Four Seasons Disaster Response Duo & OK/Help Needed sign

(Revised Oct 2019)

When disaster strikes, and it will, we residents of Four Seasons should have a Disaster Response Duo to ensure we are safe and unhurt. 911 and professional first-responders will be **overwhelmed and unavailable**. We are on our own.

The first member of this duo is a trusted next-door neighbor. This neighbor has a key to your house, or knows where you've hidden a key, for example, under a flowerpot in the back yard. This neighbor will check on you, and you must check on them when disaster strikes.

The second member of the duo is your Four Seasons CERT Street Captain. For a better understanding of CERT, visit our website at https://fscert.org. The Street Captain will look for the "Help Needed" sign in your window. If you don't have the signs, get them from Lodge Attendant.

Residents are encouraged to store the "**OK/Help Needed**" sign in the window most visible from the street. Do so PERMANENTLY with the **blank green side displayed** in the window. Otherwise, in a disaster, you're likely to forget where you stored it, and your trusted next-door neighbor won't know either. When disaster strikes and **help is needed**, you, a family member, or the neighbor must flip the sign to "**Help Needed**" and unlock the front door. If all is well and no help is needed or you have evacuated, set the "**OK**" sign **facing out** to indicate the Street Captain need not visit. **Furthermore**, if you're OK, you might canvass and check the neighborhood for friends and neighbors who display a blank or no sign.

The Street Captain will **skip homes** with either **No Sign** or the **''OK''** sign displayed so his or her time is spent helping those who need it.

The Street Captain has resources he/she can bring to help you including FRS radios that will work when power and phones are down. They can communicate with CERT external radio communications center at the lodge who can communicate to city of Hemet Fire and EMS, Riverside County, CALFIRE and more. Street Captains have training, disaster supplies, and resources that may help you survive. They will visit the homes with the "Help Needed" First, and report to the command post so resources and help can be deployed. They then will return to those homes to triage, stabilize, and provide help. After all these residents are stabilized, transported, or helped, the Street Captain may visit homes with no signs or blank green signs if not reassigned to help other areas. No sign & blank sign homes are the last visited, if at all.

In addition to the Response Duo, there is another key member: **You**. You must place the **''OK/Help Needed'** in your front window with the correct side/color displayed (signs available from lodge attendant.) You must seek a neighbor to be part of your disaster response duo. However, if you choose not to participate, not to do either, you may not receive help for hours, or not at all.

Plan. Prepare. Survive. Store the signs in your window NOW

Below is how a Street Captain reads the signs



Unknown State Same as No sign Priority: Visit First. Treat First All is well Skip this house

