

# **Guemes Emergency Team (GET)**

## **Household Preparedness**

Updated 2/25

Guemes Emergency Team (GET) is a team of community emergency response volunteers who will, upon activation by the fire chief, assist the Guemes Island Volunteer Fire Department in responding to emergencies on the island.

Because of our remote location and relatively small population, all Guemes Island households should keep on hand supplies to be self-sufficient for a minimum of two weeks or possibly up to six.

### **Before an Emergency How Should You Prepare?**

1. Read the many online disaster preparedness booklets available at [www.ready.gov/publications](http://www.ready.gov/publications).
2. Read the ***do1thing*** 12 Month Preparedness Plan available on myguemes.org. Emergency Preparedness or online at <http://www.do1thing.com/individuals/>.
3. Develop an emergency communications plan with an out of state contact that can be reached via text message. Share this plan with all your family members and neighbors.
4. Keep on hand water, non-perishable food, prescription and necessary medications and other supplies to be self-sufficient for at least two weeks or up to six weeks if possible. Do not forget supplies and food for your pets.
5. Become acquainted with your neighborhood leader and know where emergency radios are located in the event that phone service is lost. Information is available on "MyGuemes.Org".
6. Learn about your home and know how to turn off electricity, water and propane.
7. Prepare a "GO BAG" with medications, important papers and change of clothing.
8. Fill out the Guemes Household Questionnaire and give it to your neighborhood leader. This Confidential questionnaire is retained by the neighborhood leader with a copy provided to Guemes Island Fire Department.

### **During an Emergency**

#### **COMMUNICATION**

1. After taking care of their own household, your neighborhood leader will check each household in their assigned area. If you do not need assistance, signal by tying a white cloth to your mailbox or front doorknob. If you have a GET alert sign, signal "OK" or "HELP" by placing it in a front window or near the road.
2. Where are you? If you leave your home, leave a note with your destination on the front door and post on a neighborhood information board.

#### **SAFETY**

3. Inspect your home and be prepared to turning off power, propane and water if necessary.
4. Take it slow and be very aware of potential risks.
5. Do not touch downed phone or power lines. Only utility company personnel should move or repair them. Touching lines could endanger your life or the life of a lineman.

#### **CARE**

6. If you need food, personal care or shelter, the Spirit of Guemes Community Church is your first stop to check in and request assistance.
7. The Community Hall will be the coordination site for volunteers and can operate as an emergency shelter for up to 40 people.