

Preparedness Cross Country

The Maryland Emergency Management Agency recently released [MARYLAND Prepares](#), Maryland's official emergency management mobile app, to help Maryland residents better prepare for emergencies. Families can create interactive emergency kits, customized communications plans and view preparation guides so they are more informed on what to do before, during or after an emergency. The app is available for Apple and Android devices.

Several states across the nation are currently using a rapidly growing service called [SmartPrepare](#) to effectively prepare for and respond to disasters. SmartPrepare allows residents to share critical information about themselves and their families with local emergency managers. First introduced in New Canaan, CT in September 2012, the service, recently implemented in Arizona, is now used in ten states.