

Janice,

This is the addition to Russ Hartenstine's EM web page. It should be a link on his opening page and this document will be under form's and documents.

### **Preparedness Tips for Neighborhoods and Associations**

Prior to a storm or fire event there are simple things neighborhood groups or road associations can to prepare. One is to recognize that both of these are real risks on the Vineyard. Below are tips which we recommend to all residents and associations.

We encourage you to:

- Form an Emergency Response Committee to determine what you as a neighborhood group or Association can/should do to respond to a fire and/or storm.
- Review the Storm and Fire Risk information on the Emergency Management or Climate Advisory page on the Town's website, and use those as a guide to prepare <https://www.westtisbury-ma.gov/climate-advisory-committee/pages/forms-documents>.
- Urge each household (including renters) to join Code Red. <https://www.westtisbury-ma.gov/emergency-management/pages/codered-information>.
- Create a phone tree for quick check-ins on the road. A **phone tree** is a prearranged system for activating a group of people by **telephone**. The **phone tree** system can help you spread a brief message quickly and efficiently to a large number of people.
- Identify residents on your road that may need help in an emergency situation.
- Consider the guidelines outlined in the Fire Risk pamphlet for managing brush on your road. Or, look at the Fire Wise website: <https://www.nfpa.org/Public-Education/Fire-causes-and-risks/Wildfire/Firewise-USA>
- Identify large generators on your road with neighbors who would be willing to allow access to water in an extended outage situation

Please stay in touch with us about your concerns and your ideas for how the town might help you. We will do our best to respond.