



CITY OF SAUSALITO

DISASTER PREPAREDNESS – EMERGENCY OPERATIONS PROGRAM

“Preparing and Protecting our Community”

CELLULAR PHONE USE IN DISASTERS/EMERGENCIES

Being able to communicate can make the difference in an emergency.

Here are some communication tips that can make a difference for you:

- Maintain a list of emergency phone numbers – police, fire, and rescue agencies; power companies; insurance providers; family, friends and co-workers; etc. – and program them into your in your cell phone for easy dialing.
- Distribute wireless phone numbers to family members and friends.
- Know how to use call forwarding at home. If you have to evacuate, forward home calls to your cell phone.
- Keep a charged spare battery for your cell phone and other electronic devices.
- Limit non-emergency calls to conserve battery power and free-up wireless networks for emergency agencies and operations.
- Consider using text messages to communicate. Often text messages get through when wireless networks are overtaxed during a crisis
- Keep a phone charger in your vehicle.
- Understand your cell phone’s capabilities: email, weather updates, news reports and more can all make a difference.
- Keep phones, laptops, PDAs, batteries, chargers and other equipment in a dry, accessible location. It is a good idea to keep them in a sealable, plastic bag.
- Check weather and news reports available through many Internet-connected wireless phones, and through other wireless phone applications, when power is out.