# "EMERGENCY ALERT BUDDY" SYSTEM VIRGINIA GOMPERTZ

#### **NEIGHBOR TO NEIGHBOR ASSISTANCE:**

EMERGENCY ALERT BUDDY (Supplement to CodeRED)



- Purpose of an Emergency Alert Buddy:
  - To quickly communicate and ensure participating neighbors are aware of a Nevada County CodeRED Emergency Alert ("Prepare to Evacuate," or "Immediate Mandatory Evacuation").
  - Completely voluntary buddy system (member-to-member assistance).
  - Mutually agreed upon by each participating neighbor.
  - No one participating is a professional First Responder. If you have a medical emergency, call 911.

#### Why have an Emergency Alert Buddy?

- Your CELL PHONE may be the only form of quick communication if the power is out and your phone system (cell and/or landline) needs electricity or the internet to work.
- "Cross-Pollinate" phone carriers and visibility in neighborhood.
  - During a fire, a cell phone tower (from ATT, Verizon, Sprint, T-Mobile, etc.) could be down.
  - One neighbor may see a fire down the street while the other neighbor can't.

#### **How it Works:**

- Establish 2 3 "Emergency Alert Buddies" who agree to be mutually responsible for contacting each other.
- If possible, choose your neighborhood's Alert Buddies who have:
  - 1) A landline that works if the power is out.
  - 2) Different cell phone carriers.
  - 3) Consider a buddy that lives on the other end of the street. One home may see a fire, while the other one can't.
  - 4) Consider a 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> buddy that lives in another part of Lake Wildwood. Neighbors who live on Wildwood Drive were alerted by honking horns. Others did not hear the horns during the last evacuation.

#### How it Works (cont.):

- During High Fire Season, keep your cell phone nearby, charged and ON. Have a back-up battery for when the power goes out.
- When you receive CodeRED Emergency Alert (text or call from 1-866-419-5000):
  - Call your Emergency Alert Buddy to inform them of the Alert.
  - If they don't answer and you have time, knock on their door until they answer it. Inform them of the Alert.
  - Ask your buddy if they need assistance in getting out of their home or need a ride.
  - Follow Evacuation Routes recommended by Sheriff/Fire Department.

If you have time, HONK YOUR CAR HORN (or an Air Horn) DRIVING THE STREET TO WAKE UP OTHER NEIGHBORS – So they can review their CodeRED Alerts too.

#### Emergency Alert Buddies – Sign up with each other:

Name	Address	Land Line Phone Number	Cell Phone (with area code)	Phone Carrier (ATT, Verizon,
		(can be used when power is out)		Sprint, T-Mobile, Etc).

NOTES:

