

Ready Lake County has Resources for Everyone to Create a Disaster Plan

Lake County EMA Launches Community Awareness Campaign

It's 2:10 p.m. on Thursday when you hear the emergency siren. Will your family know what to do to stay in contact if you are not together? Do you have the necessary supplies to survive at home? Would you be ready to leave your neighborhood?

If you don't have an answer, then you're probably like most individuals and families in Lake County. You know you should prepare for an emergency, have some supplies at home, but you also know there are agencies available to help you... so you've put off creating that solid plan and emergency kit.

The truth is – Don't Wait!

As September begins National Preparedness Month, the Lake County Emergency Management Agency and Local Emergency Planning Committee is pleased to announce its "Ready Lake County" campaign to motivate Lake County residents to take action, make a plan and be self-prepared for any disaster or emergency.

While many resources and agencies already exist to educate the public on what they need to do to prepare, numerous families would not be prepared if a disaster struck today because they think they can rely on their local emergency services if they need help. In reality however, first responders will assist the elderly and people with special needs before they would be able to assist the general public, leaving many individuals and families to be self-sufficient.

"Disasters and large-scale emergencies, whether natural or man-made, are going to occur. Retaining a sense of community awareness, coupled with taking some simple steps to individually prepare, can go a long way in helping to reduce the impact and duration of such events. Several important organizations have partnered with us because they also have a vested interest in educating the public about being self-prepared and keeping our community safe during emergencies," said Larry Greene, Director of Lake County EMA.

ReadyLakeCounty.com is the one source for everyone to easily access local agencies and resources such as basic information to create a disaster plan, to build an personal emergency supply kit, to prepare for pet needs, and to identify which agencies are best for their unique emergency needs.

"No family has the same needs for emergency planning. Everyone should discuss and plan accordingly to keeping their family prepared. Since September is National Preparedness Month, we felt it was the perfect opportunity to launch our campaign

and encourage everyone to discuss their plan and assemble that emergency kit they've been putting off," added Greene.

Ready Lake County is supported through partnerships with American Red Cross, Lake County Police and Fire Departments, Lake County General Health District, Laketran, Lifeline 2-1-1, First Energy, Dominion East Ohio, Lubrizol, and United Way of Lake County.

For information regarding emergency planning supplies and resources, visit ReadyLakeCounty.com or call 2-1-1.