

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS NEWSLETTER



DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AND SECURITY

National Preparedness Month

Since September 11, 2001, the U.S. Government has taken steps to encourage all citizens to make their own survival preparations. In 2004, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) launched the annual campaign, now known as National Preparedness Month, to remember the events of September 11th and highlight the importance of being prepared to the nation. The 2022 theme is “A Lasting Legacy. The life you’ve built is worth protecting. Prepare for disasters to create a lasting legacy for you and your family.” Each week in September, we will focus on a different aspect of preparedness for individuals, families, and communities.

Here are the weekly topics to follow:

Week 1: Make an Emergency Plan (September 1 - 3)

Week 2: Practice Your Plan (September 4 - 10)

Week 3: Assemble Your Emergency Kits (September 11 - 17)

Week 4: Stay Informed During an Emergency (September 18 - 24)

Week 5: Get Involved (September 25 - 30)

DEMS is also launching the 2022 Emergency Preparedness Survey to assess the culture of personal disaster preparedness and resilience in Fairfax County.

Survey link:

<https://survey123.arcgis.com/share/fd34b75072184e5daf72eb338421b3b9?portalUrl=https://Fairfaxcountygis.maps.arcgis.com>



Week 1: Make an Emergency Plan – Start It (September 1 - 3)

Put a plan together by calling a family meeting and discuss the questions to start!

- Discuss your most concerning hazards and what basic actions you will take for each likely disaster.
- Figure out how you will determine whether to shelter-in-place or evacuate, and where you will meet up if needed. For different situations, you might consider different places to shelter or meet.
- Discuss how you will communicate if you are separated.
- Identify an out-of-area contact in case local communication lines are not useable.

Planning Considerations – To ensure personal safety in emergency situations, persons with disabilities, children, older adults, and care providers should tailor their plan to meet their needs.

TIP: Use the Emergency Plan Template in the Community Emergency Response Guide (CERG) to help you write your plan! Have kids? Use the Kid’s CERG or the Youth CERG to bring it to their level. Link: [kidscerg.pdf \(fairfaxcounty.gov\)](#)

CERG Link: [Ready Fairfax | Emergency \(fairfaxcounty.gov\)](#)

Request an Emergency Preparedness Workshop



The Fairfax County Department of Emergency Management and Security can conduct a workshop (virtual or in person) to prepare your networks for an emergency. Submit your request today: www.fairfaxcounty.gov/emergencymanagement/presentation-requests

Workshop Topics:

1. Personal Preparedness using the Community Emergency Response Guide (CERG).
2. 5 Step Neighborhood Guide Workshop – Learn how to prepare where you live!
3. Business Disaster Resilience Workshop – Learn how to prepare your business!
4. Youth Preparedness (Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts, schools, etc.).

National Awareness Day – September 25th

“If you see something, say something” is a national campaign that raises public awareness of the importance of reporting suspicious activity to state and local law enforcement.

By reporting suspicious activity, you play a role in keeping your community safe. Spread the word on how to recognize and report suspicious activity on #SeeSayDay.

What is suspicious behavior?

- Unusual items or situations such as an unattended bag or a vehicle parked in an odd location.
- Eliciting or gathering information, such as a person questioning about building operations or security at a level beyond curiosity.
- Surveillance that goes beyond casual or professional interest such as repeat and/or prolonged observation.

Report suspicious activity:

- If there is an emergency, call 9-1-1
- To report suspicious activity in Virginia call 877-4VA-TIPS (877-482-8477)
 - WHO did you see?
 - WHAT did you see?
 - WHEN did you see it?
 - WHERE did it occur?
 - WHY is it suspicious?

Upcoming Events!

www.fairfaxcounty.gov/emergency/readyfairfax

National Preparedness Month
Upcoming Events

- 7 SEPT** 7:00 PM - 8:00 PM
DEMS Monthly Webinar
Join our monthly webinar to learn more about National Preparedness Month!
- 8 SEPT** 3:00 PM - 4:00 PM
AARP Emergency Preparedness Webinar
Join us for a special webinar to learn more about preparing for disaster and emergencies in our area.
- 10 - 11 SEPT** ALL DAY
Ready, Set, Know @ Burke Festival
Come learn how to be the help until help arrives, learn hands only CPR, see a stop the bleed demo, and participate in a 9/11 Day of Service Project!

9/11 Day of Service at the Burke Festival

The Department of Emergency Management and Security (DEMS) will have a booth at the Burke Festival called “Ready, Set, Know” on September 10 – 11 where we will host a 9/11 Day of Service project. Individuals and families are welcome to stop by and pack some Emergency Preparedness Starter Kits that will be distributed in the community throughout the year. There is no registration required, just stop by the “Ready, Set, Know” tent and lend a hand!

SEPTEMBER IS NATIONAL PREPAREDNESS MONTH.

Share why you report suspicious activity using #SeeSayDay and #WhyISeeSay on September 25th.

if you SEE SAY something something

Honor. Serve. Unite.

This #911Day honor those we lost by doing an act of service for your community.