

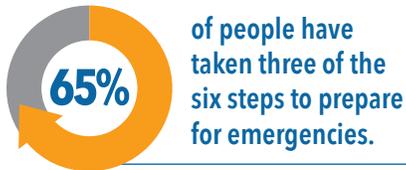
SEPTEMBER IS NATIONAL PREPAREDNESS MONTH

National Preparedness Month occurs each September to raise awareness about preparing for disasters and emergencies that could happen at any time. The 2021 theme is "Prepare to Protect. Preparing for disasters is protecting everyone you love." There are different steps for you and your family to take each week of September.

WEEK 1: MAKE A PLAN

www.ready.gov/plan

According to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA):



SIX STEPS TO PREPARE FOR EMERGENCIES

- ✓ Attend a local meeting or training
- ✓ Look for information on preparing for emergencies
- ✓ Talk with others on getting prepared
- ✓ Participate in an emergency drill
- ✓ Make an emergency plan
- ✓ Gather supplies to last three or more days

WEEK 2: BUILD A KIT

www.ready.gov/kit

In case of an emergency, you may need supplies for several days. Some items to include are:



- ✓ Water (one gallon per person per day for several days)
- ✓ Food (three-day supply of non-perishable food)
- ✓ Battery-powered or hand crank radio and a NOAA Weather Radio with tone alert
- ✓ Flashlight
- ✓ First aid kit
- ✓ Extra batteries
- ✓ Whistle (to signal for help)
- ✓ Dust mask (to filter contaminated air)
- ✓ Plastic sheeting and duct tape (to shelter in place)
- ✓ Wrench or pliers (to turn off utilities)
- ✓ Local maps
- ✓ Cell phone with chargers and a backup battery

WEEK 3: LOW-COST, NO-COST PREPAREDNESS

www.ready.gov/financial-preparedness

Americans at all income levels have been challenged to rebuilding their lives after a disaster or other emergency.



- ✓ Collect your financial and personal, home and medical information.
- ✓ Save money in an account that could be used in any crisis. Keep a small amount of cash in small bills at home in a safe place – ATMs and credit or debit cards may not work during a disaster.
- ✓ Get property, health and life insurance.

WEEK 4: TEACH YOUTH ABOUT PREPAREDNESS

www.ready.gov/kids

Disasters happen everywhere, and every member of the family can prepare.

Whether you're a kid or teen yourself, a parent, or work with youth, there are tools available to teach youth how to be prepared in emergencies.

FEMA has partnered with the Red Cross to produce materials called "Prepare with Pedro." They're designed to teach young children and their families how to stay safe during disasters and emergencies using crosswords, coloring pages, matching games, and more.

