



KLAMATH COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

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Media Release

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RE: 15th Annual National Preparedness Month

Contact: Morgan Lindsay, Emergency Manager

This September marks the nation's 15th annual National Preparedness Month (NPM). This initiative, which began after the tragic events of 9/11 and Hurricane Katrina, provides an opportunity to remind us that we all must prepare ourselves and our families for disasters. This NPM will focus on planning, with an overarching theme: **Disasters Happen. Prepare Now. Learn How.**



The devastating hurricanes and wildfires of 2017-18 elevate the importance of preparing for disasters. Often, we – our neighbors and ourselves – will be the first ones in our communities to take action after a disaster strikes and before first responders arrive, so it's important to prepare in advance to help yourself and your community.

Klamath County Emergency Management (EM), a division of the Sheriff's Office, together with the Klamath County Public Health Preparedness office, want to encourage the community to participate in NPM 2018. Take time to learn lifesaving skills such as CPR and first aid. Check your insurance policies and coverage for the hazards you may face, such as floods, earthquakes, wildfires, or extreme weather. Make a family evacuation and communications plan. Also, know how to take practical safety steps like shutting off water and gas at your home or business. EM will be sharing weekly themes about these things along with checklists and other resources to media outlets and the community; checkout the EM department webpage at klamathcounty.org.

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