

Prepare. Plan. Stay Informed.

National Preparedness Month | September 2009

Are you ready?

Or are you
Ready .



SEPTEMBER IS NATIONAL PREPAREDNESS MONTH!

ARE YOU READY?

September is National Preparedness Month (NPM), a nationwide effort sponsored by the Federal Emergency Management Agency's *Ready Campaign* in partnership with Citizen Corps. I am pleased to announce once again that our office, the Office of Emergency Management, is once again taking part in this nationwide effort to encourage individuals, families, and communities to prepare for emergencies.

The goal of National Preparedness Month is to increase public awareness about the importance of preparing for emergencies, including natural disasters and potential terrorist attacks, and to encourage individuals to take action to prepare themselves and their families. This year, NPM focuses on changing perceptions about emergency preparedness and will help Americans understand what it truly means to be *Ready*. Preparedness goes beyond fire alarms, smoke detectors, deadbolt locks and extra food in the pantry. Being *Ready* includes: getting an Emergency Supply Kit; making a Family Emergency Plan; being informed about emergencies and their appropriate responses.

We're taking steps as an organization to become educated, trained and better prepared, and we urge you to take time this month to do the same at home. There are simple steps you can take to better prepare yourself and your family. I encourage you to visit <http://www.ready.gov> (for Spanish visit www.listo.gov) to learn more about how to prepare yourself and your family. FEMA also has a website that provides valuable information for parents and teachers, as well as for kids of all ages: <http://www.fema.gov/kids/index.htm>. Kings County's emergency website *has been changed to:* www.kingscountyoem.com.

It is our desire that you take the opportunity to visit one of the websites listed above and brush up on the skills you need to take care of yourself *and* your loved ones.

Remember...*readiness saves lives!*

Elizabeth Hall
Office of Emergency Management

Be informed! Get involved!