FEMA Hosts Twitter Spaces National Preparedness Month Chat

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PHILADELPHIA – September is <u>National Preparedness Month</u> and FEMA is bringing individuals and community partners together via <u>Twitter Spaces</u> to talk about how to prepare to protect yourself, your loved ones, and your communities.

On Monday September 13, 2021 at 3:00pm ET, individuals, community stakeholders and government agency partners are invited to join FEMA's Region 3, Region 4, Region 8, and Region 10 subject matter experts in individual and community preparedness, disability integration, tribal affairs, mitigation, and flood insurance. FEMA emergency managers and preparedness professionals will be discussing and answering important questions related to emergencies and how to prepare. Participants can interact, and tweet questions for our experts using the hashtag #ASpaceToPrepare.

Every day, FEMA and our State, Local, Tribal and Territorial partners take steps to help people and communities to be more prepared by developing the capabilities needed to prevent, protect against, respond to, recover from, and mitigate against all threats and hazards. Whether we face risks related to earthquakes, cyberattacks or chemical spills, our goal is shared: safety and resilience.

"Experience tells us that when the whole community comes together to tackle a challenge, and everyone plays a role, the end result is more effective," said FEMA Region 3 Regional Administrator MaryAnn Tierney. "Everyone, not just the government, can be involved in preparedness efforts and contribute to building more ready and resilient communities."

Tierney emphasized the proactive steps necessary to ensure preparedness for those with access and functional needs, "We know that disasters disproportionally impact those with disabilities, older adults, families with young children and those with limited English proficiency. FEMA's lessons learned and best practices can be invaluable resources for anyone with access and functional needs, their family, and support team members."



Follow <u>@FEMARegion3</u>, <u>@FEMARegion4</u>, <u>@FEMARegion8</u>, and <u>@FEMARegion10</u> to be notified when the Space is live. Or follow the link below to access the chat. This event is accessible to those who are hard of hearing with live captioning.

Link to Chat: https://twitter.com/i/spaces/1OdJrVDWkaAJX

<u>National Preparedness Month</u> is observed each September to raise awareness about steps individuals, families and communities can take to be ready for disasters and emergencies that could happen at any time. This year's National Preparedness Month theme is <u>Prepare to Protect</u> and highlights how preparing for disaster helps protect everyone you love.

Each week in September, the campaign focuses on a different aspect of preparedness for individuals, families, and communities.

FEMA's Weekly themes of National Preparedness Month include:

Week 2: Sept. 5-11 Build A Kit

Gather supplies that will last for several days after a disaster for everyone living in your home. Don't forget to consider the unique needs each person or pet may have in case you have to evacuate quickly. Update your kits and supplies based on recommendations by the Centers for Disease Control.

Week 3: Sept. 12-18 Low-Cost, No-Cost Preparedness

Natural disasters don't wait for a convenient time. Preparing for them shouldn't wait either. Start today by signing up for alerts, safe-guarding important documents, and taking other low cost and no cost preparedness actions to lessen the impact of disasters and emergencies for you and your family.

Week 4: Sept. 19-25 Teach Youth About Preparedness



Talk to your kids about preparing for emergencies and what to do in case you are separated. Reassure them by providing information about how they can get involved.

Tierney added, "Preparing for disasters simply makes sense, they can happen anywhere and at any time. Here at FEMA, we see this reality unfold often and we understand what is at stake. An all too common remark from disaster survivors is wishing they had done more to prepare. That doesn't have to be you. I encourage everyone, from individuals simply curious about what they can do, to representatives of community organizations and faith based organizations, to local first responders, and other preparedness stakeholders to participate in conversations like these to contribute to our family's, our community's and our nation's readiness and resilience."

For more information about this event and a Twitter Spaces FAQ visit: #ASpaceToPrepare National Preparedness Month Twitter Spaces Chat | FEMA.gov

<u>Ready.gov/September</u> has information and resources online, including social media content in multiple languages, for public use. Help spread the word of how to be prepared for disasters and emergencies before they happen. For more information, visit Ready.gov and Listo.gov.

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FEMA's mission is helping people before, during, and after disasters.?FEMA Region?3's?jurisdiction includes Delaware, the District of Columbia, Maryland, Pennsylvania, Virginia and West Virginia.

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