

Are You Prepared?

By: Tim Sheahan

Whether it's hurricanes in Florida, floods in the Northwest, snowstorms in New England, tornadoes in the Midwest, earthquakes in California or harrowing events in regions in between, virtually all of our manufactured home communities are vulnerable to some form of threat to our health and well-being. While many threats are weather related, other hazards such as natural gas leaks, electrical problems and home fires can also wreak havoc.

For me, the severe earthquakes in northern California last year that damaged countless manufactured homes and a quake-caused fire that completely destroyed several others were yet another reminder that homeowners should work diligently with fellow homeowners, management and local officials to be prepared for a variety of emergency situations that might hit our communities.

In California, State law requires community owners to have an Emergency Preparedness Plan but no comprehensive requirements for what has to be included in the plan. Some plans are not much more than suggestions for evacuating the community, while others are much more detailed. Below are links to three documents we hope you find helpful as reference when developing or expanding a plan for your own community:

[State Endorsed Plan](#)

[Homeowner Generated Checklist](#)

[Comprehensive Homeowner Generated Plan](#)