



A.D.A.P.T.

ATHERTON DISASTER AND PREPAREDNESS TEAM
Helping Atherton Residents Prepare For Major Emergencies™

www.getreadyatherton.org

What Is ADAPT (*Atherton Disaster Preparedness Team*):

A volunteer group of concerned Atherton citizens formed to collaborate with town officials, Menlo Park Fire, Atherton Police and other professional emergency responders and the California State “*Get Ready*” and FEMA’s/US Citizens’ Corps Ready.gov programs to help educate, communicate with and aid local residents in preparing for major local emergencies and larger scale natural disasters. ADAPT is a 501(c)(3) public charitable organization (#27-4995813 - Federal and California Registrations). ADAPT is sponsored by the Atherton Police Department and is linked to the Menlo Park Fire Protection District’s Community Crisis Management (CCM)/Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Program.

What is ADAPT’s History:

Atherton’s resident emergency preparation and organization was originally led by Bob Jenkins and other Atherton residents, starting in the mid-late 1990’s, who created a program to prepare the Town’s residents for a major disaster. Bob retired and moved out of the Town in the mid 2000’s and a group of citizens formed the ADAPT (Atherton Disaster and Preparedness Team) organization. In 2008, Atherton resident Scott Barnum assumed the ADAPT leadership and steadily enhanced its membership and neighborhood organization. During his tenure, ADAPT was incorporated as a 501(c)(3), a website was established (www.getreadyatherton.org), emergency equipment caches were funded and procured, the Town of Atherton Emergency Rollout document was created in November 2015 and the first ever Atherton Community Emergency Drill was conducted in August 2016. In December 2016, Tom Prussing was elected chairperson for ADAPT with Scott Barnum as vice-chairperson. Norma Fogelberg was elected treasurer. Susan Wigley-Warren assumed the role of ADAPT Secretary.

What Does ADAPT Do:

- Helps individual neighborhoods and households organize, develop emergency plans and improve readiness
- Disseminates relevant emergency preparedness educational materials, information and resources to the community
- Holds organizational and coordination meetings with police, fire, school and Town officials and neighborhoods
- Helps facilitate training exercises and disaster drills within the community
- Presents emergency training and education sessions to residents

When/Where Does ADAPT Meet:

- Monthly Meetings are typically held at 9am on the first Saturday of each month throughout the year
- Meetings are held at the Atherton Town Council Chambers, located at: 83 Ashfield Road, Atherton, CA 94027

Why Consider Joining/Contributing To/Contacting ADAPT:

- *Learn how* to get your own household and neighborhood better organized and prepared for major emergencies and disasters, like an earthquake.
- *Get the facts* and better understand the risks and implications of major disasters for our Town and area.
- *Help your community* while learning about how you can better support your family and home in an emergency
- ADAPT Contact: Tom Prussing – tprussing@gmail.com for questions and additional information

What Are ADAPT's 2017 Key Initiatives and Activities?

- **Ensure proper equipment-supplies for the Town's emergency disaster response equipment caches:**
 - Annual 2016-17 budget proposal to Town of Atherton for training-supplies approved/funded
 - Disaster Response Cache (DRC) trailer upgrades began in March 2017
 - Annual 2017-18 budget proposal to Town of Atherton for training-supplies submitted
- **Create relevant and updated preparedness information and educational materials for residents:**
 - A neighborhood emergency response pamphlet for all residents published
- **Develop a neighborhood Emergency Assembly Point plan** (pre-designated/identified meeting points)
 - Emergency Assembly Point signage for all 16 Atherton MPFPD Areas approved by the MPFPD and approved/funded by Town of Atherton. Test sign installation in Lindenwood completed.
 - Completion/sign installations by end September 2017 with communication plan to follow
- **Develop appropriate identification for ADAPT members:**
 - Created and distributed of ADAPT patches for use on clothing, go-bags, vests, etc.
 - Printed ADAPT ID badges for use in an emergency call-out approved and in development
- **Conduct and facilitate appropriate training and education for ADAPT members and Atherton residents within the community and with Menlo Park Fire Protection District:**
 - Holding/Have held monthly training sessions focused on neighborhood disaster rollout, emergency supplies, radio operations, triage and first aid applications conducted
 - Participated in special ADAPT CERT training in March 2017
 - Participated in the East Palo Alto Emergency Drill in March 2017
 - Participated in the Silver Dragon County-wide Emergency Drill in April 2017
 - Participated in the Facebook "Hero's Day" Expo in May 2017
 - Participated in the East Palo Alto Lifestyle Expo in May 2017
 - Participated in the Menlo Park Community Emergency Drill June 2017
 - Participating in the National Night Out Event at Holbrook-Palmer Park **August 1, 2017 6 - 8pm**
 - Conducting Atherton's SECOND fully integrated earthquake drill comprising Town officials, Atherton Police, Menlo Fire and citizen volunteers to be held **on Sept 9, 2017 8am – 1pm**

What Key Emergency Responders and Local Officials Have To Say About ADAPT:

ADAPT is a very dedicated group of community volunteers and professionals whose mission is to keep our community safe and secure in the event of a natural disaster or other large emergency. When disaster strikes, your emergency responder resources will be limited with long response times. I would like to ask each of you to work with your families to develop your own emergency preparedness plan and kits in order to potentially be on your own without normal services for 5 to 7 days. The officers and professional staff of the Atherton Police Department stand at the ready to partner with ADAPT volunteers and you to reduce risk and help us all be prepared for the future.

- Chief Steven McCulley - Atherton Police Department

"The public needs to plan and prepare for tomorrow – today! Don't assume that a major earthquake won't affect Atherton and Menlo Park. First Responders will be stretched beyond our normal capacity and in order to protect your family and prepare yourself it is critical that every household and individual have basic training, supplies and know what to do should a major event of any kind affect the region. A prepared community and citizen will most likely be a much safer and capable community and citizen. ADAPT's role to inform and educate local residents provides an important catalyst and component to our area's emergency preparedness and preparation efforts."

- Chief Harold Schapelhouman - Menlo Park Fire Department

"You don't know when or how long an emergency situation will hit so it is imperative everyone spend some time considering the "what if's" and their responses. At times like these all residents need to know how to respond for both themselves and their neighbors. Here in Atherton, we are fortunate to have residents who have the forethought and passion to think through what will be needed to work through an emergency and have established a network of residents who will mobilize to assist and help lead our recovery efforts. This team is the Atherton Disaster Preparedness Team (ADAPT). This flyer is but a snapshot of what they have been working on and preparing over the last few years. We encourage all residents to learn more about ADAPT and consider the steps they may need to take in the event of a major regional disaster. Additionally we encourage all residents to consider getting involved with our team of experts to further the work and stand ready to help. On behalf of the residents, thanks to those in ADAPT who have taken the first difficult steps for us all. Thank you for setting the framework for others to use and follow."

- Bill Widmer – Former Mayor/Current Atherton Town Council Member

July 2017