



## CAMANO PREPAREDNESS GROUP JUNE 2025 NEWSLETTER



### Upcoming Meetings

#### Board Meetings –

*1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of the month; Vista Madrona Fire Station unless otherwise indicated; 1-3 pm.*

*General Meetings – 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of the month; Vista Madrona Fire Station; 7-9 pm.*

The Tuesday, June 3<sup>rd</sup> board meeting will be held at 1 pm, at the Vista Madrona Fire Station, 273 N West Camano Dr.

Thursday, June 12<sup>th</sup> will feature Sue Ryan and Your House can Survive a Wildfire. With summers getting warmer and drier, we face increasing risks of wildfires across the state, including here on Camano. This program provides information regarding the measures you can take to protect your yard and home, thereby making it much more likely for your property to survive a wildfire. Pete Slanina from the Snohomish Conservation District will join her to discuss their program. \*See the information under Weather.

Far too many of us live much of our lives with our noses buried in our cell phones and/or our ears plugged into our favorite books or music. In addition, many of us tend to post virtually everything about our lives. Dawn Mettler discussed how people who pose potential threats target those who are unaware of their surroundings and how predators can use posted information. Her program provided guidelines by which we can improve our safety through situational awareness and by avoiding too much ‘sharing’. \*Note – Situational Awareness plays a major role in all our activities.

#### 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter CERT Workshop – May 21

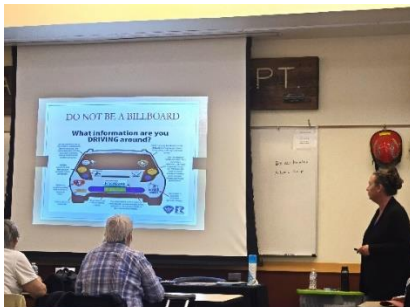
##### Disaster Communications



### Looking Back

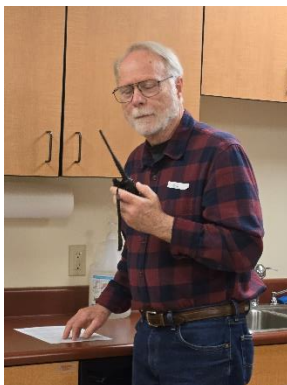
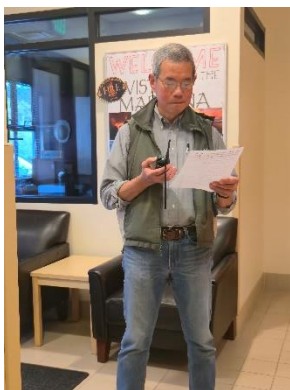
#### May 8<sup>th</sup> Meeting

##### Situational Awareness





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CERT members received instruction from Bill Swander regarding the use of GMRS radios for their neighborhoods and then applied the information with a hands-on exercise that covered acting as the neighborhood net-control, scribe, and remote team leaders for the purpose of communicating and recording critical information about damage and injuries.

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CPG Townhall – May 25

What to do Until Help Arrives

Preparedness State of Mind



Bill Swander's presentation regarding *What to do Until Help Arrives* walked us through critical situational awareness and the measures we can take when faced with injured individuals and when first responders are still minutes away. Quick thinking and your actions can, at the very least, help to stabilize injuries and give comfort. You may also save a life.



*Preparedness* should be a *State of Mind* in every aspect of our lives. Bill's second presentation addressed this, again speaking to the need for situational awareness and adding a consideration of the 'what ifs' we might encounter day-to-day. Recognizing the possibilities is the first step in planning and preparing for them. And once prepared, practicing our plans means we will be better able to focus and act quickly should the need arise. The 'what ifs' in our lives are truly endless. What if we have unexpected visitors for dinner? What if we have a flat tire? What if we witness an auto accident? What if severe weather causes an injury to someone in our household or neighborhood? What if we experience a major earthquake? None of these events are beyond our ability to act if we already have a plan (and a backup plan) in place. Understanding the possibilities and being situationally aware allows us to recognize situations as they occur. Being prepared to act on our plan makes us far more resilient as individuals, as neighborhoods, and as a community.



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### Making Plans - Weather

**Camano's greatest risk concerning disasters is severe weather. Understanding weather can help you become better prepared.**

Information for this portion of our newsletter comes from NW Meteorologist Ted Buehner; from NOAA; from the National Weather Service; from the Weather Channel; and from Island County Dept. of Emergency Management.

Per the National Weather Service, we can once again expect a warmer and drier than normal summer. Dry soil conditions are a particular concern with wildfire season. Be sure to attend our June 12<sup>th</sup> meeting. The program will be *Your House Can Survive a Wildfire*. Also, the Snohomish Conservation District is currently working with a wildfire resilience and forest health grant that includes a free wildfire risk home assessment for residents of Snohomish County and Camano Island. This grant runs out at the end of June. If you are interested in scheduling this assessment for your home or your neighborhood, contact [snocd.org/assess](mailto:snocd.org/assess). For questions, email [ccteam@snohomishcd.org](mailto:ccteam@snohomishcd.org).



### Communications

The Stanwood/Camano Amateur Radio Club will be participating in the annual ARRL Field Day the weekend of June 28-29. The event will take place at Arrowhead Ranch, 615 Arrowhead Road, Camano Island, beginning at 11 am on Saturday and running straight through to 11 am Sunday. During Field Day, our local ham radio operators practice disaster communications by making clear and concise contacts as quickly as possible. All equipment is set up in the field with the additional requirement that no commercial power can be used for radios or antennas. The public is welcome. Come learn about radio communications (when the power goes out and all other communications fail, amateur radio is there!) There is also a Get On The Air (GOTA) tent where you may try your hand at making contacts.



### Upcoming Meetings and Events

#### CPG Meetings

June 12 – Your House Can Survive a Wildfire with Sue Ryan

July 10 – EMS Levy with Fire Chief Jason Allen



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September 11 – Geology of Camano and the Effect of Earthquakes with Gabriel Lotto from Pacific Northwest Seismic Network.

October 9 – PUD

November 13 – Assisting Our Most Vulnerable Neighbors in times of Disaster – Rhonda Paulson

December 11 – CPG Christmas Party!!!

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### Events

July 12 – Cyber Terrorism – James Province – Camano Library – 10 am

August 5 – National Night Out – Terry's Corner Fire Station #3, 525 E North Camano Dr. – 6-8 pm

August 23 – Preparedness & Safety Fair – Camano Commons and Camano Library – 10 am to 4 pm  
Programs will be in the library: 10 am – Bill Swander with Preparedness State of Mind; 12:30 Sue Ryan with Earthquakes and NW Faults; 2:30pm – Bill Swander with Water Purification and Storage

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### Planning Ahead for June

For those of you who are new to our newsletter, this segment allows for an ongoing look at spreading the cost of preparedness over a year rather than trying to acquire everything all at once. Also included are measures you can take to prepare for any emergency/disaster. For those who have been receiving our newsletter, it provides the opportunity to review your supplies and your plans.

### Items to locate or purchase

Matches in waterproof container

Camping utility knife

Heavy hemp or cotton rope

Camp stove

Hand warmers

Duct tape

Deck of cards

Books

Puzzles

### Actions to take:

Locate an appropriate area for storage of disaster supplies. If possible, find a location that is easily accessible. It is wise to include extra clothing for each member of the household. Look into installing emergency ladders for the upper floors of your home. Photo inventory important/valuable household items and store in a lockbox or with an out-of-state friend or family member. Check batteries in items requiring them and replace where needed – this includes smoke alarms and carbon monoxide monitors.

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### Additional Considerations

#### Neighborhood Ready

If your neighborhood has not already done so, be sure to contact us to set up a time for our Neighborhood Ready training. The training is free. Our team will come to your neighborhood and will provide the materials to help you get started. The program includes information on personal preparedness, how to organize your neighborhood, the nine steps to take immediately following a disaster, and measures you can take that provide an





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### CPG Contacts:

ongoing benefit for all. For more information about Neighborhood Ready, contact Rhonda Paulson, [rspaulson.rp@gmail.com](mailto:rspaulson.rp@gmail.com).

**Rhonda Paulson, President; Camano Neighborhood Ready Coordinator; CERT Trainer –**  
[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; CERT Trainer –**  
[bswander44@gmail.com](mailto:bswander44@gmail.com)

### Useful Websites:

\*Should any of these links fail to work, try doing a copy and paste to your browser.

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

**CPG Facebook –**

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

**FEMA –** <https://training.fema.gov/is/>

**CIFR –** <https://camanofire.com>

**ICDEM (Island County Dept. of Emergency Management) –**

<https://www.islandcountywa.gov/170/Departmentof-Emergency-Management>

**Earthquake Country Alliance –**

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

**Stanwood Camano Amateur Radio Club –**

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

**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://youtube.com/watch?v=xnNHM4OLkvE>

**Disability Related Preparedness Resources –**

**\*\*Google: Inclusive Preparedness Resources**  
American Red Cross

**WSDOT –**

<https://wsdot.com/travel/real-time/map>

**We will never be Disaster Proof, but we can be Disaster Ready!**

**Remember – preparedness is not a mindset of doom and gloom. It is your security in times of recovery from a crisis.**

## Preparedness

## A State of Mind!

