HB CERT HIGHLIGHTS

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May 2015

Cooking in the Park
By Virginia Petrelis

Our 3rd annual Cooking in the Park will be held on June 13. The past two years of Cooking in the Park have been a demonstration of what can be done with all the recipes, ingredients and supplies provided. In a real disaster, no one will have everything to feed a crowd so all will have to contribute whatever they have.

At our first cooking planning meeting held April 27, we decided to do something different this year. We will simulate a neighborhood disaster where everyone brings whatever food they have in their refrigerator and pantry and then using the collective ingredients, assemble a meal for their neighborhood. This should be very interesting.

At the May 14 CERT General Meeting, Billie Brandon will speak on alternate cooking methods. Billie will have a list of suggested supplies you would need to bring to your “neighborhood outdoor kitchen” in a disaster—or to our Cooking in the Park. We will also be demonstrating building a box oven. If you would like to build your own box oven, bring a cardboard box that has four full sides. We will have heavy duty aluminum foil and aluminum tape available for $3.

• For a small oven, a box (typical 10 ream paper box) 17.5” long x 11.5” wide x at least 9” high.
• For a medium oven, a box 19.5” long x 12.” wide x 10 to 12” high.
• The photo below shows placement of food (bread pans are shown empty) on the rack, box oven in back.

Save the date and plan on coming to Central Park on June 13 with all your supplies and let’s see what we can do. It will be a new enlightening experience for everybody and is sure to be a lot of fun! Watch your e-mail for the flyer.

Emergency Notification Systems
By Virginia Petrelis

Have you signed up for Alert OC? It is a mass notification system to provide critical information in an emergency to all individuals who live or work in Orange County. The community will be notified by either the County or City officials based on the type or extent of an emergency. To sign up, go to: https://cityofhuntingtonbeach.bbcportal.com

FEMA also has an app which they describe as a “one stop shop” with tools to keep you safe during and after disasters. It includes weather-related alerts from the U.S. National Weather Service for up to five locations across the U.S. You can stay updated about severe weather happening in your area while keeping tabs on other places you care about—where your family or friends live. You can upload and share your disaster photos with Disaster Reporter. You can save a custom list of the items in your family’s emergency kit, as well as places you will meet in case of an emergency. It includes tips on what to do before, during and after 20 types of disasters and how to locate open shelters and disaster recovery centers. For information on how to get this app, go to www.fema.gov/app.

FEMA also has some very informative You Tubes on disaster preparedness. Go to: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YXxPTAhMGLI&list=UUVrYey5SZMid_VZk9D8tYmA

Ham Radio Class Results
By Virginia Petrelis

Twenty six enthusiastic students attended the three-session study class to prepare for taking the ham radio Technician Class license test. The classes were held April 7, 10 and 11 and taught by Peter Petrelis, Bob Dow and Richard Batistelli from CERT and Jim Hansen from RACES/CERT. So far, eleven of the students took the test and all passed. Some of the other students elected to take the test at a later date. Welcome new ham operators!

We hope to have a couple more classes on what radios to purchase and how to program them. Date of these classes to be announced.
Drought Update
By Anna Pinter

California has suffered through the two driest winters on record. Researchers have blamed warmer than average waters in the western tropical Pacific, around Indonesia, combined with cooler than average waters in the eastern tropical Pacific, near Peru, as a major cause of a West Coast Ridge in North America. Central and Eastern America have experienced a “Polar Vortex” in the winter of 2013-14 and 2014-15. Both of these weather patterns seem to be the cause and effect of the conditions of the past three years. Scientists continue to study the causes of why the high pressure ridge remains over our region.

Except for a wet December in 2014, California has been lacking rain. For the first time in recorded history (since 1849), San Francisco received no measurable rainfall this past January. The Sierra snowpack was measured at 5% of average at the end of March, the lowest on record. The drought implications and impacts in California are numerous.

On April 1, due to the seriousness of the drought and the impacts on California, Governor Jerry Brown ordered the first mandatory water cutbacks in California’s history. He delivered his speech from a barren meadow in Phillips, a town near Lake Tahoe, set at nearly 7000 feet in the Sierra Nevada. Last year the snow measured 33 inches and the average is 63 inches. In 1977 the snow was at 27 inches. Despite the emergence of a weak El Niño (as declared by NOAA on March 5), rainfall over California is not expected to make a dent in the drought as we head into our dry season.

The City of Huntington Beach prefers to work with residents and businesses to help reduce water waste. Contact our Water Conservation Hotline (714) 536-5922 or visit our website at: www.huntingtonbeachca.gov/hbwater for more information on rebates, events and water conservation tips.

See more at: www.ocwatersmart.com

www.saveourwater.com is an excellent site to find:
Ways to Save Water
What You Can Do
What’s New in the News

From Huntington Beach Municipal Code 14.18.060
- Level 1 Water Supply Shortage

| New SUMMER Watering Schedule ~ April through October |
|---------------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Single Family Home – Odd Addresses |           |           |           |           |           |           |           |
| Single Family Home – Even Addresses |           |           |           |           |           |           |           |
| Multi-Family Residential          |           |           |           |           |           |           |           |
| HOA Common Areas                  |           |           |           |           |           |           |           |
| Businesses                        |           |           |           |           |           |           |           |
| Schools                           |           |           |           |           |           |           |           |

| New WINTER Watering Schedule ~ November through March |
|---------------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Single Family Home – Odd Addresses |           |           |           |           |           |           |           |
| Single Family Home – Even Addresses |           |           |           |           |           |           |           |
| Multi-Family Residential          |           |           |           |           |           |           |           |
| HOA Common Areas                  |           |           |           |           |           |           |           |
| Businesses                        |           |           |           |           |           |           |           |
| Schools                           |           |           |           |           |           |           |           |

How Much Water Do You Have to Conserve?
By Virginia Petrelis

According to the Orange County Register, the cities of Huntington Beach and Fountain Valley must cut back water by 20%. The following information was provided at: www.ocregister.com/articles/water-657599-percent-city.html.

CITY OF HUNTINGTON BEACH
- Cutback mandate: 20%
- Irrigation is prohibited 9 am – 5 pm and is limited to no more than 15 minutes per day per station. Watering is limited to three days per week April – October.
- City staff will recommend to the council to raise the water management level, which limits irrigation to two days per week and prohibits initial filling and refilling of more than one foot of residential pools and spas.
- The city has a uniform rate for all water use, but is developing an allocation-based tiered structure that will be presented to the City Council.

Information: 714-536-5511 or huntingtonbeachca.gov

CITY OF FOUNTAIN VALLEY
- Cutback mandate: 20%
- Watering is prohibited 7 am – 7 pm and limited to no more than 15 minutes per day per station.
- The city could impose fines of up to $500 for a serious or continued violation.

Information: 714-593-4600 or fountainvalley.org/199/Water-Division

The above Orange County Register article also provides water restriction information for other Orange County cities.
Tips to Save Water
By Anna Pinter

1. Participate in the City Of Huntington Beach Water Conservation Spring and Summer 2015 Classes:

   - **Saturday, May 23** 9am-11am  Rainwater Harvesting Class
   - **Saturday, June 13** 9am-12pm  Landscape Class Part 1
   - **Saturday, July 11** 9am-12pm  Landscape Class Part 2
   - **Saturday, August 22** 9am-12pm Landscape Class Part 3

   All events are held at Public Utilities Yard located at 19001 Huntington Street which is on the corner of Huntington Street and Garfield. (Call 714-536-5933 if you have any questions.)

   On Wednesday, April 22, 2015, several CERT members attended a Rainwater Harvesting Class. Don’t miss the next interesting class on saving water. Also, attend the landscaping classes and learn how to conserve water and reduce your water bill. Learn to create a yard with landscape that is drought resistant.

   Buy a rain barrel and receive a rebate. See the flyer on page 6. You can catch rain water or use your barrel to collect “warm up water” which is all the water that goes down the drain while you are waiting for the hot water to reach the faucet or shower. To capture and use “warm up water,” simply put a bucket or large bowl under the faucet or shower when you turn on the hot water. The water will be cold and can be put directly into the rain barrel or used immediately on plants. There are many uses for this cold water which normally is wasted. You may be surprised at how much water is wasted when you see the amount of water you save by catching “warm up water.”

   Helpful websites:
   - [www.bewaterwise.com](http://www.bewaterwise.com)
   - [www.sunset.com](http://www.sunset.com)

2. More than 50% of our potable water is used for irrigation. If we cut water waste like watering asphalt, we can save a lot of water with very little effort.

3. Go the following website for tips on the many ways to save water in your kitchen, bathroom, outdoors and workplace: [www.saveourwater.com](http://www.saveourwater.com)

Pool and Water Safety
By Brenda Welch

With summer on its way and the weather turning warmer, more people are going to the beach and to the pool.

If you’ve read the Orange County Register News Sunday, April 12, 2015, you would have seen the headline that read, “Every 9 days, someone drowns in O.C.”

According to the Orange County Fire Authority statistics, drownings start to increase and continue through summer. There have been four near-drownings and six deaths in April. And last year we had an average of a drowning every nine days. Nine people drowned in the ocean, including a lifeguard while attempting a rescue. Three people died in a spa, six drowned in community pools, while another 13 drowned in family pools and eight people died in bathtubs. Last year 41 people drowned in needless deaths. There were 44 near drownings; many resulted in permanent brain damage.

Orange County Fire Authority Capt. Steve Concialdi suggests these ideas to help save lives:

- **Never swim in a pool or the ocean ALONE.**
- **NEVER leave a child unattended for even a minute while in a pool, spa or bathtub.**
- Designate someone responsible for watching kids...every minute matters
- Have fences around pools.
- Install pool alarms.

While vacationing in Phoenix, Arizona, I was at the Squaw Pt. Hilton Hotel and they sponsored a water safety day. The Phoenix Fire Dept. has a Drowning Prevention Program. A very large number of community water safety organizations participated in this program. Excerpts from this program include the ABC's of Water Safety and ways to keep your children safe around water:

- **A** – Adult Supervision: designate a Water Watcher for all bodies of water.
- **B** – Barriers: fences with self-closing and latching gates.
- **C** – Classes: take swimming lessons and learn CPR.

A program of water safety awareness should be made available in all California cities.

For more information on the web:
- [http://www.ocfa.org/Content/SafetyEducation/WaterSafetyTip.aspx](http://www.ocfa.org/Content/SafetyEducation/WaterSafetyTip.aspx)
- [www.poolsafety.gov](http://www.poolsafety.gov)
- [http://www.huntingtonbeachca.gov/residents/beach_info/Junior_lifeguards.cfm](http://www.huntingtonbeachca.gov/residents/beach_info/Junior_lifeguards.cfm)
Scouting in Action
Surprise Disaster in Huntington Beach
Reprinted from Boy Scouts “Parents’ Scouts Scoop”
By: Randi Poling, volunteer photographer for CERT

A disaster scenario is not your day-to-day volunteer opportunity, however, on Saturday, March 21st, 2015, 17 Boy Scouts, Troop Leaders and parents had the opportunity to aid in a first aid refresher course hosted by the Huntington Beach Community Emergency Response Team (CERT). The volunteer program CERT, trains local residents in the basics of disaster preparedness, first aid and light search and rescue.

In order to maintain and refresh their members’ skills, CERT First Aid team leader Susan McClaran and Huntington Beach Fire Department CERT Coordinator Stephanie Vazquez contacted Boy Scouts of America for Boy Scout volunteers. The scenario was to be a 6.8 magnitude earthquake striking the Newport-Inglewood fault line. What made this training especially interesting was that none of the students in the First Aid refresher course had any idea the Boy Scouts would be arriving for a surprise drill.

As the Boy Scouts arrived to the secret rendezvous area, CERT coordinator Stephanie Vazquez issued random victim cards, which depicted roles for the Boy Scouts and included vital information about the victims such as, rates of respiration and perfusion, gender and age so that CERT responders could quickly triage the Boy Scout victims. Once all victim cards were assigned, the boys were lead through a back door into the Huntington Beach Council Chambers where they were staged and ready for action.

Meanwhile, CERT volunteers gathered at the doors of the Huntington Beach Council Chambers for what they thought was a final briefing of the day’s training. However, they were excited and shocked to know they had just been thrown into the chaos of a simulated disaster response. CERT volunteers quickly moved into the Council Chambers and began assessing the Boy Scout volunteers who were acting out their injuries. One CERT member named Bicholan Pham said, “I was so nervous, it felt so real with the Boy Scouts here.” The CERT volunteers quickly set up a morgue for the victims who were playing dead, and two CERT volunteers assisted a parent volunteer who was wandering and simulating shock by looking for his son, Owen. There was some fantastic acting from the Boy Scouts, Troop Leaders and parents. Many realized the importance of skill practice.

Once the Boy Scouts had all been evacuated and triaged outside Council Chambers, the drill wrapped up for the day and the CERT members thanked the amazing acting by the Boy Scouts, Troops Leaders, and parent volunteers. The disaster drill was not only a fun activity for both the Boy Scout volunteers and the CERT volunteers but also, the drill demonstrated the importance of skill practice. The Huntington Beach CERT Program thoroughly enjoyed the very talented volunteers provided by Boy Scouts of America and look forward to working together in future disaster simulations.
The 2015 Spring Community Emergency Response Team Basic training kicked off April 8th and was held every consecutive Wednesday through April 29th. Residents from many walks of life enlisted to learn about emergency preparedness and learned life saving skills. The CERT course included instruction from Huntington Beach CERT members Susan McClaran, Stephanie Deagle, Eric Ross, Steve Yamashita, and Heidi Ross. We also had the privilege of having a guest instructor Marc Melissas, a Command Sergeant Major from the California State Reserve.

On Saturday May 2nd 2015, students arrived at the Central Net Training Center to put all the skills they had learned in the theory courses to the test. In total, 33 students were in attendance and graduated from the 2015 CERT basic course. Many of the students in attendance expressed their desire to bring awareness of the local hazards in Huntington Beach to their friends and families, while still others, stated they hoped in joining the small army of CERT volunteers in Huntington Beach.

As an instructor and coordinator for Huntington Beach CERT, I was overjoyed to see so many of our residents taking initiative in learning their hazards and what they could do to help their friends and family in the event of a disaster. I hope the office of Emergency Management and Homeland Security continues to be a resource to every single student in attendance. Together with the advisory board and the dedicated body of CERT volunteers who make the training possible, I look forward to planning the next Huntington Beach CERT Basic training.
FREE Rainwater Harvesting Class

Rain Barrels for ONLY $10 After Rebate!
The Metropolitan Water District gives a $75 rebate for up to 4 Rain Barrels per household, with one submission allowed.

Date: Saturday May 23, 2015
Time: Class: 9:00—10:00 am  Pick-up: 9:00—11:00 am
Place: Public Utilities Department
19001 Huntington Street, Huntington Beach

Topics of Discussion:
We will be discussing the importance of rainwater harvesting, the benefits of a rain barrel, how to install a rain barrel, how to apply for the rebate, and water conservation tips.

Rain Barrel Specifications:
- Recycled plastic “food grade” barrels
- Dimensions: 39" tall, 23" diameter, 55+ gallon capacity
- Brass 3/4” spigot for garden hose attachment and side brass overflow with cap
- 4” tight steel mesh screen to prevent mosquitoes and other bugs from accessing the water
- Colors: Black or Terra Cotta

Rain Barrels available for purchase $85.00
Purchases must be made IN ADVANCE by May 20th at:
www.RainBarrelsIntl.com under the EVENTS tab
City of Huntington Beach
No purchase required to attend
and attendance is not required for purchase

For Rebate Information:
http://socalwatersmart.com or call 1-888-376-3314
Serving with Pride, Since 1909
HUNTINGTON BEACH
PUBLIC WORKS
OPEN HOUSE
Display at Surf City Nights Street Fair
TUESDAY, MAY 19, 2015
From 5pm to 9pm

Celebrating
National Public Works Week
(May 17-24)
FREE Family Fun
Equipment Giveaways
Booths
Exhibits

Downtown - between PCH and Olive
Public Works Display on Olive Avenue

Engineering
Water Department
Storm Pumping Stations
Parks, Trees & Landscape
Wastewater Maintenance
Street Maintenance
Warehouse
Traffic Control
Signs & Markings
Building Maintenance
Vehicle Maintenance
Waste Management
Hazardous Materials
Water Quality
Water Conservation
Photos from March 27, 2015 Tsunami Walk
Photos from March 27, 2015 Tsunami Walk (continued)

Below Photos from April 11, 2015 Ham Radio Technician Study Course

Signing Up to On-line QRZ Practice Tests During the April 11, 2015 Ham Radio Technician Study Course
Neighbors-Helping-Neighbors

MISSION STATEMENT: The mission of the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Program is to provide information and training on disaster preparedness; provide leadership and coordination during an emergency, and assistance to help victims recover from an emergency.

Upcoming CERT Events & Activities

- CERT General membership meeting, 6:30pm May 14, 2015 in B8
- CERT General membership meeting, 6:30pm June 11, 2015 in B8
- CERT Cooking in the Park, 8:30am to 3:00pm, June 13, 2015

CPR Classes

Fire Med customers can take CPR classes for free and non-FireMed customers can take classes for a fee. Dates are listed below:

- Saturday, May 9, 10:00 am – 1:00 pm
- Wednesday, May 27, 6:00 pm – 9:00 pm
- Saturday, June 13, 10:00 am – 1:00 pm
- Wednesday, June 24, 6:00 pm – 9:00 pm

To enroll in CPR classes, call 800-400-4277 or 714-556-4277. Class location is in the HB area and exact location given at time of enrollment.

HB CERT Newsletter Staff

Proof Reading / Editing Team:
Anna Pinter  Judy Ann Morris
Peter Petrelis (Publisher)
Paul LaGreek (Asst Publisher)
Virginia Petrelis (Editor)
Art Weiland  Carol Nehls  Cynthia Goebel
Heidi Ross  Rajarajeswari (Raji) Shunmugavel
Brenda Welch

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT!
CERT Website: www.huntingtonbeachca.gov/cert  CERT Contact: CERT@surfcity-hb.org
CERT Message line 714-536-5974 (THIS IS A MESSAGE LINE ONLY!)