

ROLLING MEADOWS EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT



September is **“NATIONAL PREPAREDNESS MONTH”**

National Preparedness Month (NPM), recognized each September, provides an opportunity to remind us that we all must prepare ourselves and our families now and throughout the year. This NPM will focus on planning, with an overarching theme: **Disasters Happen. Prepare Now. Learn How.**

Take time to learn lifesaving skills – such as CPR and first aid, check your insurance policies and coverage for the hazards you may face, such as flood, earthquakes, and tornados. Make sure to consider the costs associated with disasters and save for an emergency. Also, know how to take practical safety steps like shutting off water and gas.

The devastating hurricanes and wildfires of 2017 reminded the nation of the importance of preparing for disasters. Often, we will be the first ones in our communities to take action after a disaster strikes and before first responders arrive, so it is important to prepare in advance to help yourself and your community.

“Disasters Happen. Prepare Now. Learn How” That’s the theme for the 2018 National Preparedness Month which begins September 1. While we never know when the next disaster will strike, everyone can take actions to be better prepared for the unexpected.

The goal of National Preparedness Month is to increase the overall number of individuals, families and communities that engage in preparedness actions at home, work, business and places of worship.

Weekly themes during September will focus on various preparedness actions.

They include the following:

Week 1: September 1-8
Make and Practice Your Plan

Week 2: September 9-15*
Learn Life Saving Skills

*September 15 is a **National Day of Action**

Week 3: September 16-22
Check Your Insurance Coverage

Week 4: September 23-29
Save For an Emergency

As we watch neighbors helping neighbors in disasters, it should be apparent that it takes a lot of people in addition to the First Responders to save lives and property. You should be prepared to be self- sufficient for the first 72 to 96 hours after a disaster or major emergencies.

The City of Rolling Meadows Emergency Management Team has provided the following links to documents to help develop your plans.

[Preparing Makes Sense – Get Ready Now](#)

Emergency Planning ([English](#) & [Spanish](#))

Disaster Kit ([English](#) & [Spanish](#))

Family Communication Plan ([English](#) & [Spanish](#))

Preparedness Tips for Functional Needs ([Animals](#), [Care Givers](#), [Cognitive](#), [Health Card](#), [Hearing](#), [Life Support](#), [Mental Health](#), [Mobility](#), [Seniors](#), [Visual Impairments](#))

[Severe Weather Preparedness](#)

[National Weather Service](#)

[Lightning Safety Awareness Guide](#)

Additional information can be found at:

www.ready.illinois.gov

www.redcross.org

www.state.il.us/iema

www.ready.gov