



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Kent County Office of Emergency Services

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NATIONAL PREPAREDNESS MONTH

Chestertown, MD-- September is National Preparedness Month and Kent County Office of Emergency Services (KC OES) encourages residents and businesses to plan and prepare for all hazards before they happen. The month serves as a timely reminder that emergencies can happen anytime, anywhere without advance notice. The time to prepare is before a disaster happens.

This year's theme is **"Take Control 1, 2, 3."** Make Your Preparations Today. The campaign emphasizes the need for all residents to know how to respond and what to do should disaster strike. Citizens are reminded to be informed about the top risks facing Kent County and to register for CodeRED alerts to receive important information and weather alerts on their mobile devices. CodeRED sign up is available by clicking on the CodeRED icon at www.kentgov.org/oes. KC OES encourages everyone to create and practice an emergency plan that includes all family members and pets, build a disaster supply kit, and get involved by learning lifesaving skills - such as CPR and first aid.

"Now is the time to ensure that your family, pets and home are prepared for all types of emergencies," said Pete Landon, Director of Kent County Office of Emergency Services. *"Residents should have a plan, know what to do and how they will communicate with their family and friends before during, and after disaster strikes, so we can return to normalcy more quickly."*

Throughout National Preparedness Month, KC OES will feature a different preparedness theme each weekday on Facebook and Twitter. Weekly themes include:

- Make a Plan
- Build a Kit
- Prepare for Disasters
- Teach Youth About Preparedness