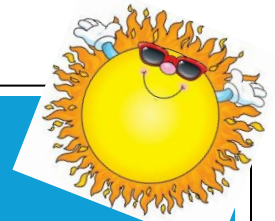




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Board & General Meetings

Board Meetings –

1st Tuesday of the month; Vista Madrona Fire Station unless otherwise indicated; 1-3 pm.

General Meetings – 2nd Thursday of the month; Vista Madrona Fire Station; 7-9 pm.

***Please note that the August board meeting will be held on Wednesday, August 6th, 1 pm, at the Vista Madrona Fire Station 273 N West Camano Dr.. This month's meeting was bumped from Tuesday to accommodate the time needed for National Night Out on August 5th.

Thursday, August 14th will feature Sofia Kohfield, Executive Director of ICOM-911. Sofia will provide an update regarding our 911 call center and will discuss a marvelous upcoming program called Pulse Point. Be sure to join us for this very informative session!

Upcoming Meeting Programs and Events

CPG Meetings

August 14 – ICOM-911 update and Pulse Point discussion with Executive Director Sofia Kohfield.

September 11 – Geology of Camano and the potential effect of earthquakes with Gabriel Lotto from Pacific Northwest Seismic Network.

October 9 – When the Power Goes Out; What it Takes to Restore Service with PUD.

November 13 – Assisting our Most Vulnerable Neighbors in Times of Disaster with Rhonda Paulson.

December 11 – CPG Christmas Party at the Camano Yacht Club!

Events

August 5 – National Night Out – Terry's Corner Fire Station #3, 525 E. North Camano Dr. – 6 – 8 pm. There will be free snacks, CIPR rigs to see, and demonstrations by our remarkable firefighter/EMTs including a demonstration with the jaws of life. There will also be several local organizations on hand to supply valuable information. Be sure to join us for an evening of fun and education.

August 23 – Preparedness from 10 am to 4 pm. In addition to a number of vendor's booths with information, there will be programs provided inside the library.

10:00 am – Bill Swander and Preparedness State of Mind.

12:30 – Sue Ryan and Earthquakes and the NW Faults.

2:30 – Bill Swander and Water Purification and Storage

September 6 – Stop the Bleed with Dr. Robert Mitchell – Camano Library, Noon – 3 pm. The cost is \$10. This course is now full. If you wish to be placed on a waiting list for possible cancellations, contact Sue Ryan, kk6sue@gmail.com.

Making Plans – Weather

Camano's greatest risk for a disaster is severe weather. Understanding weather can help you become better prepared.

Information for this portion of our newsletter comes from NW Meteorologist Ted Buehner; from NOAA; from the National Weather Service; from Island County Department of



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Emergency Management; and from the Climate Prediction Center.

We have been fortunate thus far this summer, as temperatures have not fallen into the predicted above average range. That may well change as we move into August and September. Please keep in mind the need to protect yourself from heat exhaustion, heat stroke, and the hazards of wildfire smoke. Also remain mindful of the hazard of cold water shock and potential drowning when attempting to cool off in our very cold lakes, rivers, and the Puget Sound.

Summer heat brings us to the most pressing issue at present, which is the continuation of the exceedingly dry conditions. This has resulted in the current Type 2 burn ban for Island County. During Type 2 burn bans, no outdoor burning is permitted. This means no recreational fires and no propane-fueled firepits. Barbecue grills are permitted but require close supervision.

Please obey these restrictions and please refrain from using weed burners. Under such dry conditions, fire from weed burners tends to ignite surrounding vegetation and can quickly get out of control.

For an additional weather-related offering this month, I refer you to the USGS website – www.usgs.gov/apps/hera/. This site provides tools which, when launched, provide maps and exposure data regarding coastal flooding, coastal ground water, shoreline change, and a multi-hazard viewer. All information is based on storm and sea level rise scenarios. For those of us living on an island, particularly if we live near the water, this information could prove invaluable.

Disaster Communications

Why Ham Radio is Important!

The following article was posted in a July 2025 ARRL (Amateur Radio Relay League) publication and demonstrates the critical nature of amateur radio in times of disaster.

Amateur Radio Volunteers Serving During Texas Floods

ARES volunteers were embedded with local service agencies in the areas of central Texas affected by devastating floods. Activated on Friday, July 4, 2025, they provided communications capabilities to agencies whose primary systems were damaged in the flooding event or where they suffer poor connectivity due to the terrain. They also helped the American Red Cross with setup of a reunification shelter in response to the floods. Ten hams were assigned to search-and-rescue teams. Dozens of health and welfare messages were passed by ham radio operators who provided a critical link when phone lines were overwhelmed. “A lot of this is tied to circuit overload preventing folks from making direct contact with family members in the area,” said Kevin McCoy, KF5FUZ.

During the flooding event and subsequent search and recovery missions, ARES members have been deployed to serve in many different counties, including hard-hit Kerr and Kendall Counties. Mutual aid has been offered between several surrounding ARRL sections.





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Planning Ahead for August

For those who are new to this newsletter, this segment allows for an ongoing look at spreading the cost of preparedness supplies over a year rather than trying to acquire everything all at once. Also included are measures you can take to prepare for any emergency/disaster. For those who have been receiving our newsletter, it provides the opportunity to review and update your supplies and plans.

Items to locate or purchase

- 1-2 packages of freeze-dried vegetables
- 1-2 packages of freeze-dried fruits
- 2 packages of freeze-dried meat
- 1 large can of juice
- 1 box of high-energy snacks
- Dried fruits and nuts
- Favorite spices in small, sealable bags, labeled and packaged together
- Comfort foods (candy bars, cookies, etc.)

Actions to take

Make sure all food items are labeled with expiration dates or best used-by dates. Store them such that they can be rotated, bringing older items to the front to be used first. Keep an inventory of all supplies. If items are used, be sure to replace or replenish them.



Useful Websites: *Should any of these links fail to work, try doing a copy and paste to your browser.

CPG – www.camanopreparednessgroup.org

CPG Facebook –

www.facebook.com/CamanoPreparednessGroup

FEMA – <https://training.fema.gov/is/>

CIFR – <https://camanofire.com>

ICDEM (Island County Dept. of Emergency Management) –

<https://www.islandcountywa.gov/170/Departmentof-Emergency-Management>

Earthquake Country Alliance –

www.earthquakecountry.org/prepare/

Stanwood Camano Amateur Radio Club –

www.scarcwa.org

Robert Mitchell, MD, FACOG – Disaster Medicine Project –

<https://www.facebook.com/DisasterMedicineProject>

US Coast Guard –

<https://uscgboating.org/mobile/>

How to make a Crisco Emergency Light –

<https://youtube.com/watch?v=xnNHM4OLkvE>

Disability Related Preparedness Resources –

****Google: [Inclusive Preparedness Resources](#)**

[American Red Cross](#)

WSDOT –

<https://wsdot.com/travel/real-time/map>

CPG Contacts:

Rhonda Paulson, President; Camano Neighborhood

Ready Coordinator; CERT Trainer –

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Sue Ryan, VP; Program Director –

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Bill Swander, Board member; CERT Trainer –

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**We will never be Disaster Proof, but we
can be Disaster Ready!**

Remember – preparedness is not a
mindset of doom and gloom. It is your
security in times of recover from a crisis.

Preparedness

A State of Mind!

