

# Placitas Resilience & Emergency Preparedness Alliance



... *the* **PREP Alliance**

## The Premise:

When disasters and emergencies occur, both emergency services agencies and ordinary individuals have important roles in responding, surviving and recovering. Emergency preparedness on the part of both individuals and emergency services agencies is often the key to a swift and effective response that saves lives and reduces injury and damage.

## What we do:

The PREP Alliance is a volunteer, nonprofit organization that works to design, implement and continuously improve, community programs, plans, actions and activities that cultivate emergency preparedness and resilience within and among individuals, organizations and the communities in the Placitas Area.

## PREP in Action: *things we are working on . . .*

- ❖ Establish a regular calendar of public information and education events to raise awareness of, and to build proficiencies in, emergency preparedness and response in a variety of emergency and disaster situations
- ❖ Provide an easy-to-use resource platform from which individuals can obtain emergency preparedness information, checklists, guides, links to other emergency preparedness information and more (visit our website: [www.PREPalliance.org](http://www.PREPalliance.org))
- ❖ Advocate and facilitate neighbors-helping-neighbors programs to provide for mutual assistance in response to disaster and emergency situations
- ❖ Encourage community engagement and provide advocacy for the emergency related interests and needs of the Placitas community
- ❖ Outreach to community-based organizations, county, state and federal agencies involved in emergency preparedness and emergency response in the Placitas area
- ❖ Tracking legislation and grant funding related to emergency preparedness in the Placitas area
- ❖ Work with other community-based organizations to make fire mitigation and the creation of “defensible space” around residential structures more available to, and less costly for, homeowners
- ❖ Opportunistic activities related to emergency infrastructure:
  - Buffalo Tract: Work with BLM to evaluate opportunities for possible firefighting staging and safe areas, water supply and more
  - Mt Adams/Vulcan: evaluate the potential for firefighting water supply; staging and safe areas
  - Helping US Forest Service and local traditional communities to plan and execute fuel reduction projects in Cibola National Forest, especially in Las Huertas Canyon



Alfred Garcia (USFS) & Jon Couch (PREP)

## Vision:

A Placitas community that is a collaborative network of individuals, neighborhoods, and organizations – well prepared for all types of emergencies at any scale



## Goals:

- ❖ Promote a broad and shared community knowledge and understanding of the importance and principles of emergency preparedness and a bias toward action in applying that knowledge resulting in wide-spread individual and community-level preparedness and competencies in dealing with all kinds of emergency situations – both large-scale and small
- ❖ Inspire and facilitate a high level of cooperation and synergy in endeavors related to resilience and emergency preparedness among community-based organizations and agencies operating in, and/or serving, the Placitas Area
- ❖ Community emergency response readiness:
  - Cultivate awareness and proactive identification of existing and emerging hazards and threats to public safety in the Placitas area
  - Represent Placitas communities in a continuing assessment of the emergency and disaster infrastructure available for response
  - Help to identify issues and opportunities for improvement
  - Facilitate action to enhance response capabilities and capacity
- ❖ Cultivate community-wide awareness of “Resilience” through education and mentoring

## Activities in 2025:

- ❖ Submitted substantive comments to the DRAFT Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) for Sandoval County for 2025
- ❖ Public education session on Defensible Space:
  - Understanding Defensible Space and home hardening – fire mitigation for your home
  - Home Assessment: Having professionals help you create a plan
  - Meeting local contractors who can assist residents in doing some or all of the work and working out a budget
- ❖ Public education session on Evacuation:
  - Alerts, notification, routes & response activities of emergency response agencies
  - Early preparedness for evacuation; Evacuation Plan; “Go Bag”
  - Navigating and actual evacuation; anticipating the event
- ❖ Cooperation with other community-based organizations: Heighten awareness of defensible space and home hardening; determine status of NM-165 improvements, chipper day & fuel reduction projects, cultivate relationships with emergency preparedness agencies

## We are here to help:

- ❖ **Be Aware:** What actually happens when a major emergency incident occurs in terms of the response of emergency service agencies
- ❖ **Get Ready:** What you can do for yourself, your family, pets, livestock, home & property in terms of emergency preparedness
- ❖ **Work with your Neighbors:** Your individual actions also benefit your neighbors; their preparedness helps you; team-up together to help the whole community
- ❖ **Act Responsibly:** Be informed about emergency preparedness capabilities and status at the community level



Volunteers from PREP with representatives from BLM and Las Placitas Association scouting The Buffalo Tract

**For more information visit our website:**

**[www.PREPAliance.org](http://www.PREPAliance.org)**