



CITY OF



# DELANO



In an effort to provide citizens with important City tips and information, this newsletter will be provided on a monthly basis.

*"Feel The Momentum"*

## Disaster Planning

By Mark DeRosia, Chief of Police

Preparing for a disaster is something that we rarely think about. The nature of a disaster is that they usually occur without warning. Being caught without the appropriate items to carry you through an earthquake, flood, fire, or other disaster can be devastating. If a major event were to occur, it could take up to 72 hours (3 days) for emergency personnel to arrive to assist you. Planning ahead goes a long way.

While the Delano Police Department is providing a snapshot of some of the considerations you should look at to aid you in your preparation for a disaster, the American Red Cross, the internet, and various other groups can provide you with additional information in assisting you in this effort. Emergency officials, such as the police department, fire department, city staff, and the American Red Cross, are prepared to help get you through a disaster, but as previously mentioned, it may take us up to 72 hours to get to you.

Please take a moment to review the information provided in this article. Please begin making plans now, because if and when a disaster occurs, it may be too late to begin your preparations. Our goal is to provide you with up to date information before, during, and after a disaster occurs.

### Create a Disaster Plan

**With your family create a disaster plan.**

- Pick two places to meet, outside of your home and the other place should be away from your home in the case that you cannot return to your home.
- Ask a friend who lives away from your city to be your family contact in case your family is separated during an emergency. Make sure that all of your family members know that persons phone number.
- Post emergency telephone numbers by phones and teach small children when and how to call 9-1-1.
- Teach family members how to turn off the utilities such as gas and water.
- Make sure that all of your family members know where your disaster supply kit is located in your home.
- Train family members on how to use a fire extinguisher.
- Create a family escape plan for your home.

**Make a basic kit that includes:**

Water; First Aid Kit; Food; Whistle; Battery-powered Radio; Dust Mask; Flashlight; Moist Towelettes; Plastic Sheeting and Duct Tape; Wrench/Pliers; Garbage Bags; and a Can Opener

**Additional items might include:**

- ◆ Prescription medication and over the counter medication
- ◆ Eating supplies and paper towels
- ◆ Entertainment for both children and adults, books, games, and puzzles
- ◆ Important family documents, insurance policies, identification, bank accounts
- ◆ Cash, traveler's checks, and change
- ◆ Bleach and medicine dropper for sanitation
- ◆ Change of clothing
- ◆ Sleeping bags or warm blankets
- ◆ Fire extinguisher
- ◆ Personal hygiene items
- ◆ Infant formula and diapers
- ◆ Pet food



For more information visit these websites:

- www.ready.gov
- www.redcross.org
- www.prepare.org
- www.fema.gov

(The above article is a reprint of the 2007 Delano Police Department Newsletter regarding disaster planning information)

## Reporting incidents to your police department

By: Mark DeRosia, Chief of Police



**CALL  
9-1-1  
FOR EMERGENCIES**

There are times when each of us needs to call the police for help or assistance. Sometimes this need comes in the form of an emergency, and other times, by way of non-emergency reporting. Understanding the protocol for how to report an incident to the police is very important as it ensures that the officers who are responding are better able to make certain response assessments.

The question as to whether or not to call 9-1-1 is something many citizens will ask themselves. A general rule of thumb is for all crimes against persons or property, that are occurring at the time of the call, interrupted crimes, or life-threatening incidents you should call 9-1-1. For all other situations such as barking dogs, lost property, non-injury traffic collisions, unattended thefts, etc., you should call the regular dispatch number, which is 661-720-2274. If you do not know whether or not your situation is an emergency, to be safe, just call 9-1-1.

When you call our dispatch center on 9-1-1, the dispatcher will ask you what you are reporting. If you are reporting a medical issue, you will be immediately transferred to the Fire Department for assistance. All other situations will be handled by our professionally trained dispatch staff. Remember to remain calm as possible and answer the questions that our staff asks of you. If you do not know the answer the question asked of you, say you do not know. It is better to say you don't know than to provide inaccurate information to the dispatcher. You should remember that as you are being asked questions, or dispatchers are relaying that information to the police officers who are responding to your emergency. It is very important to listen to the questions asked and understand that our staff is asking those questions for a specific reason. Your answers will help determine how officers will respond to a given situation.

Some general reminders to help keep you safer are not to approach suspects or suspicious people. Never approach their vehicles in an effort to get a better description to give to our dispatchers. Your safety is our number 1 priority. Do not follow suspects or suspected vehicles, but remain a good witness and provide accurate suspect and vehicle descriptions, license plate numbers, and directions of travel. Unless absolutely necessary, do not attempt to intervene in any situation and leave that job to your police department.

I hope that this information provides you with a better understanding of contacting the police department. As always, you may stop by the police department, which is located at 1022 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue, and pick up brochures on 9-1-1 and other important safety programs and services.

### City of Delano Police Department Contacts

Police Department (Emergency)	9-1-1	
Police Department (Non-emergency)	(661) 721-3377	
For English Press 1	For Spanish Press 2	
Emergency	Press 1	
Follow Prompt		
Dispatch	Press 2	
Records	Press 3	
Detectives	Press 4	
Animal Control	Press 5	
Jail	Press 6	
Alarm Payments	Press 7	
Detective Division	(661) 721-3356	
Tipline	(661) 721-3369	
Code Enforcement	(661) 721-3389	
Animal Control Shelter	(661) 721-3377	
Hours of Operation		
Monday – Friday	9:00 am – 3:30 pm	
Saturday – Sunday	9:00 am – 2:00 pm	
Dog Licensing		
Unaltered Fees	1 Year	\$80
	2 Years	\$160
	3 Years	\$240
Altered	1 Year	\$40
	2 Years	\$60
	3 Years	\$80



### National Night Out 2012

By Community Service Officer Eddie Aguil

On Tuesday, August 7, the community of Delano is invited to join the Delano Police Department to participate with thousands of communities nationwide to the 29<sup>th</sup> Annual National Night Out (NNO) crime and drug prevention event. NNO will involve over 15,325 communities from all 50 states, U.S. territories, Canadian cities and military bases around the world.

NNO is designed to: heighten crime and drug prevention awareness; generate support for, and participation in, local anticrime efforts; strengthen neighborhood spirit and police-community partnerships; and send a message to criminals letting them know neighborhoods are organized and fighting back.

Last year, our event had approximately two thousand residents of our community members participate including 46 businesses and community organizations. Some of the festivities included: dance crews, McGruff the Crime Dog, hayrides, raffles, arts and craft projects, demonstrations, car smash, the Kern County Fire House, a water-slide for the kids, and a host of other fun activities.

The Delano Police Department will be hosting NNO at Cesar Chavez Park from 4:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. We hope that you and your family can come out and celebrate it with us. There will be businesses and organizations from the community with free information and activities for the family. If you are interested in participating please contact Community Service Officer Eddie Aguil at (661) 720-2278.