



THE FIRE PLUG

Fall Edition | 2022
www.kensingtonfire.org



September is **NATIONAL PREPAREDNESS MONTH**

IN THIS ISSUE






Kensington Preparedness Month	1
El Cerrito Names New Fire Chief	2
Cerrito Canyon Collaboration	2
CERT Water Storage Sale	2
Solano Ave Stroll	3
Shredding & Meds Collection Event	3

Kensington Preparedness Month

The Kensington Fire Protection District is promoting National Preparedness Month with its own theme this year. Our ongoing commitment to improving basic emergency preparedness for all Kensington residents will take priority over FEMA's annual campaign. Kensington will focus on improving basic preparedness in 5 core areas that were identified in a poll during the April Kensington Evacuation Drill.

After the April 2022 Kensington Evacuation Drill, residents participated in a survey that provided feedback regarding their emergency preparedness efforts. This data revealed five areas that Kensington residents should focus on to improve their emergency preparedness and disaster resiliency for Kensington overall.

These five areas of basic preparedness are:

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 1. Register with Contra Costa County Community Warning System. Register by visiting www.cwsalerts.com or calling 925-655-0111.
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 2. Add the CWS Alert phone number to your mobile phone contacts. Save 925-655-0195 as "Emergency Alert (CWS)" or scan the QR code.
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 3. Pack and update an evacuation Go Bag and have it readily accessible. Use the KFPD Wildfire Preparedness Workbook as a packing guide. Visit www.kensingtonfire.org/workbook to access the digital version.
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 4. Start storing emergency supplies and water for disasters and sheltering in place. Take advantage of CERT Emergency Water Tanks Sales. Sign up to be notified sales by visiting www.kensingtonfire.org/interestlist.
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 5. Establish a communication plan with friends and family to account for being separated during an emergency. Use the downloadable guide by visiting www.kensingtonfire.org/prepare and clicking the item for "Family Emergency Communication Plan."



**CWS CONTACT CARD
SCAN TO DOWNLOAD**

If you have any questions or need assistance with accomplishing any of the above objectives, please contact prepare@kensingtonfire.org.

Additional information is available by visiting www.kensingtonfire.org/september.



El Cerrito Names New Fire Chief

Eric Saylor has been named to the position of Fire Chief of the El Cerrito Kensington Fire Department, effective August 8, 2022.

Chief Eric Saylor is an experienced leader and third-generation firefighter with 27 years in the fire service. Chief Saylor most recently served as an Assistant Fire Chief for the Sacramento Fire Department, managing the Emergency Medical Services (EMS) division that maintains a \$30 million annual budget and supports the response to over 100,000 incidents a year.

Prior to his role as Assistant Fire Chief, Chief Saylor had served the Sacramento Fire Department since 1998 in the roles of Battalion Chief, Captain, Engineer and Firefighter/Paramedic.

He began his fire service career for the City of Galt Fire Department as a Resident Firefighter in 1995. In addition to his firefighting career, Chief Saylor is an author, pilot, and an educator. “I am humbled by the opportunity to join the team at El Cerrito. I look forward to continuing the department’s legacy and building the nation’s most innovative and effective fire department” said Chief Saylor.

Chief Saylor holds a Bachelors in Business Management from California State University, Sacramento, a Masters in Security Studies from the Naval Postgraduate School, and is currently pursuing his Doctorate in Leadership and Organizational Change from the University of Southern California (USC).

Chief Saylor is a nationally recognized expert in active shooter training, fire service metrics, leadership, and succession planning. The National Fire Academy utilizes many of his published articles to instruct future Fire Chiefs.

Kensington and Berkeley Collaborate on Cerrito Canyon Concerns

Berkeley Fire Department personnel Kevin Revilla and Dan Green came to Kensington to meet with Kensington Fire Protection District’s Emergency Preparedness Coordinator Johnny Valenzuela for a walk through Cerrito Canyon.

Berkeley Fire Department has expressed interest in establishing an interagency Firewise community that joins Kensington and Berkeley to address the concerns of wild-fire risk and vegetation abatement for Cerrito Canyon.

Both fire departments are looking for community members in Kensington and Berkeley to help pave the way to establishing Firewise communities in our part of the East Bay Hills.

Our team of Firewise volunteers will be valuable partners that coordinate with the fire departments and their neighbors to be friendly, approachable ambassadors.

To learn more about Firewise communities and how you can play a part in making Kensington Firewise, visit: <https://kensingtonfire.org/cerritocanyonfirewise>.

El Cerrito/Kensington CERT Water Storage and Fire Extinguisher Sale

El Cerrito/Kensington CERT, in partnership with Lamorinda CERT, conducted a sale for emergency water storage and fire extinguishers in August. This sale promotes emergency preparedness, specifically for earthquakes impacting water supply infrastructure.

Residents are stocking up on potable water for emergencies, and the kits sold contain supplies for water treatment and long-term storage. Through these sales, it’s possible to buy containers ranging from 2.5 gallons to 55-gallon drums. To stay informed of these sales, you can register by visiting www.kensingtonfire.org/suppliesale. Look for the link to register for notifications.



Solano Avenue Stroll

The Kensington Fire Protection District and Fire Department will participate in the opening ceremony for the Solano Avenue Stroll on September 11th, starting at 10:00 am. This year, the Solano Avenue Association has changed the annual parade to a “micro parade” for a limited number of participants. Kensington Fire will be one of only 25 organizations featured in this ceremony.

Since 1974 Solano Avenue and the twin-cities of Albany and Berkeley CA, have hosted the Solano Avenue Stroll, the East Bay’s largest street festival! The Solano Avenue Association invites you to see what makes Solano Avenue a wonderful place. We feature over four hundred vendors including 50 entertainers, 25 food booths, 100 government and non-profit agencies, 100 artisans, jewelers, makers, and much more!

100,000 participants and event guests visit from all over northern California, and beyond.

This family event promotes the unique traits of Solano Avenue, helping independently-owned businesses, artists, and community organizations to thrive by exposure and fundraising.

For more information, visit www.solanostroll.org.

Kensington Paper Shredding & Pharmaceutical Collection Event

Kensington Fire Protection District will be hosting a paper shredding and pharmaceutical collection event on Saturday, October 29th, 2022, from 10:00 am until 1:00 pm. This free event is for Kensington residents to learn more about making their homes and communities safer.

The KPPCSD, in coordination with the DEA, will be facilitating the National Prescription Drug Take-Back campaign to safely dispose of 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.

For more information about this event, please visit the KFPD website: www.kensingtonfire.org.

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KENSINGTON
FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT



COMMUNITY SAFETY EVENT

SHRED & MEDS

PAPER AND PHARMACEUTICAL DROP-OFF

KENSINGTON LIBRARY PARKING LOT

SATURDAY OCTOBER 29TH

10:00am-1:00pm

INFO: WWW.KENSINGTONFIRE.ORG

FUNDED BY KENSINGTON FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT