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Community Preparedness Introduction

The more prepared we are individually and collectively, the more resilient our community will be when disaster strikes; enabling us to respond and recover faster and more fully. Our emergency management model is based on fostering self-reliance, building capacity, and filling resource gaps in the community.

There will always be people who are in the wrong place at the wrong time, who don't have the means or ability to prepare, or who live with medical conditions that present challenges to achieving sustained preparedness. Our model accounts for people in these situations. It does not, and simply cannot, account for an entire community of people who opt not to prepare.

After reading the following scenario, use the examples to better understand our Community Triage Model and how it applies to you and your household. Please note the examples are not intended to be exhaustive or exclusive.

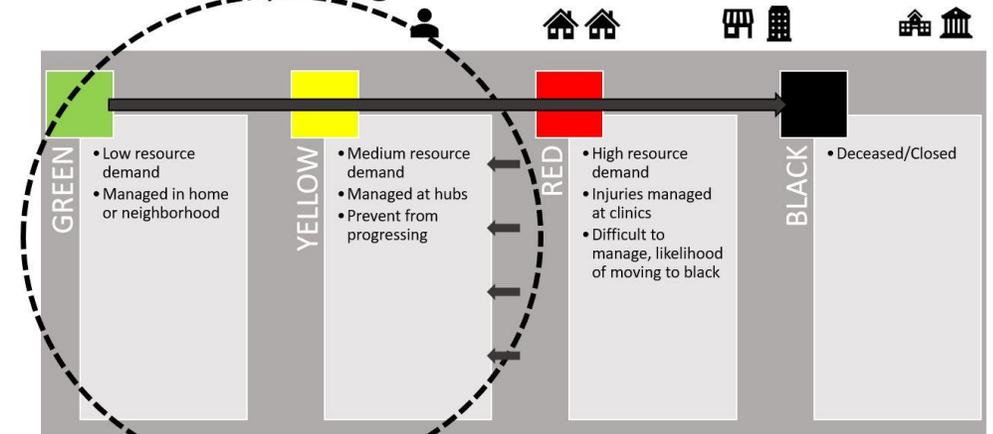
Then, take this brief [16-question survey](#) to help us understand how prepared we currently are as a community, and where we need to focus more of our energy and resources. One per household please.

And finally, don't delay – get [2 WEEKS READY](#) today!



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Community Triage Model



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Scenario

It's a beautiful Tuesday afternoon in July.

People are at work.

School is out – kids are in camp or home alone.

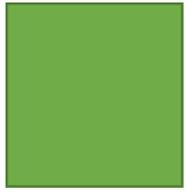
The island is full of tourists – local and international.

The ferry just off-loaded and a line of vehicles full of commuters is driving north on 305.

There is a large earthquake...and Bainbridge Island becomes isolated. No bridge. No ferry.

Power is out and phone communication is not possible. The damage on the island is extensive but nothing else is known at the moment...





Green Community Triage Category Examples:

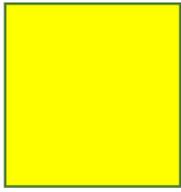


The Joneses

Meet the Jones Family! They live on Bainbridge Island. They are a prepared family! After attending a free how-to class from Bainbridge Prepares, they have two weeks of supplies (water, food, medical) stored for all of the members of their household (including their pooch) in case of emergency. They decided to store an additional week of emergency supplies in their home in case they have visitors when an emergency or disaster occurs. They also wanted to be prepared to share their supplies with others, if needed.

The Joneses created a family emergency plan so everyone knows what to do in the event of an emergency or disaster. They also took steps to make sure their home is safe and in good condition to withstand an earthquake. They recently attended a local first aid class to build their medical skills! They are able to administer basic medical treatment to members of the family and others in the neighborhood.

The Joneses didn't stop preparing once they got their household ready – they facilitated a Map Your Neighborhood session and helped to get the other households in their neighborhood disaster-ready, too! They own a small business in Winslow and have an up-to-date business continuity plan in place, and discussed emergency procedures with their staff. The Joneses are ready for anything! We want you to be too!



Yellow Community Triage Category Examples:

The Lee Family



The Lees live on Bainbridge Island and they are a prepared family, much like the Joneses! Their home is located in a liquefaction zone and it was significantly damaged during an earthquake. Despite their best efforts at being prepared, they are unable to access their emergency supplies.

The Smiths

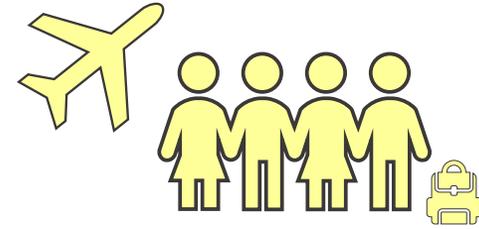


The Smiths live in Seattle. They are also a prepared family. The Smiths are spending the day in Winslow because they wanted to escape the big city and get some fresh Bainbridge Island air. They brought their pooch with them on the ferry, too! The Smiths have a backpack with a few bottles of water, snacks, and a couple of dog treats.

Moderately Injured Persons



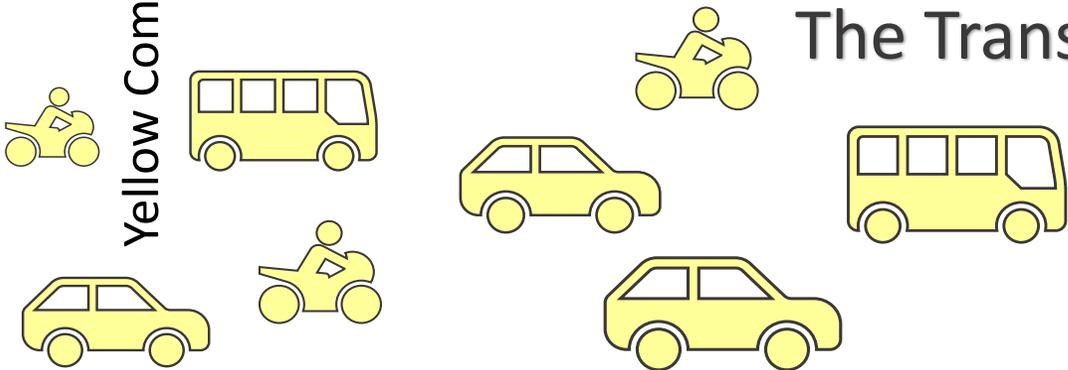
Julie is injured. Her injury is not immediately life-threatening, but it is pretty severe and will require medical care beyond basic first aid.



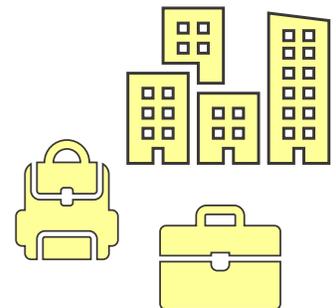
The Exchange Students

The Exchange Students are visiting the Seattle area from a foreign country. They are on Bainbridge Island just for the day. They do not have access to emergency supplies, have few belongings with them, are unfamiliar with the local area, and have limited English proficiency.

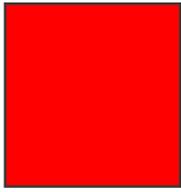
The Trans-Island and Reverse Commuters



These folks commute to Seattle on the ferry, but they live off-island elsewhere in Kitsap County. They might also be reverse commuting - coming from Seattle to Bainbridge Island for work. They have taken steps to prepare and have stocked their vehicles, backpacks, and offices with emergency supplies.



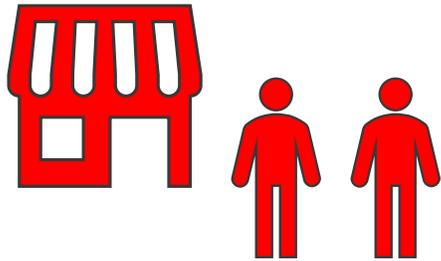
Red Community Triage Category Examples:



The Roberts Family

The Roberts Family has means, but they have chosen not to take preparedness seriously. They have not invested in emergency supplies for themselves or their pets, they don't have a family plan in place, and they have not secured items in their home to prevent damage or injury. Mr. and Mrs. Roberts both commute off-island for work. They don't have updated emergency contact information or access to important documents like their home and health insurance. They have not designated alternate caretakers for their minor children.

The Roberts do not live in a prepared neighborhood either. Their neighbors don't know that the Roberts have a large, unsecured propane tank on their property, next to their home – which poses a significant fire threat.



Bob and Tom – Small Business Owners

Bob and Tom are business partners. They live on Bainbridge Island and own a small retail business in Winslow relying heavily on tourism. They employ a small staff, many of whom live off-island. Bob and Tom do not have a business continuity plan in place. They don't have any emergency supplies available for themselves or their staff in their shop. They don't have access to any of their insurance information, or an understanding of how to restore the critical components of their business or re-establish their supply chain.



The Unprepared Commuter

This person dashes to work each day without accounting for the possibility of being unable to return home. They have no supplies, medications, cash, etc.

Severely Injured and Medically Fragile Persons



John has a life-threatening injury that was sustained during the earthquake requiring immediate, skilled medical care.

Baby Annie was born with a chronic medical condition. She is dependent on daily skilled nursing care and administration of specialized medical treatments in order to sustain life.

