



# NEWS RELEASE

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## September is National Preparedness Month – “Pledge to Prepare”

**San Bernardino County** – September is National Preparedness Month, what better time to take advantage of resources that are available to help prepare for the next disaster. Recently we have all witnessed the devastation of the wildfires burning throughout California. Preparedness is a year round activity. Building community resilience requires close coordination with government, emergency managers, public and private sectors, as well as individuals to plan for the needs of the whole community. The goal is to engage the public to make preparedness a part of their daily lives and not just for one single month.

Launched in 2004, National Preparedness Month (NPM) is FEMA's national annual preparedness outreach program managed and sponsored by FEMA's *Ready Campaign*.

Ready ask individuals to do four key things:

- ✓ Be informed about the different types of emergencies that could occur and the appropriate responses.
- ✓ Make a family emergency plan.
- ✓ Build an emergency supply kit.
- ✓ Get involved in community efforts.

Jurisdictions throughout the County are providing the opportunity for their communities to “Pledge to Prepare”.

- The City of Hesperia will be conducting a CERT (Community Emergency Response Team) Functional Exercise on September 6<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup>.
- The City of Yucaipa will be conducting their 5th Annual Emergency Preparedness Expo from 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. Thursday September 12<sup>th</sup>. Over twenty emergency related exhibitors will be offering emergency planning tips and emergency supplies.
- The City of Fontana will host a Family Safety and Preparedness Fair from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. on Saturday, September 14<sup>th</sup>, featuring preparedness demonstrations, food and entertainment.
- The City of Rancho Cucamonga will be partnering with Honeyville Farms to offer a free Community Preparedness Fair September 14<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
- The City of Ontario will be recognizing September as NPM at the September 17<sup>th</sup> City Council meeting. NPM public announcements will be posted on electronic signs throughout the city.

On September 13, 2011, the San Bernardino County Board of Supervisors proclaimed September National Preparedness Month in the County of San Bernardino, encouraging all citizens and businesses in San Bernardino County to develop their own emergency preparedness plan and work together toward creating a more prepared society.

Residents interested in making a “Pledge to Prepare” can also visit the *Ready Campaign* and National Preparedness Month at [www.ready.gov/pledge](http://www.ready.gov/pledge) or call 1-800-BE-READY. To obtain more preparedness activity information, contact your city or the San Bernardino County Fire Department/Office of Emergency Services at (909) 356-3998 or visit [www.sbcfire.org](http://www.sbcfire.org).