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## Whatcom County Fire District #11



Neighborhoods that are prepared for emergencies and disaster situations save lives, reduce the severity of injuries and trauma, and reduce property damage.

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### Map Your Neighborhood (MYN) News

Map Your Neighborhood provides a simple plan to help residents and their neighbors during the important first hours after a disaster until emergency services can reach them. While MYN was a result of physical disasters (hurricane, flood, earthquake) is is an excellent program for ANY disruption in our daily lives such as the current pandemic.

**We are still looking for volunteers to form small MYN groups for the following areas:**

**North End:** Legoe Bay, West Shore Drive.

**Scenic Estates:** Beach Avenue, Jamison Road, Hales Passage, Dogwood Terrace, Rosewood Terrace, Scenic Avenue, Dana Circle / Island Drive.

If you know of someone who might be willing to take on a MYN Lead role in one of the above areas, please let Joan or Leslie know.



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### Helping Children Cope

Disasters can leave children and teens feeling frightened, confused and insecure. Their responses can be quite varied. It's important to not only recognize these reactions, but also help children cope with their emotions.

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Communication networks, such as mobile phones and computers, could be unreliable during disasters, and electricity could be disrupted. Planning in advance will help ensure that all the members of your household—including children and people with disabilities and others with access and functional needs, as well as outside caregivers—know how to reach each other and where to meet up in an emergency. [Download a great template](#) for creating your family plan.

#### Games to help children prepare for disaster:

- [Ready 2 Help](#) a card game for kids 8 years and older, download or order free copies from FEMA.
- [Build A Kit](#) an interactive game that helps kids prepare a "grab & Go" bag.
- [Prepare with Pedro: Disaster Preparedness Activity Book](#), a joint product of FEMA and the American Red Cross, is designed to teach young children and their families about how to stay safe during disasters and emergencies. The book follows Pedro around the United States and offers safety advice alongside crosswords, coloring pages, matching games, and more. It is available in six languages.

## Pets are family too!

Just as you do with your family's emergency supply kit, think first about the basics for pet survival, particularly food and water.

**Food:** Keep at least three days of food in an airtight, waterproof container.

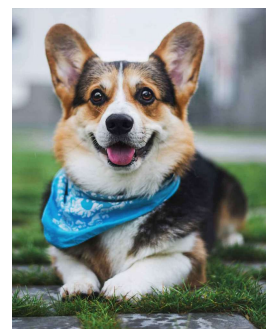
**Water:** Store at least three days of water specifically for your pets.

**Medicines and medical records:** Keep an extra supply of medicines your pet takes on a regular basis in a waterproof container.

**First aid kit:** Talk to your veterinarian about what is most appropriate for your pet's emergency medical needs. Most kits should include cotton bandage rolls, bandage tape and scissors; antibiotic ointment; flea and tick prevention; latex gloves, isopropyl alcohol and saline solution. Include a pet first aid reference book.

**Collar with ID tag, harness or leash:** Your pet should wear a collar with its rabies tag and identification at all times. Include a backup leash, collar and ID tag in your pet's emergency supply kit.

**Important pet documents:** Place copies of your pet's registration information, adoption papers, vaccination documents and medical records in a clean plastic bag or waterproof container and also add



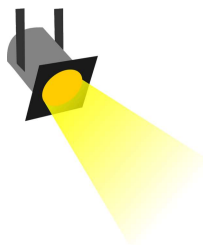
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**Crate or other pet carrier:** If you need to evacuate in an emergency situation take your pets and animals with you, provided that it is practical to do so.

**Sanitation:** Include pet litter and litter box if appropriate, newspapers, paper towels, plastic trash bags and household chlorine bleach to provide for your pet's sanitation needs.

**A picture of you and your pet together:** If you become separated from your pet during an emergency, a picture of you and your pet together will help you document ownership and allow others to assist you in identifying your pet. Include detailed information about species, breed, age, sex, color and distinguishing characteristics.

**Familiar items:** Put favorite toys, treats or bedding in your kit. Familiar items can help reduce stress for your pet.



## Spotlight - Disaster Preparation Tools

Here's a good place to share ideas that Lummi Island MYN Leads and their groups have come across, or created, to enhance their disaster readiness. Email Joan or Leslie with your idea and we'll share with other islanders.



## Camping in your home

When The Big One happens, emergency planners and geologists expect the vast majority of us will survive. But a magnitude 9 rupture on the Cascadia earthquake fault will likely cut electricity, running water and sewer for weeks — or even months — afterward.

For Pacific Northwesterners, daily life could resemble a really long camping trip without leaving home. A Port Angeles area emergency preparedness evangelist shares tips on how to be a happier camper in this situation. [Listen to an Oregon Public Broadcasting interview with Jim Buck here.](#)

*Thank  
you*

for volunteering to make your neighborhood a safer place!

Contact information for MYN Co-Leads  
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**Ready, Set, Go!**

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Urban Interface (WUI) – a high-risk wildfire area containing natural fuels where houses are built. Studies show as many as 80 percent of the homes lost to wildland fires could have been saved if their owners had followed simple fire-safe practices. In addition, wildland fire related deaths occur because people wait too long to leave their homes.

Your fire department takes every precaution to help protect you and your property from wildland fire. However, in a major wildland fire event, there simply may not be enough fire resources or firefighters to defend every home.

Successfully preparing for a wildland fire enables you to take personal responsibility to protect yourself, your family, and your property. The *Ready, Set Go (RSG)* program provides tips and tools you need to prepare for a wildland fire threat; to have situational awareness when a fire starts; and to act early as directed by local officials. RSG Program elements include:

- Creating defensible space
- Making your home fire resistant
- Creating your own family action plan

Visit [www.wildlandfireRSG.org](http://www.wildlandfireRSG.org) to learn more about becoming prepared.



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## Public Alert Sign-up

Whenever a significant incident occurs in Whatcom County, Whatcom Unified Emergency Management (WUEM) uses various methods to notify the media and the public. One of those methods is a messaging system called **AlertSense** provided by MyStateUSA. AlertSense allows WUEM to send a message to an email address, as a text message to a phone, and/or as a voice message to a phone. Click on this phone image to sign up.



## Resources:

[Lummi Island Survival In Isolation Brochure](#)

[Public Alert Sign-up](#)

[Lummi Island Tsunami Evacuation Brochure](#)

[WA Emergency Management Emergency Preparedness Guide](#)

[Preparing Homes For Wildfire](#)

[A Guide To Firewise Principles](#)

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