

National Preparedness Month 2011

This September: A Time to Remember. A Time to Prepare.

National Preparedness Month is the Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) annual campaign to encourage Americans to take steps to prepare for emergencies in their homes, schools, organizations, businesses, and tribal communities. National Preparedness Month is sponsored by FEMA's *Ready* Campaign in partnership with the Citizen Corps, FEMA's grassroots strategy to bring together government and community leaders to involve all citizens in emergency preparedness planning. The goal for this September's National Preparedness Month is to turn awareness into action by motivating all Americans to make and practice an emergency plan. FEMA relies on federal, tribal and local partnerships and its Coalition Members to help bring this call to action to all communities throughout the U.S. As the first wave of response to every emergency and disaster of all kinds, the tribal community will play a key role in National Preparedness Month.

National Preparedness Month Coalition

Sign up to be a National Preparedness Month Coalition Member! Coalition Membership is easy, free, and important and is open to all tribal communities, individuals, businesses, and organizations. Register your community at community.fema.gov. As a member, you'll have access to tons of information and ready-to-use templates and messaging, including the ability to connect with the thousands of other members across the country. Help us encourage everyone to sign up at community.fema.gov. Here are a few easy ways to participate as a Coalition Member:

✔ Leverage Existing Events

Participate in events and meetings that already exist within your community, through tribal rodeos, Pow Wows, community meetings or general membership meetings. Whether it's offering to talk about preparedness or having a representative available to talk to community members and pass out information, tapping into something that is already planned and scheduled is a great way to reach members of your community. Be sure to post your preparedness activity at community.fema.gov to help others in your community find you.

✔ Host an Event, Meeting, or Workshop

Host an event, such as a tribal preparedness workshop, day, or fair. Host a community or tribal meeting solely about preparedness, or dedicate a meeting to making emergency kits for your tribal community members. Host a tribal preparedness fair. You may even offer to provide CPR training and/or blood pressure checks to community groups. Be sure to post your preparedness activity at community.fema.gov.

✔ Be Part of a Much Larger Event or Initiative

Individuals want to be part of something bigger. For example, September 11th is now an annual day of service and this year will mark the ten year anniversary of the terrorist attacks. Since fire, EMS and Law enforcement were a critical part of the 9/11 response, you might consider doing a preparedness event for this year's annual day of service. Be sure to post your event both on 911dayofservice.org and community.fema.gov so people in your community can find you.

✔ Spread the Preparedness Message

Include preparedness messaging in existing forms of communications, such as tribal newspapers /newsletters, emails, websites, blogs, social media, or tribal radio stations. Once you're signed up as a Coalition Member, you will have access to ready-to-use messaging that you can use or customize.

Current National Preparedness Month events within the tribal community.

National Preparedness Day at Hopland Sho-Ka-Wah Casino - Hosting a booth that will be providing emergency preparedness information and disseminating helpful brochures to tribal members, casino visitors and the general public.

Group Home Calendars State Calendars Nevada - Reno-Sparks Indian Colony is having a "Community Safety Day" event. The Emergency Services and Tribal Police have teamed up to celebrate "National Preparedness Month". The event will have emergency preparedness information available, raffles, Smokey the Bear, CERT team, Red Cross, and Fire Trucks. The event is open to all community residents as well as the general public.

Duckwater - "Are You Prepared for Winter" - The Duckwater Shoshone Tribe will be having the "Are You Prepared for Winter" event on 09/28/11 in the tribal gym. They will be providing emergency preparedness items so the community can add them to their kits (18 gallon totes which were already given out 2 years ago). Items to be handed out include: flashlights with batteries, MRE's, bottled water, sample size shampoo and conditioner, zip lock baggies, first aid kits, toilet paper, baby wipes, plates, cups, napkins etc...In addition, they will provide a healthy luncheon for the community and the guest speaker will be the American Red Cross who will provide a presentation on why folks should be trained as American Red Cross volunteers. There will be 2 grand raffle items - generators with gas cans due to the frequent power outages here on the reservation.

Group Home Calendars/State Calendars Washington - Muckleshoot Tribe Career Days - The Muckleshoot tribe will provide information and advice on "careers" for tribal members and school age children to include emergency management, medical, fire, and police opportunities.

Available Resources

- ✓ Community.fema.gov. Join us as a National Preparedness Month Coalition Member where you will have access to ideas and ready-to-use messaging, including press releases, posters, graphics, web banners, social media messaging, articles, best practices from 2010, and much more.
- ✓ CitizenCorps.gov. Citizen Corps is a national network of tribal, state and local, Citizen Corps Councils who work to bring preparedness programs and carry out local strategies to involve government, community leaders, and citizens in all-hazards preparedness and resilience.
- ✓ ReadyRating.org. The American Red Cross Ready Rating Program helps organizations take the necessary steps to become prepared to respond to and successfully withstand a disaster and other
- ✓ ShakeOut.org. Across the country, states are participating in this earthquake drill. Check the site to see if there is a ShakeOut coming to your community.
- ✓ SafeKids.org. Safe Kids USA is a nationwide network of organizations working to prevent unintentional childhood injury, the leading cause of death and disability for children ages 1 to 14. Safe Kids USA educate families, provides safety devices to families in need, and advocates for better laws to help keep children safe, healthy, and out of the emergency room.
- ✓ NCAI.org/homelandsecurity The National Congress of American Indians Homeland Security and Emergency preparedness page has information, resources and handouts to help plan for preparedness.

For more information and ideas, contact NPM@fema.gov.