

FAIRFAX VOLUNTEERS

Neighborhood Groups: Sample Disaster Preparedness Questions

To prepare for an emergency, it is important to collect information about our neighbors' needs and abilities, and plan meeting places, evacuation routes, phone trees, etc before the need arises.

Ongoing quarterly (seasonal) meetings are a good idea, to keep information fresh, and to promote friendships, and other fun activities such as block parties and garage sales.

Here is a sample list of questions to ask neighbors:

- 1. Name and Number in household:**
- 2. Are there elderly, disabled, and/or kids?**
- 3. House number and street:**
- 4. Phone:**
- 5. Email:**
- 6. Special skills - Medical, Rescue, CPR, CERT trained?**
- 7. Willing to be CERT trained? (community emergency response training):**
- 8. Willing to call on a phone tree?**
- 9. Do you have earthquake supplies? A "grab and go" box with crucial items?**
- 10. Do you know of ways to escape in case of wildfire ON FOOT? (Don't plan on getting out by car - there are often pedestrian right-of-ways leading downhill):**
- 11. Do you have a plan for pets?**
- 12. Interested in neighborhood community building activities, such as block parties, beautification, traffic calming?**

Many of these questions can be rather sobering, and lead to more discussion. Please use these questions as a jumping off point, keep copies of the information, and send a copy to the Fairfax Volunteers. We will be happy to help you to build a local Neighborhood Group, for disaster preparation, as well as a better community!