

For Immediate Release
September 5, 2023



B.J. Dvorak
Emergency Management Coordinator
319-892-6500
Bj.Dvorak@LinnCountyIowa.gov

September is Preparedness Month

LINN COUNTY, IA – September 5, 2023 – September is Preparedness Month in Iowa, an opportunity to improve the preparedness of you and your family for any emergency or disaster.

“It’s our hope at Emergency Management that individuals, families and businesses take the month of September to prepare for the unexpected emergencies and disasters that happen so frequently throughout our country” said B.J. Dvorak, Linn County Emergency Management Agency Coordinator.

Iowa’s Preparedness Month, held in conjunction with National Preparedness Month, was created by the Federal Emergency Management Agency in response to the Sept. 11, 2001 terrorist attacks in the United States to educate the public on how to prepare for emergencies. Iowa’s Preparedness Month is sponsored each year by the Emergency Management Association (IEMA) and the Iowa Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management (HSEMD).

During September all Iowans are urged to become more prepared by taking three simple steps:

Step 1: Build an emergency kit. During an emergency, there are items you and your family will need. Build an emergency supply kit and keep it in a place where it will be easy to grab if you need to quickly leave your home.

Step 2: Make an emergency plan. You and your family may not be together when an emergency happens, so knowing what to do, where you will go, and how to get in touch with each other is important.

Step 3: Be aware of hazards. When bad weather is in the forecast, pay attention to the news, sign up for emergency notifications through Alert Iowa or for other types of alerts via your mobile phone, and use your NOAA weather radio to receive weather and other emergency alerts. Sign up for Linn County specific alerts at

<https://www.smart911.com/smart911/ref/req.action?pa=LinnCountyIowaAlerts>

More preparedness information can be found at www.beready.iowa.gov or on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/EMALinnCounty> hash tags #NatlPrep and #ReadyIA.

For more information on Preparedness Month sponsors, visit: <https://linncounty-ema.org>

Iowa Homeland Security and Emergency Management, www.homelandsecurity.iowa.gov

Iowa Emergency Management Association, www.iowaema.com

###