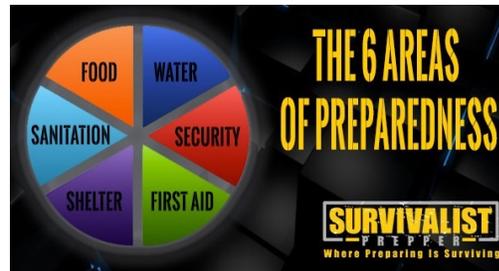


THE SPRINGLAKE EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS COMMITTEE

Who we are!



Who we are not.





Welcome to the *Springlake Community Emergency Preparedness Committee*. We wish to introduce ourselves and explain some of what we do.

The committee is staffed by your neighbors and friends, with a wide variety of experiences, and is aware of the importance of being prepared. None of us can be considered an “expert” at preparedness, but each has a lifetime of experience, common sense and sound judgment. Members of the committee realize that we live in a dangerous world, at a perilous time and that natural or human caused disasters can strike anywhere, at any time. Very often when it is most inconvenient. We realize there is no place which is totally safe, but some can be made safer than others. No one is immune from the effects of crime, weather, or natural conditions. We understand that just because “it” has never happened here, doesn’t mean “it” can never happen here.

The Preparedness Committee has been involved in activities of which many SCI members may not be aware. We worked in conjunction with the American Red Cross to distribute and install smoke alarms in member’s homes, hosting blood drives, first aid training and maintain an on-going relationship with them.

Due to the skills and efforts of some committee members, SCI now has a fully functioning HAM radio station on the premises. Springlake has become a part of *Columbia County Emergency Operations*. If in the unlikely event county emergency communications in St. Helens fails, SCI is prepared to step up, along with similar organizations, to participate in emergency operations until such time as 9-1-1 comes back online. Unlikely? Yes. Impossible? No. Murphy’s Law applies to government operations too.

The basic philosophy of emergency preparedness is to plan for the unexpected. What should we (all of us) do in the event of a major earthquake? *What if* the daily oil train derails and all intersections with highway 30 are blocked. How do the emergency responder units get from the west side of town, to the east side? No matter how far-fetched some scenarios may seem, what if it really does happen? The national disaster agency, *FEMA*, recommends everyone have a 3 day supply of food and water on hand for emergencies. *What if* the emergency lasts longer than 72 hours? What if local authorities are unable to come to our rescue? What happens when the water runs out, and the food is consumed? After some analysis, a week’s worth of supplies is now considered minimum.

We try to envision what could possibly happen and endeavor to devise a plan. Whether it may be a record snow storm, high winds, flooding, train wrecks, Mt. St. Helens eruption, civil disorder, whatever we can think of, we try to plan for it. We have some plans in place, and constantly research ways to proceed for those we haven’t thought of yet. Hope for the best, but plan for the worst.

Because of the work of the committee, an SCI board officer has recently been told by the Scappoose police chief that because of our organization, in the event of a major disaster, Springlake would likely get a lower priority for emergency services response. For a period of time we may be on our own. We have members who attend an annual training conference in Bend, presented by the *Oregon Office of Emergency Management*, also attended by Federal, State and local government officials, as well as other non-profits and

volunteer groups similar to ours. That conference is a great opportunity to network with other groups.

Are we “first responders?” No, far from it. Who we are, are neighbors willing to look out for the welfare of all members of Springlake. After we look out for our own families, we intend to check on each home to determine if help is needed and to triage the level of help required.

The Committee’s mission is two-fold;

- Research and develop plans for emergency and disaster preparedness, and to advise the Board of Directors, and
- To encourage individual preparedness by all members, residents and occupants of Springlake Community so that we all become self sufficient.

For the past couple of years the committee has endeavored to inform the SCI membership of various emergency scenarios and suggestions on how to deal with them. We spent a great deal of time and effort recommending that every person in Springlake have a personal “Go Bag,” or by any other name, an emergency bag or suitcase filled with personal provisions suitable for at least a 3 day evacuation from home. In addition we suggest similar equipment and tools for each automobile, in case you may be away from home when the “big one” happens. Imagine being stuck in Portland, Hillsboro, or Vancouver when the bridges and highways become impassable. How are you going to get home? Who can you depend on to come to your rescue? If the best option is to stay at home, it is very wise to have emergency supplies of food, water and other necessities on hand. The government will get to us when they can, until that time, we may be on our own.

Working with “SCOOP” newsletter publisher and webmaster Ken Corliss, we decided to use an existing resource, Springlake’s web page [<http://www.springlakeinc.com/>] as a means of presenting the massive amount of preparation information, much of it culled from Internet sources, to our members in an on demand basis. We will be presenting written articles, photographs and video feeds with preparedness information on a variety of related topics. Please bear with us, as we manage the data to be able to present it in a clear manner. It’s on the public part of the web page, it costs you nothing and you don’t need to remember the password.

Ron Willis

March 1, 2019

“By failing to prepare, you are preparing to fail.” Benj. Franklin

The Committee:

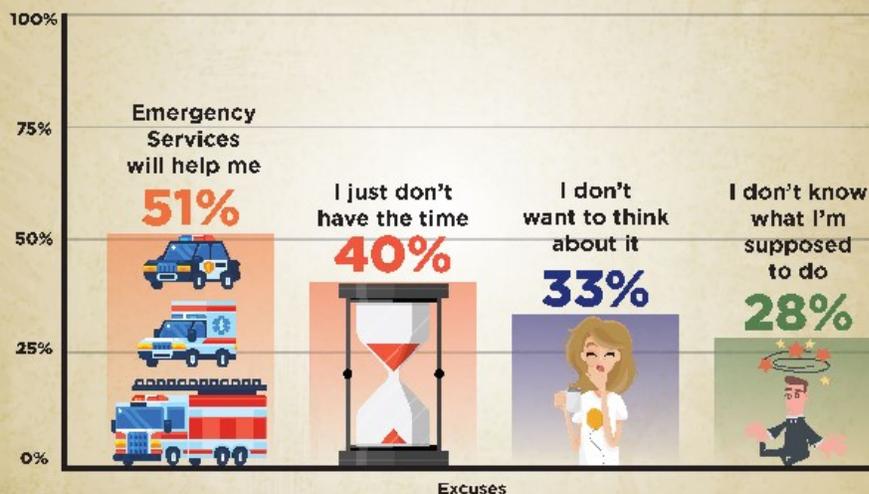
Jamie Beukema
Ken Corliss
Leah Eggers
George Elkins
Mel Holcomb

Olivia Jacobus
Bill Leiken
Dan McGivern
Teresa McGivern
Gloria Thoreson

Tim Thoreson
Randy Wasch
Ron Willis

PS: Samantha Drake is a valuable asset for the group, but she doesn’t have to go to the meetings.

Top Excuses for Lack of Disaster Preparedness



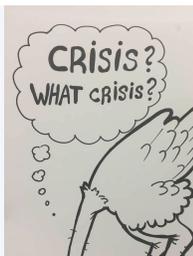
The Chapman University Survey of American Fears 2015

CHAPMAN UNIVERSITY
ORANGE, CALIFORNIA

Relying on emergency services works well under normal circumstances. With a population of almost 7,000 souls living in Scappoose, and the limited number of “first responders,” help can be seriously delayed, or not at all, in a major catastrophe.

Don't have the time? Obtaining supplies simply means a few extra items while doing your normal shopping. Prepping is largely a mental exercise: “What would I do if.....?”

Don't want to think about it?



Don't know what you're supposed to do? That's what we're here for.