

Free Workshops to Help Citizens Prepare for Disasters

Whether you're a seasoned CERT veteran with disaster preparedness training or just beginning to learn about this important topic, there's a workshop coming up in Lamorinda that will help you take the next step.

Orinda

Saturday, April 30, 12:30-4:00 p.m.

The Orinda Citizen Corps Council will sponsor a workshop for Orinda CERTs and Neighborhood Leaders in the Equipment Bay of MOFD station 41. These volunteers will continue to train to make their homes and neighborhoods safe before, during and after a local disaster. Topics will include: Disaster Worker Safety, Neighborhood and City Communications in a Disaster and Transporting Injured Victims. Instructors will include the Moraga Orinda Fire Department, the MOFD Communication Team and Search and Rescue trained volunteers. Recent worldwide events remind us again that we need to be prepared as individuals, neighborhood and communities. Register at rkunzman@comcast.net.

Lafayette

Thursday, April 28, 7:00-9:00 p.m.

Emergency Preparedness for Individuals and Families

This quick and easy session will help you prepare yourself and your family for the next earthquake whether you are at home, work, or out and about. Emphasis will be on earthquake preparation, but the information applies to other emergencies as well. Bring pencil and paper. Materials will be provided.

Thursday, May 12, 8:30 p.m.

Neighborhood Captains' Training

Join other Lafayette residents in becoming a neighborhood captain in the Lafayette Emergency Action Response Network (LEARN). This session is designed to help you organize your block or neighborhood in becoming self-sufficient for the first 72 hours following a major disaster. Attendance at a basic preparedness class (as above, CERT or Red Cross class) is recommended prior to attending this class. Bring paper and pencil. Written materials provided.

All classes will be held at the Lafayette Community Center, 500 St. Mary's Rd. in the Elderberry Room (back parking lot). Classes are taught by the Emergency Preparedness Commission and are free.

Register for these free Lafayette classes by calling the Lafayette Community Center at 284-2232.

Special Classes

The Lafayette Emergency Preparedness Commission can arrange classes specifically for Lafayette Homeowner groups, church or service groups, possibly closer to home. For more information call the Commission at 283-3680 or email csurges@lovelafayette.org.

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- 1) Buy foreclosures in select neighborhoods and cities in Contra Costa County, for strong rental income returns, with future appreciation.
- 2) Buy a home in Lafayette, Moraga, or Orinda, in a rare buyer's market.
- 3) Sell in the under \$1,000,000 range in Lamorinda, where sales are now improving, and move up to your dream house in a higher price range where the best negotiating opportunities exist.
- 4) Downsize, and sell in Lamorinda, where the market has not dropped as much, then buy a great one-story home at a bargain price in a nice neighborhood where homes have dropped more. Keep a low property tax by transferring it to the new house within Contra Costa County.

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