

**Presentation sponsored by the Third Walnut Creek Mutual (TWCM)  
Emergency Preparedness Committee**

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# One Small Entry's Experience Setting Up a Group Emergency Supply Locker

The Process from Start to Finish

# Outline of this talk

- Group supplies vs resident supplies
- Previous experience setting up Group Emergency Supply Lockers in Rossmoor
- Deciding on an initial configuration and approach
- How we successfully set up our Group Emergency Supply Locker
  - The supply categories included, and the supplies in the locker
  - The 3-Phase approach taken to acquire all of the needed supplies

# Group supplies vs supplies for residents (1 of 3)

- **Supplies for Residents:** From the Entry Coordinator's Guide (Section 3B)
- **Examples of emergency supplies:**
  - An "Evac Pac" that holds at least a week's supply of medications & a list meds taken
  - Food and water to sustain each person for at least 7 days
  - Radio and flashlights – battery, solar or crank-operated
  - Extra batteries
  - First aid kit
  - Blankets
  - Pet supplies
  - Other supplies including a whistle, fire extinguisher and cash in small denominations

# Group supplies vs supplies for residents (2 of 3)

- **Supplies for the Neighborhood:** From the Entry Coordinator's Guide (Section 3C)
- **Basic Questions:**
  - Do we want to gather supplies to be kept in a common area within the entry in case we're forced to live outdoors for some days?
  - What supplies and how do we acquire them?
  - Where do we store them and how do we pay for them?
  - Are residents willing to donate supplies or cash for their purchase?
  - How do we protect them and replenish with fresh items?

# Group supplies vs supplies for residents (3 of 3)

- **Supplies for the Neighborhood:** From the Entry Coordinator's Guide (Section 3C)
- **Examples of emergency supplies:**
  - Food and water for each resident for at least 7 days, if possible
  - First aid kit, splints, bubble wrap
  - Ponchos, blankets and plastic sheeting
  - Flashlights, lanterns and radio (battery- or crank-operated)
  - FRS radios and batteries for all equipment
  - Tools, pry bar, rope, duct tape, knives, mechanical can opener, shovel
  - Portable toilet, toilet paper, toilet chemicals, kitty litter
  - Heavy duty work gloves, dust masks, vinyl gloves
  - 2.5 gallon water bags and water purification tablets

# Research into Existing and Attempted Setup of Group Emergency Supply Lockers

- In 2017 at several of the monthly Emergency Preparedness Organization (EPO) meetings people were asked to share their experience in trying to set up or actually setting up group supply lockers.
- Several failed attempts related to getting approval for MOD Alterations; obtaining funding; finding satisfactory locations for group storage sheds; and difficulties getting sufficient approvals for use of common areas.
- A few were successfully set up in Laundry Rooms, and one was set up in a Recycle Bin shed.
- One was successfully funded with Mutual assistance, constructed with a concrete pad, and stocked. Then it had to be removed after some residents complained about how it looked.
- There was some discussion of potential problems maintaining or replacing food or water supplies in lockers periodically to avoid spoilage or expiration of freshness.

# Funding Options May Vary By Mutual

- Initial discussions seemed to point to the possibility that some Mutuals in Rossmoor might provide funding to build a concrete pad or possibly a storage shed.
- When we checked with Mutual 3, we were told that was not the case, and any funding would be up to the residents within the Entry.
- We discussed this at an Emergency Drill in our Entry, and decided to keep it small and simple (no MODS and no special construction) since we were a small entry (2 condo buildings with a total of 12 manors).
- Everyone was willing to contribute around \$25 or \$30 per manor towards a group supply locker and supplies (based on an initial guess of costs). One resident volunteered the front of their carport for use as a storage area for a locker.

# Consideration of What to Include and What to Leave Out

- We decided to avoid group food and water supplies, and leave that up to the resident's to provide for themselves, to avoid the need for continual maintenance of what was in the supply locker (and to avoid attracting rodents).
- Categories of supplies were defined, and individual supply items were grouped within those categories:
  - Storage Locker
  - Safe Water
  - Medical Supply Related
  - Tools for Repairs, and Rescue Related Supplies
  - Communications Related
  - Sanitation Related
  - Camping, Cooking, and Comfort Related Supplies



# Group Supplies by Category – Supply Locker

- **Supply Locker**

- 136 Gallon (25 cubic ft) Resin Basket Weave Patio Storage Trunk Deck Box
  - Built-in side handle for easy transportation
  - Heavy duty plastic resin is maintenance free
  - The lid provides a sturdy seat or additional serving space
  - Has easy-access lid hinges that open and close with just a light touch
- An outdoor water proof combination lock (with customizable combination)



# Group Supplies by Category – Safe Water

- **Safe Water**

- Half gallon of chlorine bleach (16 drops/gal of water for purification)
  - Use only regular household liquid bleach that contains 5.25 to 6.0 percent sodium hypochlorite.
  - Do not use scented bleaches, color safe bleaches or bleaches with added cleaners.
- Bucket for treating water
- Measuring spoons for adding bleach
- Paint stirrers

# Group Supplies by Category – Medical Supply Related

- **Medical Supply Related**

- First Aid Kits including First Aid Guides:

Two Red Cross Deluxe Family First Aid Kits – Each kit contains:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 2 Chewable aspirin tablets, 81 mg each</li><li>• 5 Triple antibiotic ointment packs, 0.5g each</li><li>• 6 Antiseptic cleansing wipes (sting free)</li><li>• 2 Hydrocortisone cream packs, 1%, 0.9g each</li><li>• 2 Hand sanitizer packs, 0.9g each</li><li>• 2 Trauma pads, 5" x 9"</li><li>• 6 Gauze dressing pads, 4" x 4"</li><li>• 6 Gauze Dressing Pads, 3" x 3"</li><li>• 1 Conforming gauze roll bandage, 4"</li><li>• 1 Conforming gauze roll bandage, 3"</li><li>• 1 First aid tape roll, 1" x 10 yd.</li><li>• 1 Instant cold compress</li><li>• 1 CPR one-way valve face shield, latex-free</li><li>• 1 Emergency blanket</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 2 Triangular sling/bandages (safety pins included)</li><li>• 25 Adhesive plastic bandages, 3/4" x 3"</li><li>• 15 Adhesive plastic bandages, 1" x 3"</li><li>• 3 Elbow and knee plastic bandages, 2" x 4"</li><li>• 10 Junior adhesive plastic bandages, 3/8" x 1-1/2"</li><li>• 5 Patch plastic bandages, 1-1/2" x 1-1/2"</li><li>• 3 Knuckle fabric bandages</li><li>• 3 Fingertip fabric bandages</li><li>• 4 Thermometers (one-time use)</li><li>• Plastic tweezers, 1 pair</li><li>• Scissors, 1 pair</li><li>• 4 Latex-free exam-quality vinyl gloves, 2 pairs</li><li>• 1 American Red Cross Emergency First Aid Guide</li><li>• Nylon bag with clear pocket pages</li></ul>
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- Medical Gloves - medium (box of 100)

# Group Supplies by Category – Tools for Repairs, and Rescue Related Supplies

- **Tools for Repairs, and Rescue Related Supplies**
  - 76-Piece Homeowner's Tool Kit
  - Crow bar, yellow caution tape
  - Axe (to clear downed tree branches)
  - Tool box (bucket also used to hold some tools)
  - 3 types of saws, hammer, pliers, 2 screw drivers
  - Staple Gun & staples, and assorted nails & screws
  - Plastic Sheeting 3' x 100' (broken window covering)
  - Dust Masks (N95) (box of 20)
  - Work Gloves (3 pair)
  - Safety Goggles (4 pair)
  - Duct Tape (general purpose – 2 rolls 1.88" x 60 yards)



# Group Supplies by Category – Communications Related

- **Communications Related**

- Entry Tape, green & red (to flag the status of the Entry)
- Hand-held Family Radio Service (FRS) radio w/ AA batteries
- Crank / Solar Radio with smartphone charger, AM/FM, and NOAA bands (American Red Cross FRX3)
- Extra Lithium Batteries (8 AA and 8 AAA)



# Group Supplies by Category – Sanitation Related

- **Sanitation Related**

- Toilet Paper (12 rolls)
- Flushable Wipes (3 pack of 48 wipes)
- Portable 5-gal toilet (Luggable Loo)
- Garbage bags & twist ties (13 gal. kitchen bags)
- Kitty Litter (Fresh Scent 10 lb. bag)



# Group Supplies by Category – Camping, Cooking, and Comfort Related Supplies

- **Camping, Cooking, and Comfort Related Supplies**

- Heavy Duty Plastic Tarps (10 mil w/gromets) 9'x12' (two)
- LED Camping Lanterns (set of 4 with batteries)
- Twine for rigging tarps and other uses (1 ball – 525')
- Plastic Utensils (100 each)
- Paper Plates and Cups
- Manual can openers
- Camp Stove (Classic 2-burner propane)
- Propane tanks for camp stove (three 16 oz tanks)
- Paper Towels (2 rolls)



# The Three-Phase Process for Acquiring the Supplies (1 of 3)

- After a review of typical supplies kept in other group emergency supply lockers, our own list of supply categories and supplies was revised to be more comprehensive
- As a result of this revision, and then pricing out the cost of the updated list of supplies, we realized it was going to cost almost twice our initial estimate of \$25 to \$30 per manor
- To make this workable and still affordable by the residents, a three-phased approach was taken, to allow donations from various residents to drop the overall cost per manor, and still get all of the supplies



# The Three-Phase Process for Acquiring the Supplies (2 of 3)

- **Phase 1** - purchase the supply locker, lock, and some of the basic supplies in each category of supply items (a table showing the subset of supplies was provided to the residents with the resulting cost of around \$30 per manor).
- **Phase 2** – allow a month or two for people to donate other items on the list that weren't bought in Phase 1, and any other items they think that we should have that were not on the list (excluding food or perishable items).
- **Phase 3** – after a few months re-evaluate what we have in the locker, and consider another assessment to complete a full set of group emergency supplies.

# The Three-Phase Process for Acquiring the Supplies (3 of 3)

- **How did this Three-Phase Process work? Really Well!**
  - **Phase 1** - We got started right away with Phase 1, and in a couple of weeks, residents were energized and felt we were making progress towards our goal once they could see the supply locker set up, and stocked with some basic supplies
  - **Phase 2** - This motivated a number of residents to donate supplies and the list of initial items expanded with the donations to include many more supplies in several categories that were not originally on the list
  - **Phase 3** - The end result of both cash and supply item donations was that we only needed to collect another \$10 per manor to complete Phase 3, where our revised estimate would have resulted in almost 3 times that much

# Some Pictures after Phase 2

