



San Francisco Fire Department NERT

Neighborhood Emergency Response Team

September 2012

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October Drills 2012 are coming up...

1. Battalion 3 and Battalion 10: South Beach Harbor, Near Pier 40, King St and Embarcadero

Bayview/Bayview Heights/Hunter's Point	Potrero Hill
Financial District North (drill only. In Batt 1)	Silver Terrace
Financial District South	South Beach/Mission Bay
Fisherman's Wharf (drill only. In Batt 1)	South of Market
Portola	Treasure Island

2. Battalion 6 and Battalion 9: Precita Park, Folsom and Precita

Balboa Terrace/Mt. Davidson Manor	Miraloma Park
Bernal Heights North/South	Mission
Corona Heights/Castro	Mission Dolores
Crocker Amazon	Mission Terrace/Outer Mission
Diamond Heights	Noe Valley
Eureka Valley/Dolores Heights	Oceanview
Excelsior	Sunnyside
Glen Park	Visitacion Valley
Ingleside	Westwood Highlands/Monterey Heights
Ingleside Terrace	Westwood Park

3. Battalion 2, Battalion 1 and Battalion 4: Alamo Square Tennis Courts, Steiner and Hayes

Alamo Square	North Beach
Chinatown	Pacific Heights/Lower Pacific Heights
Civic Center/Cathedral Hill	Presidio
Cow Hollow	Presidio Heights
Duboce Triangle	Russian Hill
Hayes Valley	Telegraph Hill
Jordan Park/Laurel Heights	Tenderloin
Marina	Western Addition
Nob Hill	

4. Battalion 8 and Battalion 7: Midtown Terrace Playground Courts, Olympia and Clarendon

Anza Vista	Midtown Terrace
Clarendon Heights/Forest Knolls/Twin Peaks	North Panhandle
Forest Hill/Forest Hill Ext./Laguna Honda	Parkside/Outer Parkside
Golden Gate Heights	Richmond—Inner/Central/Outer
Haight Ashbury/Buena Vista Park	St. Francis Woods
Lake/Sea Cliff	Sunset—Inner/Central/Outer
Lakeshore/Pine Lake Park/Stonestown	West Portal/Inner Parkside
Lone Mountain	



RSVP:

<http://nertoctober2012drills.eventbrite.com/>

One City One Book author Rebecca Solnit in Conversation on Disaster and Democracy with SF Fire Chief Joanne Hayes-White

Thursday, October 11 - 6 p.m. Main Library, Koret Auditorium, 100 Larkin St., (415) 557-4277

One City One Book 2012 author Rebecca Solnit will discuss her book *A Paradise Built in Hell: The Extraordinary Communities that Arise in Disaster* with SF's Fire Chief. *A Paradise Built in Hell* explores our need for community and common purpose, which Solnit argues are fundamental to democratic forms of social and political life. This year, as part of the 8th annual One City One Book, SFPL is participating in California Reads, a statewide reading and discussion program created by [Cal Humanities](#) in partnership with the California Center for the Book and supported by the California State Library. For more information, visit sfpl.org/onecityonebook

San Francisco writer Rebecca Solnit is the author of thirteen books about art, landscape, public and collective life, ecology, politics, hope, meandering, reverie, and memory. They include *Infinite City: A San Francisco Atlas*, a book of 22 maps and nearly 30 collaborators, *Storming the Gates of Paradise: A Field Guide to Getting Lost*; *Hope in the Dark: Untold Histories, Wild Possibilities*; *Wanderlust: A History of Walking* and many others.

Joanne Hayes-White was sworn in as the 25th Chief of the San Francisco Fire Department on January 16, 2004. San Francisco is the largest urban fire department in the world with a female chief. Prior to her appointment as Chief, Hayes-White served as the Director of Training for the San Francisco Fire Department, where she oversaw recruit training, in-service training, continuing education, and Firefighter-Paramedic cross training. Chief Hayes-White has been recognized by the San Francisco Business Times as one of the City's *Most Influential Women of the Year* every year since 2004.

highlight: National Preparedness Month - September

Take steps now to prepare yourself for tomorrow's emergencies.

Pledge to prepare and get it done in September!

As we prepare for September's National Preparedness Month (NPM), it is also a time to be at the top of our game. Children are back in school, take extra care, be observant, expect the unexpected, be patient, obey the rules of the road and drive safely. This year's NPM campaign focuses on the theme: —PLEDGE TO PREPARE - AWARENESS TO ACTION.

Do your part by taking this month to: Make a Family Emergency Plan; Build a Home Disaster Kit; Be Informed on Changing Threats and ; and Get Involved in your community's emergency preparedness.

Emergencies can happen unexpectedly in communities just like ours, to people like us. We've seen tornado outbreaks, flash floods, historic earthquakes, tsunamis, and even water main breaks and power outages in U.S. cities affecting millions of people for days at a time.



While September is the month for recognizing national preparedness, the goal is to make preparedness a part of our daily lives every day and not just one single month. So, this September, Pledge to Prepare in the event you must go for days without electricity, water service, and access to a supermarket, or local services.

Major disasters can affect families, communities and businesses. It takes all aspects of the community to effectively prepare for, respond to, and recover from disasters. Communities must work together to develop capabilities to respond quickly, and recover in a way that increases our community's resilience.

You can make a public pledge to prepare:

<http://community.fema.gov/connect.ti/READYNPM>

If not for yourself, will you do it for your PETS?

By Donna Canali and Emily Goldfarb

Natural disasters put pets in jeopardy and may separate them from their human families. Here are some tips on planning to keep your pets safe.

Basic safety rule: **If you are told to evacuate, leave immediately and take your animals. If it's not safe for you, it's not safe for them.**

Plan Ahead

- Keep a collar, current license, and ID tags on your pet at all times. Consider having your pet micro-chipped.
- Make sure your pet is comfortable being in a crate, or other carrier for transport.
- Secure latches on birdcages. Fasten down aquariums on low stands.

Keep a list of kennels as well as trusted neighbors who could assist your animals if needed. Make sure they have a key to your house, know your pets and their habits, and where your disaster kit/supplies are kept. Make a plan to be in contact.

Disaster Supply Checklist

Make an individual Go-bag for each pet.

- Food/potable water/medicine for one week.
- Medical/vaccination records, current medical problems
- Recent photos of each pet including ones with you and other pet caregivers
- Names/phone numbers of emergency contacts for you and your pet, emergency veterinary hospitals and ani-

mal shelters

- Sturdy leashes and pet carriers. Muzzles for dogs. Bedding and toys.
- Non-spill bowls, manual can opener and plastic lid
- Plastic bags, litter box and litter
- Portable fencing or baby gate



Respond

Animals react differently under stress. Keep them from becoming separated by ensuring dogs are securely leashed and transporting cats or other small animals in carriers or pillowcases. If your pet is lost, report it to the nearest animal shelter.

Evacuate: Find places for your family and pets ahead of time

Locate all your animals and keep them with you if possible. Most human shelters will only allow service animals. In a large-scale disaster, animal shelters will be set up adjacent to human shelters where possible. **SF Animal Care and Control's (ACC) facility at 15th and Harrison will be an animal sheltering resource, 415-554-6364.** The best option is temporary housing with family or friends.

If you must leave your pets behind:

- On your front door or in a highly visible window, use chalk, paint or marker to write the number and types of pets in your residence, and the date that you evacuated.
- Leave plenty of water in a non-spill container.
- Leave plenty of food (timed feeders prevent overeating)
- Do not tie up or kennel your pet in your home.

MRC— San Francisco Fire Department Civilian Volunteer Medical Reserve Corps

Are you a NERT who is also an EMT or paramedic? Are you a NERT interested in activities that support the health of our community? Consider joining the SFFD MRC.



Activities for the SFFD MRC include:

- Training to support the EMS response in the SFFD in a large-scale emergency
- Support the SFFD presence at fairs and events teaching "hands only" CPR
- Perform Blood Pressure checks for the community
- Training focused on the Psychological First Aid support of our teams and our community in a disaster environment
- Taking the President's Challenge for a fit America. Register yourself here (<https://www.presidentschallenge.org/>) and search for the group **SFFD NERT MRC** to join us and start recording your activities.

MRC Orientation night is Thursday November 8, 2012 at the SFFD Division of Training (Directions on p4)
See more and download the MRC application here: <http://www.sf-fire.org/index.aspx?page=878>

Neighborhood Emergency
Response Team

San Francisco Fire Department
Division of Training
2310 Folsom Street
Phone: 415-970-2022
E-mail: sffdnet@sfgov.org



Thank you to the American Red
Cross Bay Area Chapter. The 2012
Community Heroes Breakfast will
honor NERT on September 27
www.redcrossbayarea.org for tickets
and information

Continuing Training and events

September

25th: October Drill Planning meeting 6:30pm-8:30pm, SFFD DOT* All NERTs welcome

October

6th: Staging area drill. Practice staging activation, Marina Green and Scott St, 8:30am-12:30pm
<http://www.eventbrite.com/event/4384935460>

6th & 7th: Fleet Week NERT display booth, 9am-4pm, Marina Green and Scott St

18th: California Shake-Out. Register at <http://www.shakeout.org/california/register/index.php>

20th: October Neighborhood Drills RSVP: <http://nertoctober2012drills.eventbrite.com/>

November

8th: Medical Reserve Corps, Office of the Civilian Volunteer Orientation (see page 3)

*SFFD DOT is the San Francisco Fire Department Division of Training, 2310 Folsom Street
Use the gate on 19th St and enter the one-story Training Division Building through the back door.



Ham communications

NERT volunteer updates

**Ashbury/Parnassus Heights (Cole Valley) NERT team staging area is now Grattan Playground, Stanyan and Grattan Streets

**Portola NERT team staging area is now Louis Sutter Playground, University and Wayland Streets

**Expired? It is very important to keep your training current. This requires 6 hours of refresher training every 2 years.
Why is this important?

- Your protection: Current NERTs are covered by the State liability program (DSWPP). You cannot be covered if you are expired so you cannot participate in the team response. Your neighborhood NERT team wants and needs you.
- Your safety: If you don't use it, you lose it. It takes practice to perform emergency skills well. Add to that the stress of a real emergency and you will only be as good as your training. No Hurt NERTS.
- Your effectiveness: In recertification you learn the most current information and updates to the training so that as a "seasoned" volunteer, you can work best with new trainees and the SFFD.
- Your connection: We are in this for the best possible outcome for ourselves our neighbors and our City for the short term response to emergency. But our involvement long term will ultimately have the most impact on our outcome. Knowing each other and planning now is the key to our recovery. This is NERT at its best!