

GEORGE RANCH COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION
20000 Elderberry, Sonoma, California 95476

GEORGE RANCH EMERGENCY RESPONSE PLAN

OVERVIEW

The George Ranch is roughly 1,000 acres of agricultural and residential property on the slopes of Sonoma Mountain, five miles west of the town of Sonoma, California. It consists of 57 properties, five in agricultural use (approximately 685 acres in grapes and olive growing and sheep and cattle grazing), with the remaining 315 acres divided into 52 residential lots.

A crisis or disaster under this plan is a fire, mudslide or earthquake which is so widespread that needed fire, police, ambulance and commercial repair services are not readily available. (Consider a wild fire along the ridge to our west extending from Schellville to Glen Ellen or a major quake along the Rogers Creek Fault causing destruction throughout the county and closing off Grove Street, for instance.)

County and State experts indicate that The George Ranch community should be prepared to function for 72 hours or more without significant or consistent outside help. This Emergency Response Plan seeks to help individual homeowners prepare intelligently for such a crisis or disaster. It also seeks to help individuals obtain and provide the assistance such a condition requires.

OUR PLAN OBJECTIVES

1. Protect life, safety and health.
2. Protect property and assets.
3. Establish priorities for the utilization of our available resources, the skills and materials available.
4. Encourage individual residents and families to think through their own disaster and communication planning (i.e., the collection of emergency supplies of food, water and medical supplies at each residence).

BASIC ELEMENTS OF THE PLAN

- A. Individual Home/Family Checklist. We are not offering universal solutions here, but we are trying to identify the kind of preparation each family should consider. Please refer to the websites below for more ideas.

www.redcross.org/services/disaster and go to "be prepared"

www.72hours.org

<http://quake.abag.ca.gov/fixit/> (earthquake only)

www.rand.org/reportpublications/MR/MR1731 (for terror preparedness)

1. Fire Emergency: From a land phone line, call 911. From a cell phone, call 996-2101. Immediately turn off gas and close circuit breakers. Make sure you have working smoke alarms and fire extinguishers, alternative escape routes for each room, necessary ladders, a designated meeting place outside the building for all family members, first aid supplies and a communications plan for family members.
2. Earthquake Preparedness: Structural damage during an earthquake can make regular supplies of food, clothing, medications, water, tools, pet food and cash unavailable. Consider collecting and storing some of these materials where they would be accessible

right after a major quake. Consider, also, a pre-arranged shelter at the home of a nearby friend. Turn off gas and water and close circuit breakers after a major earthquake.

3. Communications Planning; If the home phone is out of order, how do family members (living in the home and elsewhere) communicate? During the 1989 Loma Prieta earthquake many families found each other through family and friends living outside the state. (Many entire California area codes were “busy”!)

B. Organization of the George Ranch

1. The communication and information center will be located at the clubhouse, if available; or, if not, the tennis court adjacent to the clubhouse.
2. The George Ranch will be divided into three zones. Each zone will have individuals responsible for gathering and reporting information to the George Ranch President and/or board members as available at the clubhouse as the communications center.
 - a. ZONE 1: All of Hawks Beard, White Alder from front gate to clubhouse, including the Ranch Manager’s cottage – Captains Gness and Geoghegan
 - b. ZONE 2: White Alder from the clubhouse up to and including Baytree – Captains Brady and Freeman
 - c. ZONE 3: Brooklime, Elderberry, White Alder down to Baytree – Captains Pease and Massie
3. The “captains” responsibilities will be to ascertain whether neighbors are safe or need to be evacuated, that all utilities are shut down when necessary and escape routes are accessible. They will report any damage to the George Ranch infrastructure, i.e., roads, tanks, water lines.
4. As available, medical, search-and-rescue, and other volunteers check in with (and be dispatched from) the clubhouse as the communications center.
5. The Ranch Manager’s responsibility will be to make a brief drive through the George Ranch for a quick assessment of damage before reporting to the clubhouse or communication center. At that point he will report to the President or board member in charge who will assign duties as needed.

C. Establish an inventory of skills and resources available on the Ranch. See attached map and skills inventory.

- D. Establish escape routes should Grove Street be blocked (see attached map). Grove Street for the first few hundred yards east of the George Ranch Gate is often partially blocked by land and rock slides which can occur after a moderate rain. It is our only paved exit from the area and we should reasonably expect an earthquake or major fire could block it for hours or even days. Alternative exits, then, could be required for escape or for access to town, stores, doctors and the like. Alternate routes available to four wheel drive vehicles (with adequate road clearance) exist to the southwest connecting to Felder and Fowler Creek roads. Escape from the Ranch area, but not very effective to town, is also available up to and over the ridge to our west, via the Coulter ranch and down to Petaluma.