILL QUICKLY AND SAFELY SHOULD THE NEED EVER ARISE.

We also urge you, in advance of the drill, to:

- Ensure that you, your family, and any caregivers you use are registered for emergency alerts
 - Alert Marin: <https://www.marinsheriff.org/services/emergency-services/alert-marin>
 - Nixle: <https://local.nixle.com/register/>
 - PG&E: <https://www.pge.com/>
- Ensure that you, your family and any caregivers you use know where your nearest evacuation route(s) are and that you prepare an evacuation plan: <https://emergency.marincounty.org/pages/evacuation>
- Make sure that your emergency supply kit is fully stocked:
 - <https://www.safetyactioncenter.pge.com/articles/26-quiz-do-know-pack-emergency-kit>
 - <https://firesafemarin.org/prepare-yourself/evacuation-guide/evacuation-go-kit/>
 - <https://firesafemarin.org/prepare-yourself/evacuation-guide/create-an-evacuation-plan/>

IN ADDITION TO THE DRILL DAY EVACUATION PREPARATION CHECKLIST ON THE REVERSE SIDE OF THIS FLYER, A CTH [EVACUATION GUIDE](#) AND [EVACUATION MAP](#) IS ALSO PROVIDED.

Thank you for participating!

Your CTH NRG Team

MARCH 12, 2023
CTH NRG EVACUATION PREPAREDNESS EXERCISE CHECK LIST

Evacuation Preparedness Exercise Scenario

At 10:00 AM assume that an evacuation warning has been issued for CTH by either the Marin Sheriff or the Central Marin Fire Authority using Alert Marin. Police car Hi Lo signals might also be activated. Because the authorities strongly recommend that you NOT wait for a mandatory warning to be issued, you immediately start preparing to evacuate as soon as possible using the checklist below.

In preparation for the exercise we urge you to review the Evacuation Guide and CTH Evacuation Map provided; we also urge you to have your children of appropriate age participate in the preparedness exercise.

A crucial element of the exercise is to time how long it takes you, your family/loved ones and pets to be evacuation ready. Setting the stop watch on your phone would work well. You should also make a note of which items on your checklist you were unable to complete and why, so that you can use that information to be better prepared in the future.

Evacuation Preparedness Exercise Key Items Checklist.

You can augment this checklist after reviewing the enclosed Evacuation Guide.

- Alert your children to what is about to happen and if they are 5 or older have them pack a small go bag with weather appropriate clothing for at least 2 days
- Locate your pet carriers and your pets and secure them until you are ready to mock evacuate
- Prepare a go-bag for your pets with at least 2 days of food and water and other key essentials – water, food, meds, bowls, leashes, poop bags, pet beds, etc.
- Gather and pack any medications* that you need to take with you
- Gather your important documents* (ideally these should already be on a thumb drive or photographed/scanned and stored on your devices)
- Gather your cell phones*, chargers*, and computers*
*Make sure that these items are in a backpack or carry bag in case you need to abandon your car.
- Pack you own go-bag
- Put on sturdy shoes (everyone) in the event an evacuation on foot becomes necessary
- If you do not already have an emergency go bag in your car, pack one – flashlight, water, car charger(s), extra batteries, emergency cash, a pair of work gloves, masks (preferably N95)
- Pack enough water and non-perishable food/snacks for you and your family for at least 2 days
- Identify and make a list of the items in your home that can be quickly gathered and easily transported in a hurry that you consider irreplaceable—items like photos, heirloom jewelry, etc. Remember that in a wildfire situation you might if trapped by fire have to abandon your car

As you go through this exercise, we urge you to remember that if a mandatory evacuation is ordered you might have mere minutes to gather your family and pets and get into your car and off the hill, so having pre-packed go-bags, documents already stored on devices, pet carriers at the ready, etc., could save your life and the lives of your family and pets. We urge you always to park your car facing outwards. With only 2 exits off CTH evacuation traffic management will become a very real challenge and time spent backing out of driveways and car parks could seriously hamper our collective ability to evacuate rapidly and safely.

HOW DID YOU DO? HOW LONG DID IT TAKE YOU TO GET READY? LESSONS LEARNED?

Please email us at cthnrg@gmail.com to let us know whether you participated and how it went.