



# Los Altos, CA



## ***Emergency Preparedness and Response – for hams and CERTs***

### **BEFORE AN EMERGENCY**

- Prepare your home and family, stock emergency supplies and go-kits; stock and carry plenty of water; develop a family communications and meet-up plan; check frequently, keeping fresh batteries handy and radios fully charged; hams keep a frequency list in your go-kit
- Complete your fingerprinting and background check, get sworn in as a Los Altos Disaster Service Worker (DSW) and have your DSW ID card and vest with your go-kit
- Locate and get to know at least two each BATs, CERTs and hams closest to you; use the BAT-CERT-HAM contacts list sorted by zone, to find nearby colleagues; agree on a meeting point in case of an emergency; keep a copy of the alpha sort and the zone sort contacts lists in your go-kit
- CERTs: Review FEMA CERT in Action video <https://www.fema.gov/media-library/assets/videos/109481>;
- Hams: Review the Operations Section of the SCC ARES/RACES Website <http://www.scc-ares-races.org>

### **DURING THE EMERGENCY EVENT**

- Protect yourself and your family during the active event; if an earthquake, duck, cover and hold until the shaking stops, be alert for aftershocks; if a severe storm, flooding, wind or threatening wildfire, be prepared to evacuate if necessary and listen to the radio or television for information (AM, FM, ham, FRS)

### **FOLLOWING THE EVENT**

- Check yourself, your family and your own property first; when you and your family are OK, you may be in a position to be effective help to others; depending on the type and severity of emergency, you may want to notify out of area relatives (e.g. call the kids and let them know you're OK)
- Hams – As soon as you are able, turn on your radio and tune to the Resource Net (repeaters AA6BT or W6ASH, refer to frequency list in go-kit); after a significant earthquake, do a mike-mike report; continue monitoring the Resource Net until it is announced that the Los Altos City Net has been activated; at that time, switch to Los Altos Tactical 1 and check in on the City Net; be prepared to use the backup simplex frequency – all frequencies are listed in the Frequency List in your go-kit
- Hams and CERTs pre-assigned to EIRS sites - Gather your equipment and be prepared to move to your EIRS location and set up to receive PSA reports from local BATs
- Hams and CERTs – If you are not pre-assigned to an EIRS site or other location, when you are able, meet up with the BAT Leader you have pre-arranged with; if phone/text works, try to make contact that way
- Hams and CERTs – Assist one or more local BATs until you are requested by the City to assist or report to a specific location; you might be activated or contacted via radio, phone call, Nixle or AlertSCC; any assignment given is contingent on you “being available for, and comfortable with” performing that action; assignment requests will also depend on your particular skills and experience, including participation in Los Altos training and drills

**Note:** the above actions can be done prior to an activation by the City of Los Altos. Any actions done prior to an activation will not be covered by DSW. Be careful, and do only activities for which you are trained.