



Loudoun County, Virginia

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NEWS RELEASE

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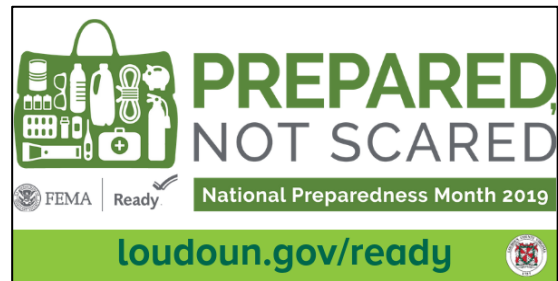
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Be 'Prepared, Not Scared.' September is National Preparedness Month

Loudoun County encourages residents and businesses to take steps during September – National Preparedness Month – to prepare for all types of emergencies. This year's theme is "Prepared, Not Scared."

"We want people to take action to prepare themselves and their families for the many types of hazards that could affect Loudoun County. Being 'prepared, not scared' will help residents have peace of mind in the knowledge that they and their family members know what to do in case of a disaster," said Loudoun County Coordinator of Emergency Management Kevin Johnson.



Like any community, Loudoun County can experience many types of hazards, such as tornadoes, blizzards, high winds and power outages. Loudoun is also vulnerable to the effects of hurricanes, which can produce extensive flooding hundreds of miles from the coast. Steps to take to prepare for emergencies include:

Make a Plan

Your family may not be together when disaster strikes, so it is important to plan ahead for how to get to a safe place, contact loved ones and reunite once the emergency is over.

- Use [online resources](#) to put together a plan for your family and talk about what you will do in different situations; your plan should include contact information, evacuation routes and meeting locations.
- Include finances in your plan. Keep some cash on hand in case of emergencies, since ATMs and credit card readers won't always be available.
- Discuss [household plans for disasters](#) that may affect your area and plan where to go.
- Include [pets and livestock](#) in your emergency plans.

Build a Kit

Being prepared means having your own food, water and other supplies to last for at least 72 hours. A disaster supplies kit is a collection of basic items your household may need in the event of an emergency. Your kit should include:

- First aid supplies
- Food and water, including pet food
- Batteries
- Cell phone chargers

MORE

Be Informed

Know the types of [hazards](#) that may occur and how you will receive information before, during and after an emergency.

- Sign up for [Alert Loudoun](#) to get emergency information and other Loudoun County news and information.
- Follow Loudoun County Government on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).
- Monitor local weather forecasts from the [National Weather Service](#). Consider getting a NOAA weather radio.

Throughout National Preparedness Month, follow Loudoun County Government on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) for tips on preparing yourself and your family for all types of hazards.

For more information and resources on preparing for emergencies, visit loudoun.gov/ready.

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