



Ready Neighbor News

www.ashlandcert.org

September 2020
Neighbors Helping Neighbors...

Inside this issue:

National Prep Month	1
NPM ...continued...	2
NPM ..continued...	3
Smoke & Wildfire info	3
Training Calendar	4

Next Meeting Dates:

General Meeting:
 September 9 - Remote Topic:
 Basic Training / planning.
 Meeting starts at 6 PM with
 open conversation at 5:30.

Leadership Meeting:
 September 23 - Remote Topic:
 Basic Training planning.
 Meeting starts at 6 PM with
 open conversation at 5:30.



September is National Preparedness Month

National Preparedness Month (NPM) is recognized each September to promote family and community disaster planning now and throughout the year. As our nation continues to respond to COVID-19, there is no better time to be involved than this September. FEMA Region 10 plans to amplify the weekly themes of NPM with a focus on how you can prepare at home. The end of the month will provide a natural transition into #ShakeOut messaging, focused on earthquake preparedness, as the annual ShakeOut drill will take place on Thursday, October 15 at 10:15 a.m. (next month).

FEMA’s 2020 NPM theme: **“Disasters Don’t Wait. Make Your Plan Today”**.

Week 1 (Sept. 1 – 5): Make a Plan

Week 2 (Sept. 6 – 12): Build a Kit

Week 3 (Sept. 13 – 19): Prepare for Disasters Know the Hazards in Your Area

Week 4 (Sept. 20 – 26): Prepared youth make for a more prepared community

2020 Key Messages

The COVID-19 pandemic has brought emergency planning and response to the forefront of public consciousness. One thing COVID-19 has taught us all is that disasters and emergencies do not wait for a convenient time to happen.

As Americans continue to be affected by the pandemic, they may not be thinking about natural disaster preparedness or even know how best to prepare during this unprecedented time. National Preparedness Month is observed each September and is an opportunity to highlight how to prepare for disasters that could happen at any time.

Preparedness starts with everyone knowing their risks so they can take appropriate actions before, during, and after a disaster.

Preparedness starts with everyone knowing their risks so they can take appropriate actions before, during, and after a disaster.

Week 1 (Sept 1-5): Make a Plan

Take action today to plan for any emergency or disaster. Visit [Ready.gov/Plan](https://www.ready.gov/Plan) for more information.

Make a plan that includes how you will receive local alerts and warning, where you will go if you need to evacuate, and how you will communicate with family



Disaster preparedness month...continued...

and friends during disasters.

Tailor your plan to the specific needs in your household, such as care of children, business, pets or specific needs like operating medical equipment.

Week 2 (Sept. 6-12): Build a Kit

A disaster supply kit is a collection of basic items your household may need in the event of an emergency or available “to go” if you have to evacuate in a hurry.

After an emergency, you may need to survive on your own for several days. Being prepared means having your own food, water, and other supplies to last for several days for each person in your home.

By having a disaster supply kit with essential items, you can be better prepared—no matter where or when disaster strikes.

Start building your kit today! Visit [Ready.gov/Kit](https://www.ready.gov/kit) for more information.

Week 3 (Sept. 13-19): Prepare for Disasters

There are many low-to-no cost things you can do today that will help you in the event of a disaster or emergency, including measures everyone should take during the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.

You can limit the impacts that disasters have on you and your family by taking steps to:

- Know what disasters and hazards could affect your area and learn what to do before, during, and after each type of emergency.
- Have important documents lined up, from insurance coverage to health/medical records
- Learn how to make your home more prepared for emergencies, both structurally and non-structurally
- Sign up for emergency alerts so that during a disaster or emergency, you receive immediate life-saving information from your state and local municipality and are prepared to act fast
- Ensure your home has the right types of insurance coverage based on where you live. Consider purchasing home-owners, renters, health, life, and/or flood insurance to protect yourself and your property

If you live in an area that is prone to earthquakes, consider making improvements to your building to fix structural issues that could cause your building to collapse during an earthquake. Visit [Ready.gov/earthquakes](https://www.ready.gov/earthquakes) for more information including what to do if an earthquake happens when you are in a car or playing outside. A standard homeowner's insurance policy does not cover earthquake damage. Consider obtaining an earthquake insurance policy.

If you live in an area prone to wildfires, create a defensive space around your home by clearing debris or articles that could easily fuel the flames. Visit: [Ready.gov/wildfires](https://www.ready.gov/wildfires) for more information.

Help to slow the spread of COVID-19 in your community by wearing a face covering.

You and your family can help your community plan for and recover after a disaster. It may look differently now with the pandemic, but there are still plenty of ways. Complete the survey to help Ashland create its first professional Evacuation Plan: <http://cityofashlandsurvey.kld.engineering/>

Week 4 (Sept. 20-26): Prepared youth make for a more prepared community

Because young people experience the same hazards as adults do, they are an important part of building a national culture of preparedness; after all, children under the age of 18 make up nearly one-quarter of the entire U.S. population.

Disaster preparedness month...continued...

Ready.gov/Kids has the educational tools and information to teach youth about disaster and emergency preparedness.

We have a lot to learn from our youth, and they from us, so let's work together across ages and generations to get better prepared.

Disasters affect everyone, and it's important to include our youth in preparing for them; children who are prepared may experience less anxiety.

Talk with young people about the types of disasters that can happen and include them in family emergency planning.



**Disasters Don't Wait.
Make Your Plan Today**

National Preparedness Month 2020

Smoke and Wildfire information

Smoke has arrived in the Rogue Valley and it's more important than ever during COVID that you protect yourself by wearing a proper mask. Homemade masks are generally insufficient to protect against smoke as the particulates can seep through the fabric. Cloth masks are still necessary in helping to slow the spread of COVID by reducing the wearer's ability to expel droplets and providing minor protection against contact with other's droplets. N-95 masks are the best protection from the harmful particulates in the smoke. Earlier this year, folks were urged to save N-95 masks for first responders and obtaining these types of masks may be difficult. A home HEPA filter will offer relief indoors while at home. Those who are sensitive or have medical conditions making them more susceptible to the harmful effects of smoke should stay indoors as much as possible. If possible, use air conditioning rather than fans which only move hazardous smoke around.

Before heading outdoors check the air quality to know if it's safe. You can visit several websites to learn more including:

Oregon Smoke Blogspot: <http://oregonsmoke.blogspot.com/>

Oregon Dept of Environmental Quality Monitoring data: <https://oraqi.deq.state.or.us/home/map>

City of Ashland: <https://www.ashland.or.us/SectionIndex.asp?SectionID=534>

If you are concerned about area fires you can obtain more information by visiting the following web sites:

Incident information System: <https://inciweb.nwccg.gov/>

Oregon Dept of Forestry BlogSpot: <http://www.swofire.com/>

Oregon Fire Tracker: <https://www.oregon.gov/ODF/Fire/pages/FireStats.aspx>

Let's all STAY SAFE AT HOME.

CERT 2020 Calendar of Events

January 2020	February 2020	March 2020
Mental Health First Aid – January 4 General Meeting - January 8 (Stop the Bleed) Leadership Meeting - January 22 (Task Books)	Response to Active Shooter Event – Feb. 8 Disaster Recovery Planning – February 10 General Meeting - February 12 (MYN) Leadership Meeting - February 26 (New CERT Curriculum)	WFA NOLS – March 7-8 General Meeting - March 11 (GPS Units) Leadership Meeting - March 25 (Basic Training Planning) HAM EXAM – date TBA
April 2020	May 2020	June 2020
Basic Training – CANCELED General Meeting – April 8 (Lyme Disease & Tick Talk) Leadership Meeting - April 22 (CERT Planning)	General Meeting – May 13 (CERT Skills) EM Permaculture Tips & Tricks – TBA Leadership Meeting - May 27 (CERT & COVID) Nixle EM Alerting Campaign – TBA	General Meeting - June 10 (Radio Skills) Leadership Meeting - June 24 (Event Planning) ODOT EM Traffic Flagger – TBA in 2021
July 2020	August 2020	September 2020
Parade Support – CANCELED General Meeting - July 8 (Base Tours) Leadership Meeting - July 22 (Parade AAR) Leadership Training Retreat – TBA in 2021	General Meeting - August 12 (Urban Emergency Preparedness) Leadership Meeting - August 26 (Activating Bases & ICS) COA Evacuation Drill – date TBA	Hosler Dam Drill – September 9 General Meeting – Sept. 9 (Basic Planning) **All-Bases Radio Exercise - Sept. 19** Leadership Meeting - September 23 (Basic Training Planning)
October 2020	November 2020	December 2020
Basic Training - October 8, 9, 10, 22, 23, 24 Jackson County Fire District 5 Open House October 14 5pm-7pm Leadership Meeting - October 28 (Basic AAR)	Team Leadership Training – Nov. 7 Basic Graduation – Tuesday, November 10 Leadership Meeting – Tuesday, November 17 (Annual Training Planning Session)	CERT Appreciation Night December 9 - 5:30 to 8:30 PM Holiday Season ~ Training Stand Down

Note: ****Calendar items may be modified and are subject to cancellation. ****

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TO: