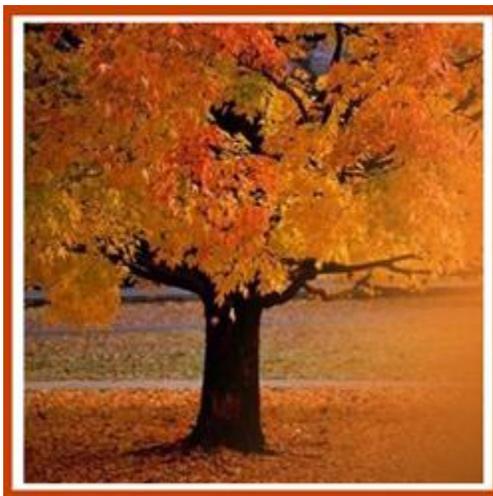


Feature

Fall Preparedness



Saturday September 22 marked the first day of fall!

Our most enjoyable season, autumn, means football, trick or treating, outdoor fairs, mild temperatures and the dazzling display of foliage as green leaves turn to red and gold.

But fall is also known as the “second severe weather season.”

Strong fronts and upper air systems sweep across the country causing unstable weather conditions that can lead to thunderstorms, severe thunderstorms and tornadoes.

On Friday, October 5, Shelby County was hit with an unexpected storm resulting in downed trees and power outages for 15,000 homes.

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Our reminder to you this fall, our partners in preparedness, is to stay ready!

Know your Risks: Remember that severe weather and other emergencies can happen any time of the year.



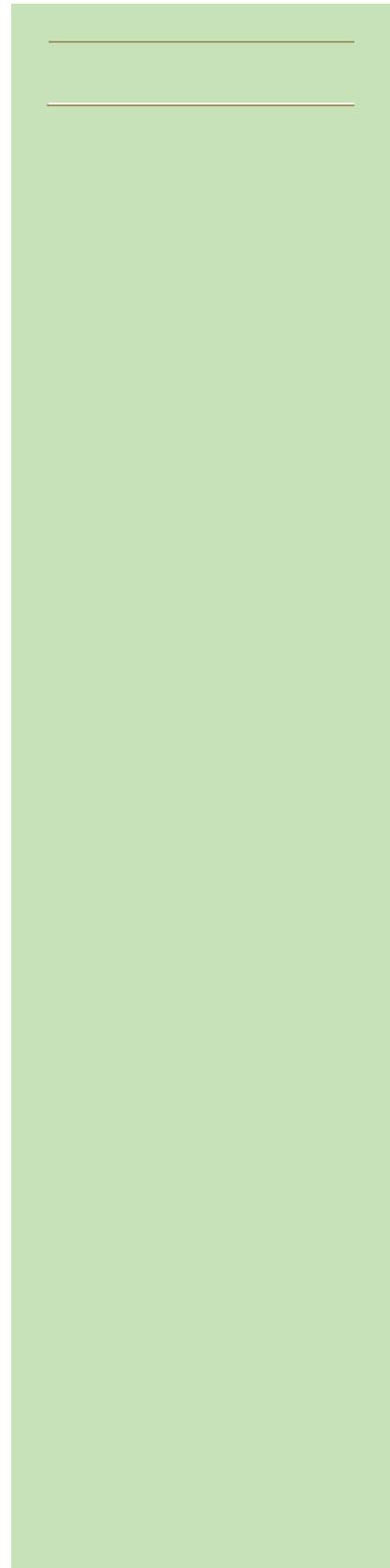
Get a Kit: Have a disaster kit for home work and auto that will sustain you and your family and pets for at least seven days. Make sure the kit is easy to transport in case evacuation is needed.

Make a Plan: Meet with your family and co-workers ahead of time and plan for severe weather events and all hazards. Plan where your "safe place" will be – in the basement, under a staircase, or in a spare bathroom. If you are outside, head for a sturdy building. If there is no shelter available, lie in the closest ditch.

Stay Informed: Have a battery powered NOAA all-hazards / weather radio and ALERT FM with you at all times. Heed the watches and warnings when inclement weather moves in. When the media advises for you to evacuate or shelter-in-place, do so immediately.

Be a Buddy: Check on those who may need assistance during a disaster such as the elderly, the physically impaired, the mentally impaired, single parents, those without transportation, those who are indigent, and those who are isolated.

Photo caption: Bob Nations, Jr. Director Shelby County Office of Preparedness



Other stories

VHU / UHF Narrowbanding



As of January 1, 2013, all public safety and business industrial land mobile radio systems operating in the 150 – 512 MHz radio bands must cease operating using 25 kHz efficiency technology and begin operating using at least 12.5 kHz efficiency technology.

Nearly twenty years ago, the FCC began this campaign to create a greater spectrum access for public safety and non-public safety users.

This effort will allow the creation of additional channel capacity within the same radio spectrum and support more users.

For more information, please read the U.S. Department of Homeland Security: A Practical Guide to Narrowbanding or visit: <http://transition.fcc.gov/pshs/public-safety-spectrum/narrowbanding.html>

Preparedness Outreach



Photo Caption: Shelby County Office of Preparedness Reserves speaking to the Memphis Police Department Citizens Academy at the Ridgeway Precinct October 2, 2012. Reserve Regina Shipp, 3rd from left. Not pictured is Reserve Jo Griffith also speaking that evening.

The Shelby County Office of Preparedness Reserves are currently part of the Memphis Police Department Citizens Academy speaker series.

During the 9-week seminar, Reserves present disaster preparedness information at each precinct about how to prepare for unexpected events that may happen here in Shelby County that include earthquakes, terrorism, power outages, inclement weather events, hazardous materials releases and flooding.

The students were also given information on how to create a disaster kit for home, work and auto and how to form a communications plan with family, friends, and business associates.

Be prepared— Get ReadyTN



ReadyTN is an exciting new campaign from the Tennessee Emergency Management Agency promoting preparedness in Tennessee.

The message is simple: emergency preparedness is an individual responsibility. It is vital for us all to be able to care for ourselves and our families and reach out to others in our community who may need assistance when disasters strike. ReadyTN provides resources and guidance to help you know what to do before, during and after emergencies. On this new website, you can learn about the hazards and threats faced by Tennesseans and how to create a family preparedness plan.

The campaign also offers a smartphone app that provides enhanced situational awareness during emergencies direct from the Tennessee Department of Transportation, the Tennessee Emergency Management Agency, the American Red Cross and the National Weather Service.

When we prepare, our resources can stretch further and we are better able to assist those in dire need. Visit www.tnema.org/ReadyTN/mobile-app.html.



Be Better Prepared
For Any Emergency





Shelby County Citizen Corps



Photo Caption: Shelby County Office of Preparedness presents “CERT on the Go” for the University of Tennessee Nursing students September 15 and 22, 2012. Eugene Jones, CERT Coordinator, fourth from left, led the training. Students show off their bandaging techniques during Medical First Aid.

The Shelby County Citizen Corps Council, under the leadership of Kimberlyn Bouler, Chairperson and Office of Preparedness Planning Officer, guides the preparedness efforts of volunteers and helping agencies by meeting monthly with emergency managers, department directors and volunteer leaders to coordinate training and exercises.

Training opportunities and preparedness events:

“Ready Shelby Day” at the Zoo: Saturday, October 20, 2012, 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. For more information please visit: www.readyshelby.org.

“Seniors CERT,” Wednesdays, September 12 - November 7, 2012, 10:00 – 12:00, 4523 Canada Rd, Lakeland, TN. Contact Lakeland EMA Director Claude Talford at 901.867.5407 or ctalford@lakelandtn.org.



Photo Caption: Seniors CERT class at Lakeland

Incident Command System (ICS) 400 training, October 16 – 127, 9:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m., 1075 Mullins Station Road, Memphis, TN 38134, Room W263.

Tennessee Emergency Management Agency **Hazardous Materials Awareness** Training, October 18, 2012, 12:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m., 1075 Mullins Station Road, Memphis, TN 38134, EOC.

Germantown CERT: November 2, 3, and 10. For more information email Sherrye Rhea at srhea@germantown-tn.gov or call 901.757.7203.

United States Department of Transportation **Hazardous Materials Transportation Workshop**, November 8, 2012, 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. at 4371 O.K. Robertson Road, Memphis, TN 38103.

National Weather Service **SKYWARN Storm Spotter** Training, December 4, 2012, 9:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m., 1075 Mullins Station Road, Memphis, TN 38134, EOC.

Natural Gas Emergency Response Training, January 14, 15, 16, or 17, 2012 at 7:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m., MLGW Training University. www.mlgw.org.

For more information about preparedness training or to register for any of these events, please call 901.515.2525 or email: Citizenscorps@shelbycountyttn.gov.

Winter Storm Stella?



Photo Caption: Winter weather in downtown Memphis, TN.

The names Katrina, Andrew, Betsy, Ike and Isaac are instantly synonymous with what else - but deadly hurricanes! Since the 1940's, hurricanes have been given a human name that helps the public and weather professionals track and identify this severe weather events.

Now the Weather Channel has announced that they will begin to name winter storms during the upcoming 2012 – 13 season. Giving a major winter weather event a name also helps with communications and makes it easy to reference it after the storm has passed. Factors that meteorologists will consider before a winter storm system is named are the predicted amounts of snowfall, ice, wind, and temperatures.

Pet Alert Stickers



Having a decal in your window, such as the one above, lets emergency professionals know that there are household pets living inside that may need to be rescued during a disaster.

These stickers peel on and off easily and can be purchased through the ASPCA, your local veterinarian, or on-line at Amazon.

If you choose to use a decal indicating the number of pets in your home, make sure you keep the information current and place the decal where it can be seen by rescuers.

Place a decal on a front window as well as one on the back of the home.

If you move to another home, be sure to take your decal with you.

Preparing Makes Sense.

Get Ready Now!

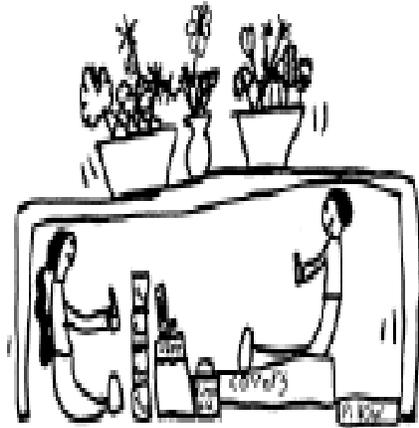


FEMA has created a 15- page booklet that makes it easy for you and your family to get ready. **“Preparing Makes Sense. Get Ready Now”** includes an emergency supply list of what you need to have on hand in your emergency kit. It also reminds you to include unique items the family may need such as prescription medications.

This handy booklet also teaches you how to create a family communications plan. Simply fill in the blanks with your name, social security number, important medical information, out-of-town contacts, email, phone numbers, address, schools, and other places you frequent. Once completed, copy this information and send it to someone you trust out-of-state.

Then fill in the blanks on the “Family Communication Plan” wallet size cards that includes name, contact name, phone number, and neighborhood meeting place. Be sure to give these cards to each member of your family!

To order your free booklets, visit www.fema.gov.



ABC: A Child's View
Earthquake Facts and Feelings
by Lucy Jones U.S.G.S.

The United States Geological Survey (USGS) has a special web site just for kids!

Children and their parents can visit this fun and informative web site to learn more about earthquakes, when and where they occur, view photos of the damage they cause, learn the history of earthquakes, and how to prepare for them.

The web site includes puzzles, games, the latest earthquake information, cool earthquake facts, how to become an earthquake scientist (geophysicist), science fair earthquake projects, and animated definitions.

Kids can have fun while they learn!

Visit www.usgs.gov/learn/kids/online today!



Fall Back: Time to Prepare Your Home

Once again, it's that time of year when we "fall back!"

On Sunday, November 4, 2012, Daylight Saving Time ends and we turn our clocks back one hour.

In addition to getting a well-deserved extra hour of sleep, we can also use this time to review our preparedness plans and safety check our homes. On November 4, go through your home and check for:

- Working smoke and carbon monoxide detectors. Fresh batteries for all!
- Replace lightbulbs where needed.
- ABC fire extinguisher on every floor of your home and in the garage. Make sure the gauge reads "full"
- NOAA all-hazards / weather radio with battery back-up and tone alert
- Secondary heat source (fireplace)
- Inspect fireplace and chimney before cold weather
- Check insulation in home and attic
- Emergency or "go kit" for home, work, and auto that will sustain you and your family and pets for at least seven days
- Check medicine cabinets for over-the-counter medications for colds and flu. Dispose of any medication that is out of date.
- Clear a path! Make sure each room has at least one way in and out for yourself or rescue workers

Preparedness Question:

What can I do to with all of the cleaning supplies in my home to prevent accidents?



The Shelby County Office of Preparedness suggest these safety tips for cleaning product safety:

- Buy only as much of a cleaner as you will use. Extra can be shared with neighbors.
- Keep products in their original containers. Never remove the labels unless the container is corroding.
- Never store hazardous products in food containers.
- Never mix cleaners other products, such as chlorine bleach and ammonia. They may react, ignite or explode.
- Always follow the manufacturer's instructions for the proper use of the household chemical.
- Never smoke while using household chemicals.
- Never use hair spray, cleaning solutions, paint products, or pesticides near an open flame.
- Clean up chemical spills immediately! Use rags to clean up the spill while wearing gloves and eye protection. Allow the fumes in the rags to evaporate outdoors, and then dispose of the rags by wrapping them in a newspaper and placing them in a sealed plastic bag.
- Dispose of hazardous materials correctly. Take household hazardous waste to the Shelby County Hazardous Waste Collection Facility at 6305 Haley Road, Memphis, TN 38135. The Recycle Hotline is 901.222.7729. Hours of operations: Tuesday and Saturdays from 8:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Prepare Word Search

Word List

prepare
safety
ready
evacuate
shelter
boots
gloves
helmet
whistle
flashlight
radio

ZVAETAUCAVENCIG
RFSAFETYKKTUBHD
MLES DPXQPSURYEC
VIVRADIOCVEDILG
LPOERAPERPYRZMI
KTLKOGVGJLEAAEW
URGVFLASHLIGHTW
NDZR IHCR OOGMFFV
PZGELTSHWDFCKP
NPPANLJEHGRKFAR
HRGDVXTB DPQB DVU
JXFYZLUOYGYODNE
VXKVPRNWNLPOOOF
FSAABYFAJAPTIGO
LUSGSRETLEHSDBI

Preparedness Resources

Shelby County Office of Preparedness:

www.staysafeshelby.us

Shelby County Citizen Corp

(email): **citizencorps@shelbycountyttn.gov**

Shelby County, TN: **www.shelbycountyttn.gov**

Ready Shelby: **www.readyshelby.us**

ALERT FM: **www.alertfm.com**

Memphis Light Gas and Water: **www.mlqw.com**,
901.544.6549

American Heart Association : **www.heart.org**

United States Geological Society: **www.usgs.gov**

National Fire Protection Assoc. **www.nfpa.org**

Center for Earthquake Research and Information (CERI)
www.ceri.memphis.edu

Citizen Corps: **www.citizencorps.org**

American Radio Relay League: **www.arrl.org**

Federal Emergency Management Agency:
www.fema.org

Ready America: **www.ready.gov**

National Weather Service: **www.nws.noaa.org**

NOAA Hurricane: **www.hurricanes.noaa.gov**

National Hurricane Center: **www.nhc.noaa.gov**

Department of Homeland Security: **www.dhs.gov**

National Flood Insurance Program: **www.floodsmart.gov**

Emergency: call 911

Shelby County Office of Preparedness

HLS/EMA

Bob Nations, Jr., Director

901.515.2525

www.staysafeshelby.us

- *Know Your Risks*
- *Get a Kit*
- *Make a Plan*
- *Stay Informed*
- *Be a Buddy*