

Orem Neighborhood Block Captain - Training Information






Responsibilities

- Meet at least once a year with all of the residents on your “block”.
 - Discuss preparedness strategies and review neighborhood plans.
 - Learn, write down and review information about all family members.
 - Discuss any special skills and equipment neighbors may have.
 - Walk through or talk about a disaster scenario.
- “Everyone a Block Captain”.
 - Should the Block Captain not be available, an assistant needs to check on the block and gather the needed information.
 - Educate block members what information is needed should you not be able to respond immediately and to whom they should communicate those needs.

Home Building Inspection

- Don't Enter The Building If:
 - You see major damage to the structure.
 - Roof Sagging or large cracks in sections of the structure.
 - Masonry chimney or exterior walls leaning towards the structure.
 - You smell natural gas.
 - First turn off the gas meter, then turn off the main electrical disconnect
 - Wait for the gas to dissipate
 - You see broken or loose electrical wires.
 - Trees are leaning towards or on the structure.
 - You hear popping or cracking noise coming from the structure.
 - There is broken glass above entry point.
- Once Inside The Structure:
 - Look for large open cracking (sheetrock will crack and go back together in wood structures, if it doesn't and you see a large gap, there may be serious structural problems).
 - Be careful of an after-shock that may cause bookcases, cabinet glass, etc., to fall on you.
 - Look for sagging beams across openings or deformed studs in open walls (unfinished basements).
 - Always be aware of natural gas or other gas smells.

Fire Suppression

- Types of Fires and Fire Extinguishers
 -  Type A – Ordinary Solid Materials; Extinguished by water, foam or dry chemical
 -  Type B – Flammable Liquids; Extinguished by foam, CO2, dry chemical or Halon
 -  Type C – Electrical Equipment; Extinguished by CO2, dry chemical or Halon
 -  Type D – Combustible Metals; Extinguished by special agents
 -  Type K – Cooking oils, fats, and greases; Extinguished by wet chemical

Extinguishing small fires – PASS

- Pull the pin.
- Aim the extinguisher at the base of the fire.
- Squeeze the handle to eject the agent.
- Sweep back and forth across the entire base of the fire.

Search, Rescue & Triage

- What is Triage?
 - Triage comes from the French word “to sort”.
 - Responders must first check all victims or homes to know the full scope of the disaster before true priorities can be established and acted upon.
- Rapid Assessment
 - Spend 1 to 2 minutes with each victim to stabilize the “Killers ABC’s”:
 - Airway – Tilt head back to open airway.
 - Bleeding – Control any major bleeding.
 - Circulation – Check circulation and treat for shock if necessary.
- Documentation
 - Document what you do at each home and leave a note on the door of each home, that way anyone that comes behind you will know what has been done.
- Flagging
 - Residents can place a flag or other sign in plain sight for emergency responders. The flag will signal the status of victims in the home.
 - Green Flag – All in the home are ok, no assistance is needed.
 - Yellow Flag – Minor injuries, assistance needed as soon as available.
 - Red Flag – Major injuries, assistance needed immediately.
 - Residents can “triage” their own home and place the flag or sign. If the block captain does not see a flag on a neighbor’s lawn, he or she will assess the home and, if safe, attempt to enter the home and check on the status of the residents.

Disaster Medical

- We recommend Basic First-Aid Training from the American Red Cross and can contact them at 801-373-8580.

Reporting

- Block Captains gather information about all neighbors over whom they have been asked to watch following a disaster. Critical information includes:
 - Name of victim that is injured and suspected injury or name of resident that is missing and where he/she is possibly located (i.e. at Work (name of company), School, etc.).
 - Major damage to a major neighborhood facility (i.e. church building, school, shopping center, etc.).
 - Report all information to the Neighborhood Captain and the Neighborhood Captain will compile all of the Block Captain reports and send a complete list to the Area Emergency Coordinator.
 - Each Area Emergency Coordinator will report the same information to the City Emergency Operations Center (EOC).

For More Emergency Preparedness Ideas

- Visit www.orem.org and click on “Emergency Management” in the Find it Fast Directory.
- Visit www.oremcitydrill.com for more information regarding block captain responsibilities before and during the City of Orem drill or a disaster situation.