

# Disaster Preparedness

## Winter Storms and Evacuation

January 2025 Spanish / English

San Mateo County Department of Emergency Management







# Emergency Kit



7 to 14 days of supplies

Large storage (garbage bin, tub, chest on wheels)

Store in garage, basement, or closet

# Go Bag



vs.

# Emergency Kit



Accessible  
location

Cool, dry, dark  
area

Airtight  
containers

Replenish  
every 6 months



# SMC Alert

County's primary alert and warning system



Disaster Notifications (Flood, Fire, Severe Weather, Tsunami, Utilities, etc.)



Roadway Accidents & Emergency Evacuation Routes



Emergency Shelter Information



Optional: Crime & Major Road Closures



Register:



[www.SMCAAlert.info](http://www.SMCAAlert.info)

# Know Your Zone (Genasys Protect)

Easy to know your zone where you live, work, and play



**genasys Protect**  
FORMERLY ZONEHAVEN AWARE

**Search**

Enter an address or Zone ID into the search bar to check the status of the area

Search an address

**MY CURRENT ZONE**

Zone  
**RWC-E022**  
Downtown, Centennial & Stambaugh-Heller

Status  
**NORMAL**

Current location [More details >](#)

# Know Your Zone (Genasys Protect)

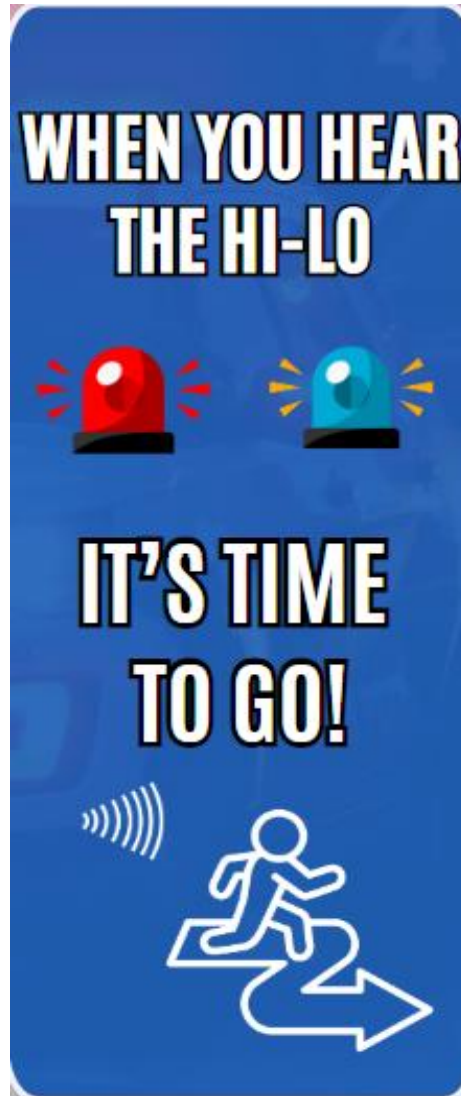
Search for your Zone where you live, work, and play



The screenshot displays the Genasys Protect app interface. On the left is a navigation sidebar with options: Search, Fires (highlighted), About, and Download App. The main content area shows a 'Back' button, the fire name 'SODA', and an update timestamp 'Updated: 12:53am 12/23/2024'. Below this are four data cards: 'CONTAINMENT %' at 100%, 'START DATE' as 12/21/2024, 'ACREAGE' as 419, and 'COUNTIES AFFECTED' listed as San Luis Obispo, US-CA. On the right, a map shows the fire's location with a red fire icon. A pop-up window titled 'Fire' provides details: 'SODA' with a last updated date of 12/23/24 and location 'State - CA'. The map includes labels for zones MRC-285, KRN-287, SLC-E366, SLC-E367, and KRN-293, along with a 1-mile scale bar and zoom controls.

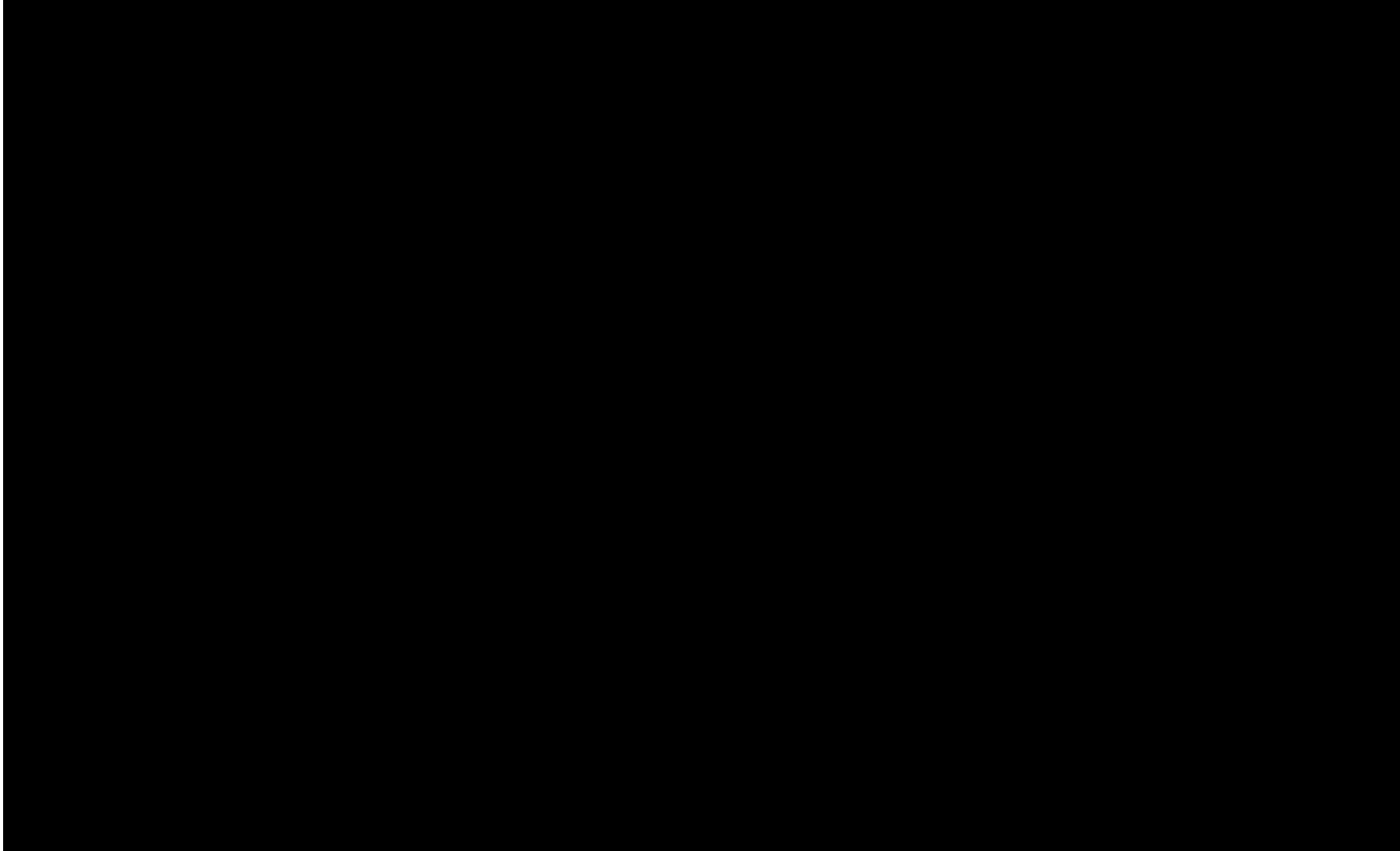
# Hi-Lo Time to Go

Hi-Lo Siren is only used when evacuation is necessary



# What does the Hi-Lo Siren sound like?

When you hear the **Hi-Lo** = It's Time to Go!



# During an Earthquake



Stay until the shaking stops

Source: Shakeout.org



Inside 

In Bed 

Outdoors 

Driving 



# If You Are On the Coast



**DROP!**      **COVER!**      **HOLD ON!**  
Protect Yourself During Earthquakes



**GO TO HIGH GROUND OR INLAND!**  
The Shaking is Your Tsunami Warning



**STAY THERE!**  
Tsunami Waves May Arrive for Hours

# Winter Storm Preparedness

Winter storms can disrupt communication, electricity, water, sewer, and transportation

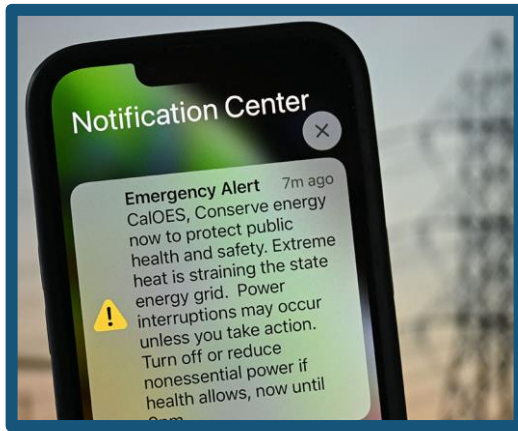


Road washed out in Soquel, CA in 2023. Source: NPR

# Before a Winter Storm



For detailed steps, visit [smcgov.org/dem/flooding-preparedness-and-response](https://smcgov.org/dem/flooding-preparedness-and-response)



## REGISTER

Register for alerts  
SMC Alert and  
Know Your Zone  
(Genasys Protect)



## CLEAN

Clean gutters,  
grates, and  
sewer intakes



## MAINTAIN

Replace windshield wipers  
and tires if needed. Fill  
radiator overflow container  
with "anti-freeze".



## MONITOR

Monitor reliable  
weather and news  
sources  
(NWS Bay Area)



Pick up sandbags at [your](#) city stations using proof of address. For unincorporated areas, sandbags can be picked up at these locations: [smcgov.org/publicworks/sandbags](https://smcgov.org/publicworks/sandbags)

# During a Winter Storm



**Monitor**

**Evacuate**

**Safety**

# After a Winter Storm



Check yourself for injuries. Text your out-of-area contact and gather companions



Wear appropriate clothes outside (rain boots, gloves, eye protection)



Check for hazards (fallen trees; movement of plants, trees, ground or fence)

- Report fallen trees & ground movement to city Department of Public Works
- Report fallen trees in powerline to 9-1-1, then PG&E (1-800-743-5000)



If home is unsafe, do not enter. Call 2-1-1 for shelter and call city for inspection



If flood water has entered your property, follows these steps for safe cleanup:  
[cdc.gov/disasters/floods/after.html](https://www.cdc.gov/disasters/floods/after.html)      [cdc.gov/mold/cleanup.htm](https://www.cdc.gov/mold/cleanup.htm)

# Additional Resources



## Financial Resources

- Renter's insurance
- Flood and earthquake insurance for Homeowners

## Grants for retrofitting homes



**Earthquake  
Soft Story Grant**  
(open now)



**Earthquake  
Bolt & Brace**  
(opens Jan. 2025)

## More Information

- [EarthquakeCountry.org](https://EarthquakeCountry.org)
- [EarthquakeAuthority.com](https://EarthquakeAuthority.com)
- [Ready.gov](https://Ready.gov)
- [ListosCalifornia.org](https://ListosCalifornia.org)
- [caloes.ca.gov](https://caloes.ca.gov)
- [FEMA.gov](https://FEMA.gov)
- [SMCgov.org/dem](https://SMCgov.org/dem)



# Thank you

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[www.SMCgov.org/dem](http://www.SMCgov.org/dem)

