Wildfires: Resources for Cities

Webinar Series

What Cities Should Be Doing NOW

And How has COVID-19 Changed Emergency Response?

July 8, 2020
Speakers:

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Wildfire Threats

Significant Wildland Fire Potential Outlook
July 2020

Significant Wildland Fire Potential Outlook
September 2020
Planning Assumptions

- COVID-19 will continue to be a significant public health threat.
- COVID-19 will cause a severe scarcity of human and material resources and degrade local and national supply chains.
- Economic recovery from COVID-19 will take months and possibly years. There will be an increased need and higher reliance on services provided by response and recovery organizations.
- A whole community approach and response will be required to provide services equitably to all individuals affected by a disaster.
EOC Operations

- Safety of clients and Team Santa Rosa Workforce
  - PPE
  - Screening for COVID-19
- Staff deployed into the field will be performing critical tasks that cannot be accomplished virtually

Need to minimize spread of COVID19

| Screening and access control with shelter entry barriers | Increased sanitation activities | Social distancing | Isolation area | Smaller than normal staff | Smaller client capacity (<50) |
EOC Operations

• 1 entrance/exit – safety officer stationed
  • Take temperature upon entry each shift, document at sign-in.
  • If temperature reported, staff asked to go home.
  • Ensure staff have appropriate PPE (masks) and use hand sanitizer before entering.
  • Most support staff operating remotely (DLAN/IT/Comms support)
  • Food unit stationed at entrance/exit since they are mobile (picking up orders, setting up, etc.)

• Staff required to wear masks at all times while in EOC.
• No buffet-style food, only boxed lunches/individually packaged foods.
EOC Operations

• Twice daily temp checks and COVID-19 questionnaire for all EOC staff
• Limit number of in-person EOC staff to minimum possible
• Prior to EOC and Shelter activation acquire and pre-stage PPE and cleaning supplies
• Expect and prepare for workforce burnout
• In-person meetings must be socially distanced or done via webinar
• Staff to bring City issued laptops instead of computer terminals to limit contact and cross contamination
• Identify Temporary Evacuation Points (TEPs) prior to allowing evacuees into congregate sheltering – to allow for health screening and keep distanced
Socially Distanced EOC

Staff spread out with a table in-between, in square shape
- 6 staff per table
- 4 tables in all 3 rooms at UFO = 24 total
Wildfire Notifications

**KNOW YOUR ALERTS**
The City of Santa Rosa uses multiple notification and warning systems to make sure emergency alerts are delivered to the people who need the information.

**Emergency Alert System (EAS)**
National public warning system that will interrupt local broadcast tv and radio programming to provide an alert in the event of a large-scale emergency. **No registration required**

**Wireless Emergency Alerts (WEA)**
Urgent alerts sent as text-like messages to your mobile phone based on your location (you will only receive notification if you are in the area of the emergency). WEAs have three alert categories — Imminent Threat, AMBER, Presidential. You must keep the factory settings on your WEA-capable phone to receive a WEA. **No registration required**

**SoCoAlert**
Emergency notification service providing Sonoma County first responders the ability to alert residents by landline or mobile phone, text message and email about imminent threats to life and property in specific impacted areas. Register all addresses that you would like to receive alerts for (work, child’s school, etc.). You don’t have to be in the location of the emergency to receive the alert. **Must register at SoCoAlert.com OR call (866) 939-0911**, press “0” at the menu, ask operator for assistance with registering for SoCoAlert.

**Nixle**
Community information distributed by Santa Rosa Police and Fire Departments. Community messages are sent to email, and for critical emergencies Alert messages are sent via text message and email (notifications are NOT delivered by phone call). Customize your settings at nixle.com to control which types of notifications you receive. **Must register at nixle.com or text your zip code to 888-777**

**Local Radio and Television**
The City communicates with local news broadcasters to provide updates during an emergency. Tune radio to 1350 AM, 103.5 FM, 100.1 FM, 89.1 FM (bilingual), 98.7 FM (Spanish); watch preferred local TV news channel.

**Other Ways To Stay Informed**
Santa Rosa Police Department
Santa Rosa Fire Department
City of Santa Rosa

More information on emergency alerts and notifications at srcity.org/emergency

Emergencies can happen anywhere, at any time.

Complete this checklist to register for ALL warning systems to ensure emergency notifications make it to you.

- Register at SoCoAlert.com to subscribe your:
  - Home address to receive alerts for this location
  - Business address to receive alerts for this location
  - Other addresses you want to receive alerts for during an emergency in those locations
- Mobile phone number to receive phone call and/or text message
- Email address
- Register for Nixle notifications at nixle.com with your:
  - Zip code
  - Mobile phone number
  - Email address
Wildfire Notifications
Evacuation Tools

- Evacuation Checklist
- Emergency Supply List
- Evacuation Steps
- Evacuation Routes
  - Bennett Valley
  - Bridgwood
  - Brush Creek
  - Fountaingrove
What Cities Should be Doing Now

How Has COVID-19 Changed Emergency Response?

Reva Feldman
City Manager
Life in Malibu

Always One Day Away From Disaster
The 2018 Woolsey Fire was the largest disaster to occur in LA County
No Power and No Phones
Now what?
PSPS Readiness

Redundant messaging systems
Use Your Volunteers

CERT and Volunteers on Patrol
Staffing an EOC during COVID-19

Spoiler Alert – You’re already doing it
Thinking Ahead – What do you need to do now?
EOC Drills

The Importance of Tabletop Exercises

- Multiple Disasters Occurring Simultaneously
- Power Outages
- Minimal Mutual Aid Available
- Sick Staff Members
- Evacuations and Shelters during COVID-19
- Debris Removal and Rebuilding
Rebuilding COVID-19 Style
Thank you