

September is “National Preparedness Month”

Hazards come in many forms, occur in many locations, and will likely affect everyone at some point in their lives. The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) launched the first National Preparedness Month (NPM) in 2004, as an event meant to remind everyone that being prepared will keep you safe. This year’s theme is: **Start a Conversation**.

1. **LEARN** – Think about what natural disasters or events could impact in your area. Consider weather events like floods, hurricanes, or tornados; household scenarios like mold, generator use, or lead; and community concerns like pandemics or terrorist attacks.
2. **PLAN** – Set aside time throughout the month to calmly discuss and create your emergency action plans. Don’t forget to include children, seniors, disabled individuals, and pets! Each week in September focuses on a different issue ([weather.gov/riw/prepare](https://www.weather.gov/riw/prepare)).
3. **TAKE ACTION** – Build a supply kit and get involved in your local community disaster preparation events. Both are great ways to ensure you have the needed food, medical, and generic supplies necessary to survive until help arrives.

Start a Conversation

Starting a conversation today can help you and your family to take more actions to prepare.

[Learn More About National Preparedness Month](https://www.ready.gov/)

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Are you ready? For additional information, informational resources/webinars, and emergency kit planning see:

- [FEMA.gov – Celebrating National Preparedness Month](https://www.fema.gov/celebrating-national-preparedness-month)
- [EPA.gov – September is Preparedness Month](https://www.epa.gov/September-is-preparedness-month)
- [NSC.org – Emergency Preparedness: Are You Ready for a Disaster?](https://www.nsc.org/emergency-preparedness-are-you-ready-for-a-disaster)
- [ready.gov – National Preparedness Month](https://www.ready.gov/national-preparedness-month)



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For additional information on the SMCX’s services, please visit the SMCX-hosted website at: <https://www.smscx.org/>.