

## WHICH HAZARD CAN IMPACT YOUR COMMUNITY?

-  Earthquakes
-  Floods
-  Hurricanes
-  Tornadoes
-  Wildfires
-  Winter storms

**Your community is susceptible to all of those hazards and more. Unexpected weather can strike at any time.**

- A 5.8 magnitude earthquake struck Virginia and was felt across more than a dozen states and in several Canadian provinces in August 2011
- An F3 tornado that injured 30 people touched down in the Camp Lejeune area in April 2011
- Two tornadoes touched down in northern California in March 2014
- Snow and ice storms hit the Florida panhandle in January 2014

No one knows when a disaster is going to strike so take action now to prepare!

Join America's PrepareAthon!, a national campaign to increase community preparedness. Planning and preparing can make a big difference in staying safe during and after a disaster.

## WHAT CAN I DO?

- Register to participate in America's PrepareAthon!
- Plan a local community or organizational preparedness event
- Participate in online discussion forums
- Learn how to prepare for disasters
- Develop a preparedness plan for your family, community, or organization
- Take the training to become a Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) volunteer

## ARE YOU READY?

Disasters can occur at any time and in any place. Know which disasters may strike your community, how to prepare for them and how to stay safe during them.

**September is National Preparedness Month**  
BE DISASTER AWARE, TAKE ACTION TO PREPARE

Keep your family safe by participating in America's PrepareAthon!

**Sept. 30 – National Day of Action**



## WHERE CAN I GET MORE INFORMATION?

For more information about disasters, preparedness and ways to get involved in America's PrepareAthon! please visit [Ready.gov/prepare](http://Ready.gov/prepare).

AMERICA'S  
**PrepareAthon!**  
BE SMART. TAKE PART. PREPARE.

## ARE YOU READY?

If you're not, you should follow the universal building blocks of preparedness

- Be informed
- Get involved
- Make a plan
- Build a kit

## BE INFORMED

Learn about the hazards that your community is susceptible to and how to prepare for and respond to them. Knowing what to do before, during and after an emergency could make a difference when seconds count.

Did you know that earthquakes, floods, tornadoes, wildfires and winter storms can occur during any season and can happen in any U.S. state or territory? Hurricanes strike coastal areas, but the weather damage can be felt several hundred miles inland.

To learn about these hazards and how to survive them, please visit [Ready.gov/prepare](https://www.ready.gov/prepare).

## GET INVOLVED

Once you understand the hazards and how to respond to them, get involved! Create a family plan and build an emergency kit. Join **America's PrepareAthon** event by organizing or participating in a hazard event or preparedness fair. Visit [Ready.gov/prepare](https://www.ready.gov/prepare) to find an activity near you.

## MAKE A PLAN

Disasters often strike without warning. When they occur, your family members may not be together. That's why it's important to already have a plan in place when a disaster strikes – how will you get to a safe place, how will you contact your family members, where will you meet up with your family.

## DEVELOP A FAMILY EMERGENCY PLAN

- Designate a family member for everyone to text, call or email following an emergency. It may be easier to reach someone who lives in another town.
- Create a family contact list and make sure everyone has a copy of it in their wallet, purse or backpack.
- Create an escape plan that has two ways out of every room and practice it twice a year.
- Select two emergency meeting spots -- one near your home and one outside of your neighborhood in case you can't get to your home. Practice getting to both meeting spots.
- Know where the closest police and fire stations and hospitals are and the fastest way to get to them.
- Have emergency supply kits in your home and your car.

## BUILD A KIT

Put together an emergency supply kit now, before an emergency strikes. The kit should include supplies you will need if the power is out, water supplies were cut and grocery stores are not open. You can add to your supplies over time as your budget permits.

## A BASIC EMERGENCY SUPPLY KIT INCLUDES:

- ✓ Water, one gallon of water per person per day for at least three days, for drinking and sanitation
- ✓ Food, at least a three-day supply of non-perishable food; can opener if kit contains canned food
- ✓ Battery-powered or hand crank flashlight, radio, a NOAA Weather Radio and cell phone charger; extra batteries
- ✓ Medical supplies – a first aid kit, prescription and non-prescription medicine
- ✓ Whistle to signal for help
- ✓ Dust mask, to filter contaminated air and plastic sheeting and duct tape to shelter-in-place
- ✓ Moist towelettes, garbage bags and plastic ties for personal sanitation
- ✓ Local maps
- ✓ Clothing and blankets
- ✓ Cash in case ATMs are not working