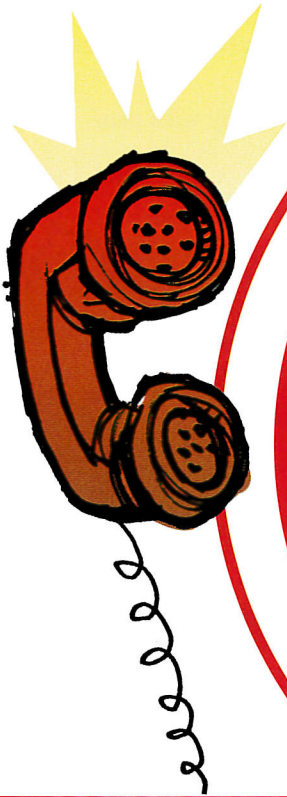


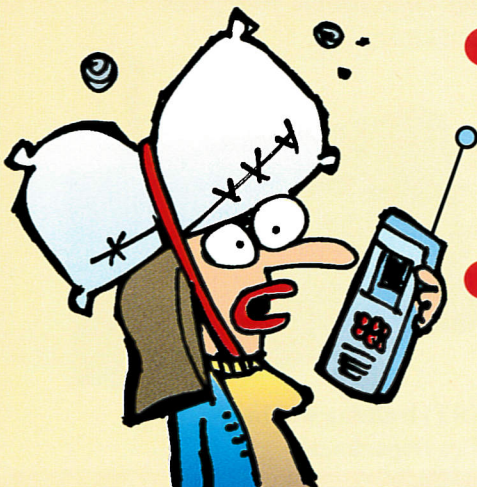
# Forming a Neighborhood Association



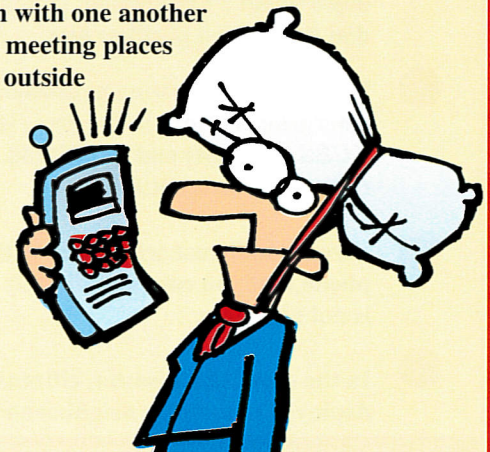
## Get Connected for Emergency Preparedness and Crime Prevention

A major disaster will be a giant wake-up call to those of us who are used to instant communication. With a little advance planning, you'll have a good chance of remaining connected with your family and your city when the usual communication methods fail.

### Get Connected With Your Family



- How will members of your family get in touch with one another after a catastrophe? Agree on two emergency meeting places for your family: one near your home and one outside your immediate neighborhood. Also decide on an out-of-state contact for everyone to check in with.
- Program the names and numbers of key emergency contacts into your cell phones under "ICE," which stands for "in case of emergency." Also include emergency contact information in your wallet.



# Get Connected With Your Neighbors



- Get to know your neighbors and learn who may need extra help during a disaster because they are elderly or disabled.
- If you own a pet, ask a neighbor if he or she will care for the animal in your absence.
- Start a Neighborhood Network to work cooperatively with your neighbors to prepare for disasters.

To start a Neighborhood Watch program to focus on crime prevention, contact your local Police Department.



# Get Connected With Your City and County

Here are other free services your city and county provide:

- San Mateo County's emergency notification system, SMC Alert, will notify you of emergencies via your cell phone or other text-based devices. Sign up at [www.smcalert.info/register.php](http://www.smcalert.info/register.php). The county offers emergency preparedness information at [smcsheriff.com](http://smcsheriff.com) link to OES.
- Contact your local Police Department website for any events or information.

[www.smcalert.info/register.php](http://www.smcalert.info/register.php)

**EMERGENCY  
INFO AT:**

[www.smcsheriff.com](http://www.smcsheriff.com)

# Communicating During an Emergency or Disaster

- To report an emergency, dial 911 from a landline. If using a cell phone, dial the 10-digit equivalent of your police department's 911 number. (Program the number into your cell phone.) To report a non-emergency, dial the normal business line.
- Immediately following a disaster, tune in to a local radio station for ongoing emergency reports in the area. In San Mateo County, those stations are KCBS (740 AM) and KQED (88.5 FM). Be sure you have a battery-powered radio and extra batteries.
- If you usually use wireless or cell phones, purchase an inexpensive landline phone that you can plug directly into your phone jack when power is not available.
- In the event of a disaster, citizens with Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) training will be deployed to assist in neighborhoods. To sign up for CERT training, call your local Fire Department.

