

# Are You Prepared for the Winter Storm Season?

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) is expecting a very wet winter with possible flooding. We know that choosing to live in areas with a history of weather-related issues and relative isolation from main population centers means we must be prepared to be on our own for up to several days. **Are you ready?**

- ❑ Go to [www.smcalert.info](http://www.smcalert.info) and sign up to receive alerts on your cell phone and email. You will be notified quickly of tsunamis, floods, fires, road closures, mountain lion sightings, planned events with traffic disruptions, etc.
- ❑ Tune your portable and car radios to KHMB 1710 AM or KHMV 100.9 FM for emergency broadcasts from Montara to Tunitas Creek Road. For Pescadero, tune to 1680 AM. Assign a preset button for these stations. Get a NOAA weather radio (about \$30,) set it to KHB49 162.40 Mhz and have extra batteries.
- ❑ When roads are closed due to flooding, trees down or mudslides, you may need to leave your area by a different route than you are accustomed to. Learn these routes now, before you need them. Make arrangements to temporarily stay with family or friends should you need to evacuate your home.
- ❑ Always maintain at least a half a tank of gas in your vehicles.
- ❑ Maintain emergency supplies at home (*see back*)
- ❑ Maintain a “Go-Bag” near exit door or in your car (*see back*)



## Homeowner Recommendations

- Fix leaks in ceilings/roofs or replace roof
- Seal foundation cracks with mortar or masonry caulking
- Clean gutters and drains
- Invest in a battery-powered sump pump
- Move expensive items to safer location
- Elevate furnaces/heaters 12in above highest known flood level
- Anchor fuel tanks so they won't float away
- Install French drains if you live on a slope
- Stock up on sandbags
- Take pictures of insurance policies for storage on cell phone

## Emergency Supplies at Home

- One gallon of water per person per day for up to 72 hours
- Enough food (not requiring refrigeration) for up to 72 hours
- Plenty of battery or crank-powered flashlights/lanterns
- Portable radio, battery and/or crank powered
- Extra batteries for lights and radios
- An exit plan so your family knows where to meet if separated
- Provisions/plans for feeding/evacuating pets & large animals
- Camping gear/tents (for backyard if house in uninhabitable)
- First Aid kit
- Trash bags to line toilet for waste disposal if sewer/water out

## “Go-Bag” *Near Exit Door or in Car*

- Water
- Food bars/nuts/snacks
- Prescription medications in sealable plastic bags
- Extra eyeglasses
- Cash
- Copies of important papers in sealable plastic bags
- Matches or lighter in sealable plastic bags
- Flashlights with extra batteries
- Extra undergarments and socks in sealable plastic bags
- Sweater or sweatshirt
- Space blanket
- Hat
- Playing cards
- Writing pad and pencils
- Towel
- Rain poncho
- Gloves
- Pet leashes/food/meds
- Portable radio with extra batteries
- First Aid kit
- 50' parachute cord
- Multi-tool

## Sandbags

### HMB City Distribution Location

- ⇒ Historic Train Depot below Johnston House  
110 Higgins Canyon Rd., Half Moon Bay

### Unincorporated County Distribution Locations

- ⇒ Princeton Corporation Yard, 203 Cornell Ave.
- ⇒ Pescadero High School, 350 Butano Cut-Off Rd.
- ⇒ La Honda Corporation Yard, 59 Entrada Way

## Resources

For more information on how to prepare for winter storm emergencies:

- <http://myhazards.calema.ca.gov>
- [www.redcross.org](http://www.redcross.org)
- <http://smcready.org>
- <https://alerts.weather.gov/cap/ca.php?x=3>
- <http://www.fema.gov/plan-prepare>
- [www.hmbchamber.com/ceap](http://www.hmbchamber.com/ceap)
- [www.smcalert.info](http://www.smcalert.info)
- <http://www.fema.gov/view-your-community-preliminary-flood-hazard-data-0>
- Large Animal Evac Information:  
[sharonmontoyabretz@gmail.com](mailto:sharonmontoyabretz@gmail.com)
- Emergency Info Hotline for Pescadero:  
650-879-2165

## Get Involved

If you are interested in joining the Coastside Emergency Corps volunteers, or want to learn more about CERT training, ham radio licensing, Red Cross Shelter Operations, or any other emergency preparedness programs on the Coastside, contact:

**Nick Gottuso, Coastside Coordinator**  
San Mateo County Sheriff's  
Office of Emergency Services

[ngottuso@smcgov.org](mailto:ngottuso@smcgov.org)  
650-726-4069

