



October 23, 2019
NEWS RELEASE
Los Altos Hills County Fire District

For Further Information Contact
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During October, the Bay Area is experiencing unusually warm weather conditions that results in increased extreme weather alerts and fire dangers. Santa Clara County Fire Department (SCCFD) notices of Red Flag Warnings and PG&E (Pacific Gas and Electric) announcements of Public Safety Power Shutoffs (PSPS) will affect many Santa Clara County residents. PG&E power shutoff are initiated to help protect customers and communities during extreme weather events. Electric power may be shut off for public safety in an effort to prevent wildfires.

To inform residents of these extreme weather conditions and increased fire and safety issues, the Los Altos Hills County Fire District (LAHCFD) is working in cooperation with the SCCFD, PG&E and Town of Los Altos Hills to broadcast weather updates, Red Flag Warnings and PG&E PSPS to the community. Informing and educating the public for fire protection is a key mission of LAHCFD.

The public can find updated information on extreme weather conditions, Red Flag Warnings and PSPS announcement by accessing the LAHCFD website homepage at www.lahcfd.org

According to PG&E, communities can expect early warning notification customer alerts, ongoing updates and safety inspections after extreme weather has passed followed by power restoration. Power outages could last multiple days.

LAHCFD will coordinate efforts with the LAH Town and residents to encourage emergency preparedness in event of Red Flag Warnings or PG&E PSPS events. These same emergency preparedness measures are also recommended for preparation in event of evacuations, wildfires, earthquake or other disasters.

To address the effects of a PG&E PSPS or other disaster events, it is important that residents have an **Emergency Preparedness Plan** in place. Such a Plan would:

1. Update resident's contact information with PG&E
2. Identify backup charging methods for phones and devices. Keep hard copies of emergency numbers
3. Plan for medical needs and medications that need refrigeration or devices that require power
4. Build or restock emergency kits – flashlights, fresh batteries, first aid supplies, cash, identification, important documents
5. Stockpile supplies of water and non-perusable foods and necessities
6. Plan for the needs of pets and livestock
7. Designate an emergency meeting location
8. Know how to manually open your garage door
9. Ensure any backup generators are ready to safely operate
10. Keep all vehicle gas tanks full or no lower than ½ tank of gas
11. Identify the unique needs of your family in the area for your emergency plan
12. Maintain defensible space around homes and buildings
13. Clear brush, leaves, hazardous fuel vegetation from property
14. Plan and practice evacuation routes for two ways out of property

Visit www.lahcfd.org and www.pgecurrents.com for updated weather, Red Flag Warnings and PG&E PSPS announcements.

END OF NEWS RELEASE