

September Monthly Awareness Toolkit: Disaster Preparedness



As we are seeing before our eyes the path and destruction of Hurricane Harvey, it is crucial more than ever, that we inform and educate our communities about the importance of disaster preparedness.

There are many ways and methods to use to become disaster prepared. This toolkit will help guide you to ideas and resources on how to be prepared and what your chapter can do to help.



Ready

Prepare. Plan. Stay Informed..

The host of National Disaster Preparedness month is Ready.gov, a public service campaign created by FEMA (Federal Emergency Management Agency) that is designed to educate the public about how to prepare for, and respond to, all types of emergencies.

“The goal of the campaign is to promote preparedness through public involvement”.

The campaign has four focus points:

1. Stay Informed

Knowing what emergencies can affect the area that you live in and how to be prepared for them when they times comes.

2. Make a family emergency plan

It is essential to have all of family on board with what to do and where to go when and emergency strikes.

3. Build an emergency supply kit

Being prepared also includes having all of the essential items one will need for at a few days.

4. Get Involved

Take action and get involved with your community to help others around you be prepared for emergencies.

September is National Disaster Preparedness Month

Ready has created a campaign for the month of September. Each week focus is something new and has ideas for what your chapter can do to help. Here is an outline of the month, for the full details please visit the website <https://www.ready.gov/september>.

2017 Weekly Themes

Week 1: September 1-9

Make a Plan for Yourself, Family and Friends

Make an Emergency Plan.

Sign up for alerts and warnings in your area.

Learn your evacuation zone and have an evacuation plan.

Plan financially for the possibility of disaster.

Week 2: September 10-16

Plan to Help Your Neighbor and Community

Learn skills you need to help yourself and others until help can arrive.

Check on your neighbors.

Talk with your Power Company about utility safety.

On National Preparedness Day, Friday, September, 15, hold an event.

Week 3: September 17-23

Practice and Build Out Your Plans

Complete an Emergency Financial First Aid Kit (EFFAK)

Maintain emergency savings for use in case of an emergency

Participate in an emergency drill

Know how to access community resources (e.g., shelters, food banks)

Week 4: September 24-30

Get Involved! Be a Part of Something Larger

Get your chapter prepared for an emergency.

Have your chapter help your community be prepared.

What can your chapter do?

It's Easy! Just follow this toolkit and the resources online at <https://www.ready.gov/> to help you and your chapter raise awareness about Disaster Preparedness.

Some simple ideas to help out around your community:

- ❖ Create disaster kits for families in to have at home.
- ❖ Educate the public about how to be properly prepared.
- ❖ Host a workshop on how to create a family evacuation plan.
- ❖ Raise money/donations to send to those affected by Hurricane Harvey.

There are so many other resources out there to help as well! Here are just a few:

<https://www.fema.gov/>

<http://www.redcross.org/>

<https://emergency.cdc.gov/index.asp>



References

Ready. (2017). The Department of Homeland Security. Retrieved from <https://www.ready.gov/>

FEMA (Federal Emergency Management Agency). (2017). The Department of Homeland Security. Retrieved from <https://www.fema.gov/>