

Heritage Ranch Owners Association



Emergency Services Committee

Working together for a safer community

HERITAGE RANCH MAJOR INCIDENT RESPONSE PLAN

In 2022, an updated Major Emergency Incident Response Plan (PLAN) was adopted by the Heritage Ranch Owners Association, the Heritage Ranch Community Services District and the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection/SLO County Fire Department.

The Heritage Ranch Major Incident Response Plan addresses the Community's response to extraordinary emergency situations associated with natural or man-made disasters where the Community is isolated from normal public service response provided for in the San Luis Obispo (SLO) County Emergency Response Plan. It does not address day-to-day emergencies.

When the PLAN is activated, the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection/SLO County Fire Department (CAL FIRE/SLO County Fire Department) and the Heritage Ranch Community Services District (HRCSD) will form a Unified Command and the Heritage Ranch Owners' Association (HROA) will participate in a support role to the Unified Command.

The geographical location of Heritage Ranch exposes the Ranch to the threat of wildfires, winter storms and earthquakes, as identified in the SLO County Local Hazard Mitigation Plan.

A wildfire is an uncontrolled fire spreading through vegetative fuels, posing danger and destruction to property. The pre-dominate dangers from wildfire are injury or loss of life to people living or recreating in the affected area and the destruction of vegetation, property and wildlife. A winter storm can bring with it heavy rainfall, high winds and even hailstorms and snowfall. Winter storms can have devastating effects in terms of property damage, injuries and even loss of life. The danger is multiplied by the risks of downed power lines, localized flooding and landslides/mudslides. The Community of Heritage Ranch is located in very close proximity to the Nacimiento – Sur Fault which is considered an active strike – slip fault; within 15 miles of the Rinconada Fault; within 20 miles of the San Simeon Fault; and within 35 miles of the San Andreas Fault. Therefore, if a major earthquake, a serious wildfire or severe winter storm were to occur, there is the probability that roads leading to Heritage Ranch could become impassable and the Community could become isolated.

It is strongly recommended that each Heritage Ranch resident review this PLAN and be prepared to be self-sufficient for one week after an emergency. Ways to prepare for these types of emergencies can be found on the HROA website, under the Emergency Services Committee website. In addition, residents that want to help their community during an emergency should be familiar with the PLAN and sign up with the Emergency Services Committee.

The purpose of the Major Emergency Incident Response Plan is to establish the Community's response organization, responsibilities, functions, and interactions to mitigate the immediate effects of a moderate or high intensity earthquake, wildfire or severe winter storm affecting the Community of Heritage Ranch until such time as additional resources arrive.

The first priority of the PLAN shall be to minimize the loss of life.

The PLAN is intended to unify Community based public agencies and the HROA under the Incident Command System (ICS) to maximize resource availability in order to effectively minimize damage to life and property caused by the immediate effects of the emergency. It is intended to identify resources available from the three entities located within the Community and from the Community itself which may be used, in the absence of outside resources, to mitigate specific needs relative to responsibilities identified in the PLAN which may be outside of the normal roles of the three entities here on the Ranch.

The PLAN is primarily intended to serve as a contingency response plan for all effects associated with a major incident or disaster affecting the Community of Heritage Ranch. Procedures within this PLAN solely address emergency response and short term recovery until such time as appropriate jurisdictional agencies arrive to assume management of the emergency activities. The procedures within the PLAN apply to the personnel, equipment, facilities and other resources under the direct control of the CAL FIRE/SLO County Fire, the HRCSD, the HROA, or any other agency, group, or individual who adopts a role in emergency response which is consistent with an element of the PLAN.

The PLAN will be activated by the on-duty Company Officer of CAL FIRE/SLO County Fire Station #33, who operates as the initial Incident Commander, after consulting with the General Managers (or their next in commands) from the HRCSD and HROA. When activated, the initial Incident Commander along with the General Manager (or next in command) from HRCSD will transition to a Unified Command and the General Manager (or next in command) from HROA will become the HROA Branch Director and support Unified Command as needed.

The Unified Command Post is located at the Fire Station and the Support Control Center is located at the Heritage Ranch Community Services District office.

When a disaster strikes, it is important to remember that the number one priority of each of us is to take care of our families and look out for our neighbors. You can do so by preplanning to insure you have a plan to reach and keep in contact with family members. Make sure you have adequate food and water to last at least a week.

When the disaster happens:

- A. Conduct a welfare check on family, your residence and that of your neighbors,
- B. Report emergencies to 911; treat the injured and attempt to control small fires without endangering yourself,
- C. Check on propane, electrical and water and securing each when needed,
- D. Once the welfare of family members and neighbors has been assured, each HROA employee should report to their designated location shown in the PLAN and residents who wish to help should report to the Support Control Center at the Heritage Ranch CSD office.

For additional information on preparing for an emergency, check out these sources:

- Heritage Ranch Owner's Association – Emergency Services Website - www.hroa.us
- American Red Cross – www.redcross.org
- Cal Fire/San Luis Obispo County Fire Department – www.calfireslo.org
- San Luis Obispo County Office of Emergency Services – www.slocounty.ca.gov/oes
- Department of Homeland Security – www.ready.gov

During an emergency, check out these sources of information:

- Tune into radio stations that have coverage in our area:
 - AM 1180 and 1230 FM 95.3, 96.7, 98.1, 102.7, 104.5 and 105.9
- American Red Cross website – www.redcross.org
 - On your smart phone, download the Wildland Fire and Earthquake APP. These APPs and their directions and connection to the Cal Fire “Incident Information” reports can be obtained in four quick taps on your smartphone
- CAL FIRE/San Luis Obispo County Fire –receive radio transmissions with your scanner
 - Dispatch Frequency 151.325 County Command 4 Frequency 151.055
- PG&E 24 hr. phone line to inquire about power outages – 1-800-743-5002
- Several Scanner Apps are available to be downloaded on your smart phone.
- On Facebook: Heritage Ranch and Naci Emergency Connection and Information (not an official HROA source).
- ReadySLO.org – Reverse 911 / Evacuation Assistance

If you wish to help during a disaster, fill out the form below and return to the HROA Office.

-----Cut here-----

Volunteer Sign-up

Name _____ Email _____

Address _____

Residence Phone Number _____ Cell Phone Number _____

Please list any skills and/or abilities _____
