



## Disaster Preparedness Newsletter

September 2018 | Week 2 | Disaster Preparedness

### *Announcement*

September is [National Preparedness month](#).

This is the perfect time of the year to make things ready for you and your loved ones. Learning about financial stability in a time of disaster, or how to care for loved ones that cannot care for themselves (including our pets).

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**FIRES DON'T THINK AHEAD, BUT YOU CAN.**



PAY ATTENTION TO LOCAL ALERTS AND WARNINGS

KNOW ESCAPE ROUTES

BE PREPARED

INSTALL SMOKE ALARMS AND TEST THEM MONTHLY



Ready

# Learn a lifesaving Skill

CPR and First Aid are great lifesaving skills, but they aren't the only ones that can be performed. Others can include:

1. Learning how to use a fire extinguisher.
2. Know how to shut of the different utilities.
3. Leaning CPR.
4. Learning First Aid.
5. What neighbors may need help with lifesaving skills.
6. You may have the opportunity to save a life.

“Preparedness is the  
key to success and  
victory”

-Douglas MacArthur

In the past 10 years the United States has officially Declared over 1,000 disasters. In the fall of 2017 alone hurricanes: Harvey, Irma, and Maria, had an impact on 25.8 million Americans. Chances are you will be affected. Planning now means you can have better control of the situation.

[Fema.gov](http://Fema.gov)

## *Other Skills*

Consider learning how to prepare food in other ways such as, open fires, or Dutch oven cooking.

Disinfecting water can be difficult so consider obtaining portable water filter or safe storage areas for water.

# Watch out for that fire



## Know your Fire safety

One of the most commonly practiced drills is a fire evacuation. Run a fire drill in your home. Know the exits in your home and where to meet. Keep in mind other fire safety tips when creating a fire evacuation plan.

Make digital copies of valuable documents and records like birth certificates.

Sleep with your door closed.

Contact your local fire department for information on training on the proper use and maintenance of fire extinguishers.

Consider the types of fires you can have at your residence.

## Take action now to prepare for fires

Learn how to create a fire evacuation plan. Visit [ready.gov/home-fires](https://www.ready.gov/home-fires).

Keep in mind who is going to be in your home when a chance fire might occur. If you have guests make sure they know what to do. Don't forget those furry/favorite family members in your home as well. Make sure that they are included in your plan as well.

Other items to consider is the sound of your alarm. Test it to make sure it is working. Make sure the batteries are charged and functional.

## Fire Safety Facts:

**In less than 30 seconds a small flame can turn into a major fire. It only takes minutes for thick black smoke to fill a house**

**Heat is more threatening than flames. Room temperatures in a fire can be 100 degrees at floor level and rise to 600 at eye level. Inhaling the super-hot air will scorch your lungs and melt clothes to your skin.**

**Fire starts bright, but quickly produces black smoke and complete darkness.**

**Smoke and toxic gasses kill more people than flames do. Fire produces poisonous gasses that make you disoriented and drowsy.**