

12 Steps to Emergency Preparedness

Eric W. Cadden

Riverside County Emergency Management Dept.

Emergency Services Coordinator

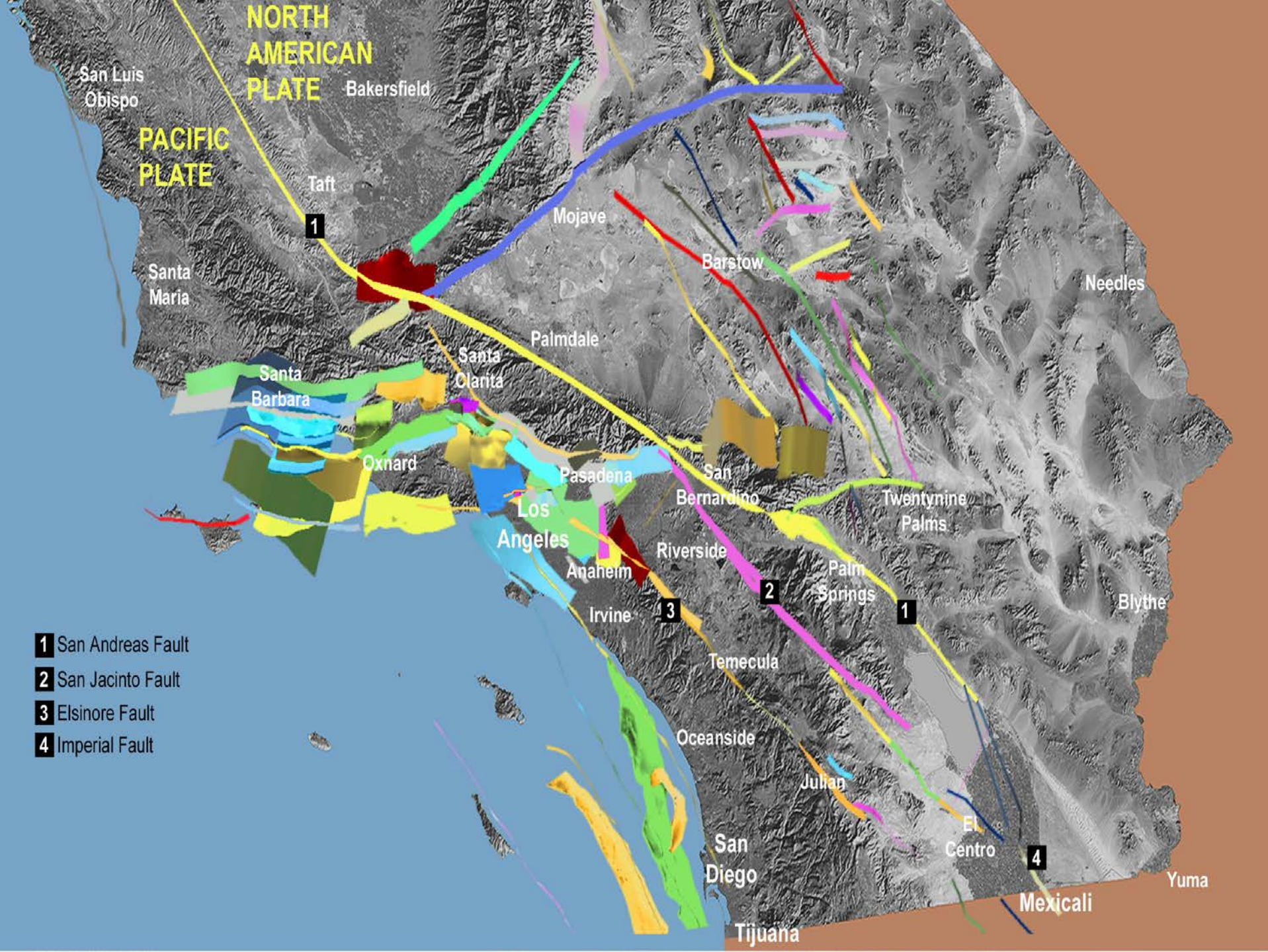
Serving Indian Wells & Palm Desert



Why be Prepared?

- Because first responders will be overwhelmed!!
- Infrastructure will be damaged
- At any given day hospitals are filled to 90% capacity.





Step 1 – Have a Plan

- **Identify hazards (hazard analysis)**
- **Identify safe spots and danger spots**
- **Identify evacuation routes**
- **Identify responsibilities**
- **Identify utility shut-off's**
- **Identify meeting places**



Step 2 – Store Drinking Water

- **Water in your Car !!! Today?**
- **Plan for 1 gallon per day per person!**
- **Consider additional water (pools and spas) for pets, dishwashing, laundry, etc**



Water Storage and Purification

Know the steps how to purify water



Step 3 –

Food and Household Goods

- **Store one week minimum non-perishable foods for every person**
- **Keep in a dry, cool spot – a dark area if possible**
- **Inspect all food for signs of spoilage before use**
- **Don't forget: pet foods, baby formula, plate, utensils, hand held can opener and medicines**



Disaster Food Supplies



Step 4 – Protection of Family and Business Assets

- *Maintain hard copies of vital records,*
(i.e. birth certificates, driver's license, bank statements, credit card statements, etc.)

Have cash available

Primarily small bills and coins



Step 5 – Protective Clothing & Equipment

- Heavy gloves and boots
- Goggles/safety glasses
- Comfortable clothes that are seasonally appropriate
- Protection from the elements



Step 7 – Alternative Heating and Lighting Sources

- ***Heating*** –
 - Wood Burning Stoves
 - Extra Blankets, sleeping bags, etc.
- ***Lighting*** –
 - Flashlights with extra batteries
 - Lanterns
 - Generators
 - **LAST RESORT** – Candles – (never leave candles on over night while sleeping or around children)

Step 8 – Emergency Prep Books & Literature

- Earthquake, flooding and fire safety pamphlets
- First aid and healthcare books
- Basic home repair manuals
- Camping and wilderness guides



Step 9 – Alternative Communications



- Battery powered AM/FM radio
 - Local Radio Stations
 - AM – 920, 1010, 1200, 1400 (Spanish)
 - FM – 90.3, 93.7, 96.7 (Spanish), 98.5, 100.5, 103.5 (Spanish), 106.1
- Listen for the Emergency Alert System (EAS)
- Use your out of state contact and text if necessary
- Amateur Radio
 - Take the Technician Level to get started
 - Join RACES



Step 10 – Waste Disposal

- *System Disruption – water, sewer, and waste disposal soon become health hazards*
- *Waste pick-up delays*
- *What to do with:*
 - **Human waste**
 - **Pet waste**
 - **Trash disposal**
 - **Hazardous materials**

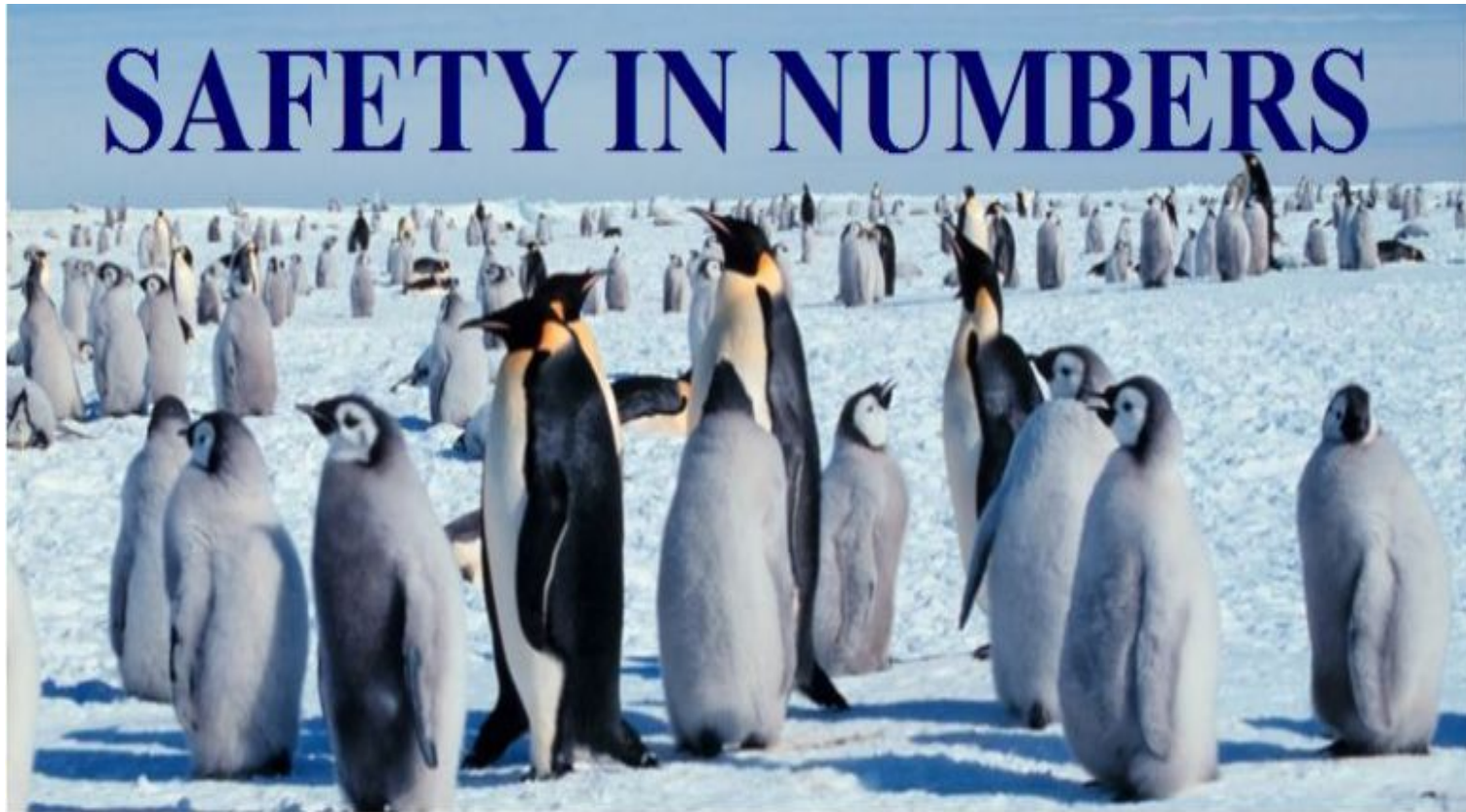


Step 11 – Protecting Your Family and Property

- **Get to know your neighbors**
- **Organize your neighborhood through groups such as “neighborhood watch”, “CERT”, etc.**
- **Learn to defend yourself in a manner which is in line with your personal values**



SAFETY IN NUMBERS



Step 12 – Care for Pets

- *Water and food bowls*
- *Leashes and/or collars*
- *Medical records and picture's*
- *Special Medications or foods*
- *Learn pet first aid*
- *Know which shelters allow for animals*



Stay Informed!!

Before the disaster:

www.rivcoready.org

www.rcflood.org

www.rvcfire.org

www.redcross.org

www.caloes.ca.gov

www.fema.gov

www.noaa.gov (weather)

After the disaster:

www.rivcoready.org

www.rcflood.org

www.connectriverside.org

www.redcross.org

www.caloes.ca.gov

www.fema.gov

CERT information

<http://www.rivcocert.org/>



Closing Thought



Disasters don't always happen someplace else...

Remember it's a matter of when NOT if



Questions??

Thank You,

Eric W. Cadden,

Emergency Services Coordinator

Riverside County Emergency Management Department

(760)346-2489

ecadden@indianwells.com

