



“Ready and Resilient” Newsletter Established

The Oxnard Fire Department’s Disaster Preparedness Unit has established the “Oxnard Ready and Resilient” newsletter to provide community members and city staff with current disaster preparedness information. The name of the newsletter was inspired by the nationwide disaster preparedness “Ready” campaign, and the recent trend to make cities more “resilient” to disasters by strengthening the city as a whole system.

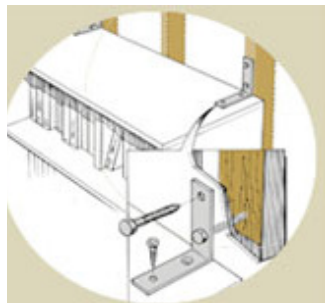
“The Ready and Resilient newsletter is a great way for the Fire Department to communicate disaster preparation to the community. We hope that one day every block in the City develops a Community Emergency Response Team (CERT),” said Fire Chief James Williams.

The newsletter will provide information about preparedness efforts that are happening, training that is available, preparedness tips, as well as information about hazards in our community. It will be published quarterly in English and Spanish and will be available electronically on the Fire Department’s website, through Neighborhood Councils, or upon request. Also, paper copies will be available at many of the city’s public counters.

To provide feedback or suggestions, please contact Disaster Preparedness Coordinator, Susan Duenas at 385-7717.

Buildings Inspected for Non-Structural Earthquake Hazards

The City’s Disaster Preparedness Coordinator and Facilities Supervisor recently inspected city buildings to look for non-structural earthquake hazards so they could be corrected before an earthquake strikes. These types of hazards frequently cause the most damage after an earthquake and can impede evacuation.



The most common hazard found was tall furniture that was not secured to the wall. Usually, these items can be secured quickly and cheaply by either screwing them to a wall, or using an L-bracket on the top and screwed into a stud in the wall.

What is a Warning, Advisory and Watch?

Sometimes you will hear on the news that there is flood “watch” or a tsunami “warning,” but what exactly does that mean? This is a very common question that people ask all of the time. In general, the difference can be described as follows:

- WARNING** Danger is imminent or highly likely, time to take action
- ADVISORY** Dangerous condition is likely, avoid danger area and stay informed
- WATCH** Danger level not yet known, stay alert for more information

In all situations, it’s a good idea to stay tuned to the news. Situations can change quickly and even minutes can make a difference in your safety.

Ready Oxnard Highlights:

- Members of the Emergency Operations Center Team recently toured the city’s flood prone areas to better understand what may be needed to respond to a severe flood event.
- An explosion and hazardous materials incident near Santa Paula last November prompted the City’s Emergency Operations Center Team to have a mini-drill to review our own procedures.
- *Oxnard Ready and Resilient* newsletter is available electronically on the Fire Department’s website.
- Two Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) training classes will begin in January, one in English and one in Spanish. Call 385-7722 or visit our website at OxnardFire.org for more information about this class or future classes.
- If you belong to a group that is interested in learning more about disaster preparedness, Oxnard’s Disaster Preparedness Coordinator, Susan Dueñas is available for presentations. Call 385-7717 to schedule.

For more information about any of the above, call Disaster Preparedness Coordinator, Susan Dueñas at 385-7717.