

# The Fire Plug



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## Sign Up for the Community Warning System

Did you know you can receive warning alerts to your cell phone or email? The Contra Costa County Community Warning System (CWS) is recognized as one of the nation's most modern and effective all-hazard public warning systems.



The CWS is a partnership between the Office of the Sheriff, Health Services Department, other government agencies, industry, news media and the non-profit Community Awareness and Emergency Response (CAER) organization, all striving to deliver time-sensitive and potentially life-saving in-

formation to the people of Contra Costa County. When activated, the CWS may use alerting devices such as the Telephone Notification System (TENS), social media and a public website, outdoor sirens, the Emergency Alert System (EAS) over broadcast radio and television, NOAA Weather Radios and Wireless Emergency Alerts (WEA).

The CWS can alert residents and businesses within Contra Costa County that are impacted by, or are in danger of being impacted by an emergency about the incident and what specific protective actions (shelter in place, lockdown, evacuate, avoid the area, etc.) are necessary to protect life and health. The CWS is generally not used for traffic notifications or other non-life threatening incidents.

For more information or to register to receive alerts on your cell phone or email, please visit [www.cococws.us](http://www.cococws.us).

## Fall Shredding Event

The Kensington Fire Protection District's popular shredding event will be held this spring on **Saturday, October 21st from 10:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m.**

This *free* event is open to all Kensington residents to dispose of excess papers (fire hazards) in your household.

A mobile shredding truck will be parked at the north end of the Com-

munity Center/Library parking lot during the designated time and can destroy all papers on site. There is no limit to the amount of shredding material that you may bring. It is not necessary to remove staples and paper clips.

All paper shredding is recycled by returning it to a paper mill. If you have any questions about this event please contact us at (510) 215-4450.

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- Lance Maples, Chief
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## Come to the Fire Prevention Week Open House

Since 1922, Fire Prevention Week has been observed on the Sunday through Saturday period in which October 9 falls to commemorate the Great Chicago Fire of 1871.

The theme of the 2017 campaign is “**Every Second Counts—Plan Two Ways Out!**” This theme reinforces the fact that everyone needs to have an escape plan from every room of their home. Plan ahead and make sure everyone in your home knows what to do and where to go.



Learn more about fire safety and making your escape plan from your local firefighters.

Drop by Station 65 (217 Arlington Ave.) for our annual Fire Prevention Week Open House on **Saturday, October 14<sup>th</sup>**. The station will be open for tours and staff will be available for questions from **10:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m.** Your Kensington firefighters look forward to meeting you!

## Sign Up for the Great California ShakeOut!

People worldwide will practice how to **Drop, Cover, and Hold On** at 10:19 a.m. on Thursday, **October 19<sup>th</sup>** during the *Great ShakeOut Earthquake Drill*, which began in California in 2008.

Participating is a great way for your family or organization to be prepared to survive and recover quickly from big earthquakes— wherever you live, work, or travel.

Both KFPD and KPPCSD are strongly encouraging all CERT members, Neighborhood Watch groups, and all interested individuals to participate in this important emergency planning drill. This event serves as a strong reminder of the area in which we live and work and the potential for disaster that it holds.

To register and to learn more, including drill tips, please go to [www.shakeout.org](http://www.shakeout.org)



## Attend Community Emergency Response Team Training



disaster—Community Emergency Response Team Training (CERT).

Training opportunities include our day-long CERT Boot Camp which will take place in the fall on **Saturday, November 4<sup>th</sup>**. This class takes place from **8:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m.** at the Arlington Community Church (52 Arlington Ave.) in Kensington.

The Kensington Fire Protection District offers on-going training opportunities to prepare yourself, your family and our community for a major

disaster. There will be a one-hour break for lunch on your own.

This class is a non-certified, condensed format of our 8-week long CERT class but touches on all of the same topics such as utility control, fire suppression, search and rescue, and disaster medical. All CERT classes are *free* of charge.

To sign up for our CERT Boot Camp, please contact Kensington Fire at (510) 215-4450 or email [fire@kensingtonfire.org](mailto:fire@kensingtonfire.org).

Get prepared today. You can make a difference in your community!

## Pharmaceutical Drop Off Event

KFPD and KPPCSD will once again join together to bring the residents of Kensington a pharmaceutical drop off on **Saturday, October 28, 2017**. This *free* event will take place at the Kensington Public Safety Building (217 Arlington Avenue) from **10:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m.** This program is possible through the Drug Enforcement Agency's "Got Drugs?" campaign to safely dispose of unnecessary medications.

Fire and Police personnel will be available to accept all unused or expired medications including narcotics, pills, syrups, inhalers, etc. We do not

accept any household hazardous waste.

It is important not to flush your unwanted medications down the toilet as they will pollute our drinking water and ground soil. Unwanted medications left in your medicine cabinet put children and teens at risk. Call (510) 215-4450 or (510) 526-4141 with any questions regarding this event.



## CPR/First Aid Classes

KFPD will again be offering CPR/First Aid classes this fall on **Saturday, October 7th** and **Saturday, December 16th** at the Arlington Community Church in Kensington. (52 Arlington Avenue).

All classes are taught to American Heart Association Heart Saver standards. Space is limited and priority registration is



given to Kensington and El Cerrito residents.

Cost for residents is \$40 for CPR and \$80 for both CPR and First Aid.

You can sign-up by emailing [fire@kensingtonfire.org](mailto:fire@kensingtonfire.org) or calling (510) 215-4450.

## Download the PulsePoint App

The Kensington Fire Protection District is proud to announce that we are now on PulsePoint. PulsePoint is a mobile phone application that allows users to view and receive alerts on calls being responded to by fire departments and emergency medical services.

The app's main feature, and where its name comes from, is that it sends alerts to users at the same time that dispatchers are sending the call to emergency crews. The goal is to increase the possibility that a victim in cardiac arrest will receive cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) quickly. The app uses the current location of a user and will alert them if someone in their vicinity is in need of CPR. The app, interfaces with our dispatch cen-

ter, Contra Costa Regional Communication center (CON Fire). The app will send notifications to users only if the victim is in a public place and only to users that are in the immediate vicinity of the emergency.

Along with being able to view a list of calls in real time, users also have the option to listen in to radio traffic to accompany the app's incident list. To facilitate the live feed, PulsePoint uses Broadcastify to stream radio channels within the app.

This app is available on both Apple and Android platforms. Learn more at [www.PulsePoint.org](http://www.PulsePoint.org)

**PulsePoint**

**KENSINGTON FIRE  
PROTECTION DISTRICT**

Kensington Public Safety Building  
217 Arlington Avenue  
Kensington, CA 94708

Phone: (510) 527-8395  
Fax: (510) 527-8396

Fire Dept. Dispatch: (925) 941-3330  
E-mail: [fire@kensingtonfire.org](mailto:fire@kensingtonfire.org)

*When in Doubt—  
Call Us Out!*

We're on the Web!

[www.kensingtonfire.org](http://www.kensingtonfire.org)



## Ready, Set, Go! - Plan for Emergencies

The geography, weather patterns and number of Wildland Urban Interface communities in California make it a state particularly threatened by devastating wildfire. To help prepare property owners and residents in areas most at risk, follow the guidelines outlined below.

Get prepared for wildfire before it strikes by following Ready, Set, Go!

Be **Ready**: Create and maintain defensible space and harden your home against flying embers.

Get **Set**: Prepare your family, home and vehicle ahead of time for the possibility of having to evacuate.

Be Ready to **GO!**: Take the early

evacuation steps necessary to give your family and home the best chance of surviving a wildfire.



You should pre-plan escape routes both from your home and out of your neighborhood. Know at least two ways to vacate your home and practice that with all family members. Also, you should know at least two ways out of your neighborhood depending on where a threat may be coming from or if your primary route is blocked. Be prepared—make a plan and practice!