



SEPTEMBER!!!

National Preparedness Month

This September, National Preparedness Month will focus on planning, with an overarching theme “Disasters Don’t Plan Ahead. You Can.”

We should all take action to prepare! We are all able to help first responders in our community by training how to respond during an emergency and what to do when disaster strikes — where we live, work, and visit. The goal of NPM is to increase the overall number of individuals, families, and communities that engage in preparedness actions at home, work, business, school, and place of worship.

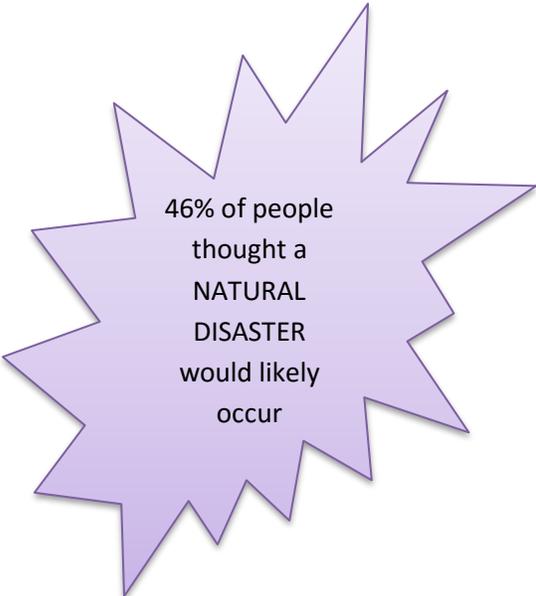
2017 Weekly Themes

Week 1: READY... Build a kit. Make a plan. Be informed.

Many emergencies happen without warning, so it is important that you take steps ahead of time to keep you and your loved ones safe and healthy. One important way you can prepare is by [having a kit ready](#) in case you do not have access to food, water, or electricity for several days after a disaster. In addition to building a kit, talk to your loved ones about an [emergency plan](#) with the steps you all will take in different types of emergencies and how you will contact one another. Finally, [stay informed](#) to make sure you get the information you need when an emergency happens, especially the types of emergencies that might happen in your area. Register for [Smart 911](#) to plan ahead.



48 % of people do not have an
EMERGENCY KIT in their home.



46% of people
thought a
**NATURAL
DISASTER**
would likely
occur

Week 2: STEADY...Review your plans and update your kit.

Preparing does not stop after you have your kit ready and your emergency plan in place. In a real emergency, you may become overwhelmed or confused, so it is important to practice your emergency plan – review the plans and have practice drills with your whole family. Review and replace the contents of your emergency kit every six months. Be sure to check expiration dates on food, water, medicine, and batteries and add any personal items that are unique to your needs.

Week 3: SHOW... Inspire others to prepare.

Research shows that talking about preparedness [increases the likelihood](#) of others taking steps to get prepared. Talk to your family and friends about the important steps they can take to be prepared. Be a preparedness role model – volunteer in your community, take a first aid and CPR class, or share a photo of your emergency kit or [a selfie\(https://www.cdc.gov/phpr/npm/safeandwellselfie.htm\)](#) of you and your family at your emergency meeting place.



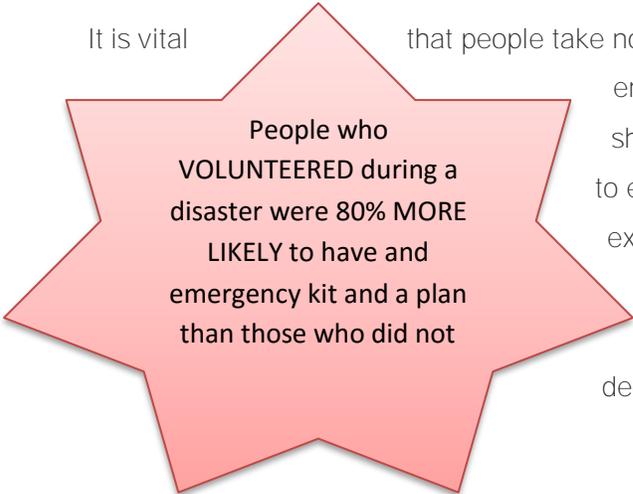
Less than Half of
People talked
PREPAREDNESS
with family &
friends in the past
2 YEARS

Week 4: GO! Take immediate action to save lives.

It is vital

that people take not only immediate but also the appropriate protective action when an

emergency happens. Local officials will ask you to *shelter in place* (take shelter in a basement or windowless interior room) in some situations; and to evacuate your home, workplace or community in response in others. For example, a wildfire or an approaching hurricane. Know when to go (or stay), where to go, how to get there and what to do BEFORE an emergency. The most important thing is to take immediate and decisive action.



People who
VOLUNTEERED during a
disaster were **80% MORE**
LIKELY to have and
emergency kit and a plan
than those who did not

<https://www.cdc.gov/phpr/npm/powerofpreparedness2017.htm>