



## CAMANO PREPAREDNESS GROUP

January 2022 NEWSLETTER

**Monthly Meetings:** Every Second Thursday 7-9 pm



### Who Is Responsible for Preparedness?

Winter has finally shown itself, and has done so in a very impressive, if not altogether appreciated manner. With it comes a reminder for the need to be prepared. Thankfully, for most of us, it came without taking out our power. And I suspect most of us were prepared to get through this icy blast. But what if this had been a true disaster? Who is responsible for preparing for major, potentially long-term events? Following is some information that you may find eye-opening. The next two paragraphs are taken from the Island County Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan, Third Edition – 2018 (the full plan can be found at <https://www.islandcountywa.gov/DEM/Pages/CEMP.aspx>)

#### Purpose:

In order to protect life, property and the environment within Island County, County government shall respond to all disaster and emergency events, and shall take appropriate actions to mitigate against, prepare for, respond to, and recover from the effects of such events....

#### Assumptions:

...The immediate availability of resources to respond to the emergencies associated with a disaster will be limited and the responses will be prioritized. **It is assumed that there will not be enough resources to respond to every emergency need. Therefore, each citizen must be personally responsible for preparing to meet their own emergency needs for at least seven to ten days.**

The next paragraphs are taken from the August 2019 updated FEMA sponsored CERT Train the Trainer course.

Community-based preparedness planning allows us all to prepare for and respond to anticipated disruptions and potential hazards following a disaster. As individuals, we can prepare our homes and families to cope during that critical period. Through pre-event planning, neighborhoods, and worksites can also work together to help reduce injuries, loss of lives, and property damage. Neighborhood preparedness will enhance the ability of individuals and communities to reduce their emergency needs and to manage their existing resources until professional assistance becomes available.

Studies of behavior following disasters have shown that groups working together in the disaster period perform more effectively if there has been prior planning and training for disaster response. These studies also show that organized grassroots efforts may be more successful if they are woven into the social and political fabric of the community— neighborhood associations, schools, workplaces, places of worship, and other existing organizations.

In other words, we are all in this together and share equally in the responsibility to prepare. Communications and first responders will be overwhelmed and will, of necessity, triage and respond to the most critical needs first – assuming they can even get to them. What we do as individuals and working together as neighbors can make a huge difference in saving lives and guaranteeing resiliency for ourselves, our families, and our community. It is for this reason that the Camano Preparedness Group strongly urges every neighborhood to implement Map Your Neighborhood, and also strongly urges at least two members of each neighborhood to receive CERT training. We are eager and willing to work with you to help you organize under Map Your Neighborhood. Just contact us. We are also eager to resume CERT training sessions twice a year as soon as this pandemic allows us to do so. In the meantime ---

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### Planning Ahead for January

An ongoing look at spreading the cost of preparedness over the year, and at other measures you can take to prepare for an emergency/disaster.

#### Items to Locate or Purchase:

- Hard hat
- Work gloves
- Mask (N95)
- Heavy shoes & socks
- Whistle
- Flashlight/light sticks

#### Actions to Take:

Place each of the above items under or near your bed. Be sure to do this for each member of your household. Should a disaster strike late at night, these items will guarantee that you can make your way safely out of your residence, or (in the case of the whistle) alert others of your whereabouts if you cannot leave.

Work with your neighbors to organize your neighborhood under Map Your Neighborhood.

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## Meeting

**A change to the location of our January 13 meeting is back to Zoom.** The topic will be a discussion regarding individual and community responsibilities for preparedness.

Time: Tuesday, January 13, 2022; 7pm

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/96945628910?pwd=V0xpbXlpeWd4RFRYbHVIRS9Jbk5QT09>

Meeting ID: 969 4562 8910

Passcode: CPG

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## Smoke Alarms

Red Cross volunteers Gerry Gibson and his wife replace smoke alarms for free. If you need yours replaced, they can be reached at

[gerry@gibbyhomefireprevention.org](mailto:gerry@gibbyhomefireprevention.org). You can also check out their website [Gibby Home Fire Prevention.org](http://GibbyHomeFirePrevention.org) or Google Greg Gibby Gibson Home Fire Safety Act.

Since they do not live on Camano, they prefer to schedule three appointments per trip, so check with your neighbors!

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## Useful Websites

CPG – [www.camanopreparednessgroup.org](http://www.camanopreparednessgroup.org)

CPG Facebook –

[www.facebook.com/CamanoPreparednessGroup](http://www.facebook.com/CamanoPreparednessGroup)

FEMA – <https://training.fema.gov>

CIFR – [www.camanofire.com](http://www.camanofire.com)

ICDEM (Island County Dep't. of Emergency Management) –

<https://www.islandcountywa.gov/DEM/Pages/Home.aspx>

Earthquake Country Alliance –

[www.earthquakecountry.org/prepare/](http://www.earthquakecountry.org/prepare/)

Map Your Neighborhood –

<https://mil.wa.gov/map-your-neighborhood>

[MapYourNeighborhood booklet.pdf \(ncna.info\)](#)

Stanwood Camano Amateur Radio Club –

[www.scarcwa.org](http://www.scarcwa.org)

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Robert Mitchell, MD, FACOG – Disaster Medicine Project –

<https://www.facebook.com/DisasterMedicineProject>

US Coast Guard – <https://uscgboating.org/mobile/>

How to make a Crisco Emergency Light -

<https://youtu.be/xnNHM4OLkvE>

Disability Related Preparedness Resources –

<https://www.ready.gov/disability>

<https://www.redcross.org/prepare/location/home-family/disabilities>

<https://www.wasilc.org/coalition-on-inclusive-emergency-planning>

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## CPG Contacts:

Rhonda Paulson, President, Camano Map Your Neighborhood Coordinator – [rspaulson.rp@gmail.com](mailto:rspaulson.rp@gmail.com)

Sue Ryan, VP, Program Director – [kk6sue@gmail.com](mailto:kk6sue@gmail.com)

Bill Swander, Board member – [bswander44@gmail.com](mailto:bswander44@gmail.com)

\*\*\*The Camano Preparedness Group is a non-profit 501-C3 organization working to help Camano residents develop the skills necessary to make it safely through whatever major events we may encounter. We provide programs at monthly meetings, presentations for neighborhoods and local groups, and make available a wealth of materials at community events.

\*\*Tax deductible donations welcome and can be sent to CPG, P.O. Box 1325, Stanwood, WA 98292 or can be made through our FaceBook page. You can also designate us as your choice for donations through Amazon Smile.

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Preparedness is a State of Mind.

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