



EMD MEDIA RELEASE



City of Los Angeles Emergency Management Department

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SEPTEMBER IS NATIONAL PREPAREDNESS MONTH

Los Angeles City Emergency Management Department Asks Angelenos: Who will you help? After it happens it's too late

September is recognized as National Preparedness Month. This is the 7th annual observance which began after the terrorist attacks on 9/11. Each year the White House issues a National Preparedness Month [Presidential Proclamation](#) reaffirming the nation's commitment to readiness and to encourage Americans to learn what they can do to be better prepared before a disaster happens.

The Los Angeles City Emergency Management Department joins the President in encouraging Angelenos to take simple steps to prepare for emergencies in their homes, businesses, and communities. Having an emergency plan is as simple as designating an out-of-state friend or relative to be your family contact and make sure every family member knows the phone number and checks in after a disaster. Or making an emergency kit by assembling things in one place that you already have at home such as batteries, flashlight, radio, canned goods, can opener and water to mention a few.

However this year the City's Emergency Management Department is asking Angelenos an important question: **Who will you help? After it happens it's too late.**

For every resident that is prepared, there are many who are not. It is likely that after a disaster those who are not prepared will need assistance from those who are. As part of your emergency plan, the City's Emergency Management Department is urging residents to consider whom they might help after a disaster or emergency. Develop a buddy system and check on your friends and family and have someone do the same for you. Also remember to check on the elderly and people with health conditions.

Throughout the month of September, a series of helpful "preparedness tips" will be posted on the Emergency Management Department's Facebook and Twitter sites and a preparedness tip will be recorded on the Information Helpline at (800) 439-2909. These helpful tips are designed to promote readiness and action.

For more comprehensive preparedness tips, visit **ReadyLA** the City's **official readiness, response and recovery website** at <http://readyla.org>. It's time to get Ready LA.

Social Media Sites

- <http://twitter.com/readyla>
- <http://www.facebook.com/readyla>

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About the Emergency Management Department (EMD)

The Emergency Management Department was established by ordinance in 2000. Mayor. EMD is dedicated to leading the City in comprehensive emergency management including: planning, mitigation, preparation, response to and recovery from natural, manmade and accidental incidents of high consequence.