

IF THERE IS NO ELECTRICITY, NO PHONE SERVICE, NO EMAIL... IN AN EMERGENCY WILL YOU BE ABLE TO CALL FOR HELP?

*It may be a small emergency for you or it could be your neighbor that needs help.
It could be a major emergency where we need to account for all of our neighbors ASAP.
The time to think about all this is before you need to use the information, like NOW.*

Take action NOW and be part of the preparedness plans for our community.

- Have one or a pair of FRS/GMRS radios that can communicate on Channels 1 – 6.
- Talk with and exchange contact information and local radio call signs (assigned by Diane Hill) with your neighbors.

You truly are safer if you know names or at least what neighbors look like, so you know who belongs/lives in your neighborhood. Radios can link us to HELP from others when other communications are absent or limited.

Being able to use a radio could save a life.

RADIO BASICS: **General Mobile Radio Service (GMRS)** radios can communicate at a greater distance than simple hand held **Family Radio Service (FRS)** radios which run on less than ½ watt and need no FCC license. The first 7 FRS radio channels are also GMRS frequencies. GMRS radios run on 1-25 watts, are hand held or base radios and require a 5-year GMRS FCC license. The FCC license covers your whole household, requires completing a registration form and paying about \$90. There is NO required class or skill test involved with GMRS OR FRS radios.

It is convenient if the radio has a charger it can sit in at night. Some have a special battery that comes with that radio and uses a charger but also has a tray/back-up alternate in which you can use batteries. A great feature for when there is no power! If you purchase in a store, the sales staff can show you how to use the radio you purchase. Practice makes using a radio much simpler, requires just a bit of time and everyone can do it!

KNOW HOW TO USE YOUR 2-WAY RADIO BEFORE YOU NEED TO CALL FOR HELP IN AN EMERGENCY

Contact Diane Hill, unitedneighbors@cmprepared.com, when you have your radio and get a call sign to use in Costa Mesa to show your area without your exact address. Costa Mesa Radio Net is Monday night – Net Working Procedures at www.cmprepared.com, under Communicate.

