



NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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National Preparedness Month Encourages Residents to “Pledge to Prepare” *September is NPM, an opportunity to take advantage of local preparedness resources*

San Bernardino County – The recent earthquake swarm in Imperial County is a good reminder for residents to always be prepared for the event of disaster. Coincidentally, September will mark the ninth annual National Preparedness Month (NPM). Fires, floods and earthquakes have common results – the ability to overwhelm local emergency response personnel and limit access to basic resources such as food, water and medical supplies. Rather than compete for limited emergency assistance and supplies during a disaster, individuals, families and neighborhoods should plan to provide for their own basic emergency needs, utilizing stockpiled supplies in addition to their normal household resources until assistance becomes available.

National Preparedness Month is sponsored by the *Ready* Campaign, a nationwide effort designed to increase multi-hazard awareness, encouraging individuals, families, businesses and communities to plan to be self-sufficient in the event of emergencies. Jurisdictions throughout the County are providing the opportunity for their communities to **“Get a kit, make a plan, get involved, and be informed”**.

- The City of Fontana will host a Family Safety and Preparedness Fair from 10:00 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday, September 8th, featuring preparedness demonstrations, food and entertainment.
- The City of Ontario will be launching a ReadyOntario.gov website in mid-September.
- The Cities of Chino, Chino Hills and Rancho Cucamonga will be hosting an information booth at the Inland Empire Disabilities Expo to promote preparedness within the Access and Functional Needs community on Saturday, September 15th at the Ontario Convention Center.
- The City of Chino Hills will also be conducting an Emergency Preparedness Workshop from 7:00 p.m. Thursday, September 20th at the McCoy Equestrian Center.
- The City of Yucaipa will be conducting their 4th Annual Emergency Preparedness Expo from 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. Thursday, September 27th. Over twenty emergency related exhibitors will be offering emergency planning tips and emergency supplies.

Residents interested in making a “Pledge to Prepare” can also visit the *Ready* Campaign and National Preparedness Month at www.ready.gov 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.

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