



**One mountain, one river, one community.  
Serving Fitch Mountain since 1979.**

4/13/17

Dear Fitch Mountain Property Owner:

This letter is to introduce you to the COPE (Citizens Organized to Prepare for Emergencies) Program, a program that has been adopted by the Fitch Mountain Association and the City of Healdsburg. The mission of COPE is to help residents, families, and neighborhoods become better prepared to respond to and recover from emergency situations. Following a major disaster it might be several days before vital services are restored to Fitch Mountain, an area at high risk for a variety of natural and manmade threats: Earthquakes, Wildfires, Floods/Winter Storms, Drought, and Landslides. First responders who provide fire and medical services may not be able to meet the demand for these services. Factors such as number of victims, communication failures, and road blockages will prevent people from accessing emergency services we have come to expect at a moment's notice through 911. *We will have to rely on each other for help in order to meet our immediate life-saving and life-sustaining needs.*

We have divided Fitch Mountain into neighborhoods and a volunteer from most neighborhoods has come forward to serve as Neighborhood Captain. *It is important for you to know that over the next couple of months your Captain will be reaching out to each house in your neighborhood to invite participation in the COPE program.* If you are a homeowner who does not live on site *please advise your tenants that someone will be coming by.* The Captains will be asking each household to complete a Neighborhood Census Form (attached) so that we can better help each other in case of an emergency. For example information collected includes: if there is a person with a disability in the household who will need help with evacuation, location of the gas shut off valve in case no one is home during an emergency, etc. If you are a homeowner who is not on site we suggest that you complete the attached form and return it to the FMA: PO Box 1233, Healdsburg 95448. *Completing the form is totally voluntary and your Neighborhood Captain will keep the information collected confidential.* Your Neighborhood Captain can also provide you with important information about emergency preparedness such as how to develop an individual response plan and maintain an individual emergency supply kit.

Please join us in becoming better prepared to COPE with emergencies on Fitch Mountain!

Sincerely,

Priscilla Abercrombie & Ginger Hobart  
FMA Emergency Preparedness Committee