



## Preparedness Corner: Map Your Neighborhood/Community Emergency Response Team

The disaster has struck; a severe windstorm has hit Woodinville. What will be your first step?

Making sure your family is safe and your home is secure. Now that you've taken that first step, what should you do next? How are your neighbors? If you live close to your neighbors you will probably want to check on them. But do you know who they are? Do they know you? Would they feel safe opening their door to your inquiry?

There is a simple way to bring together and prepare a neighborhood before the disaster strikes. **Map Your Neighborhood** offers a simple method to inventory and prepare your neighborhood for an emergency. Mapping your neighborhood will guide the neighborhood through the initial steps in a disaster, and it will also help your neighborhood identify who has the resources, skills and training needed to respond. Who in your neighborhood has a chainsaw, generator or other equipment needed after a windstorm? What skills do your neighbors have that could be utilized during a disaster for the good of the neighborhood such as medically trained professionals or those who are able to come to the aid of the neighborhood in moving debris or performing small repairs? Map Your Neighborhood will help you answer these questions and many more.

To get your neighborhood started with Map Your Neighborhood, contact Jason Burt, the City of Woodinville's Crime Prevention Officer at 425.877.2285 or [jasonb@ci.woodinville.wa.us](mailto:jasonb@ci.woodinville.wa.us) for more information.

Another way to prepare your neighborhood is through **CERT, Community Emergency Response Teams**. This training provides a variety of skill sets including, treating the three medical killers by opening airways, controlling bleeding, and treating for shock, providing basic first aid, how to put out small fires, even how to move a heavy car or object out of the way. CERT training is provided by Woodinville Fire and Life Safety District and for more information on CERT training contact Dave Leggett at Woodinville Fire and Life Safety District, 425.483.2131 or [davel@wflsd.org](mailto:davel@wflsd.org).

The windstorm has not hit Woodinville this year, but with an average of one severe storm every year it's just a matter of time. In our next article we will specifically address wind and storm safety and how you can be prepared for the perfect storm.

For other printed emergency preparedness information, please visit City Hall. The Emergency Preparedness Commission meets the second and fourth Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m. in the City Council Chambers, City Hall, at 17301 133<sup>rd</sup> Ave NE.