



ST. MARY'S COUNTY GOVERNMENT COMMISSIONERS OF ST. MARY'S COUNTY
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September is Maryland Preparedness Month

Residents are urged to prepare now for emergencies, disasters, and hurricanes

Leonardtown, MD - As Hurricane Irma treks closer to the United States and Texas continues to recover from Hurricane Harvey, the Department of Emergency Services and Technology says September is a good time to review preparedness information for severe weather, including hurricanes and other emergencies throughout the year.

September is National Preparedness and Maryland Preparedness Month. Government agencies, businesses, community groups, schools and families will participate in events to promote disaster preparedness.

“The devastating effects of Hurricane Harvey should remind us that we all need to be prepared for emergencies,” said Russ Strickland, Executive Director of MEMA. “Right now we are in the height of the hurricane season in the mid-Atlantic, but we also need to be ready for a variety of other threats. Now is the time to make sure you are prepared.”

Making preparations when threats are not imminent can make communities more resilient. Hazards common to Maryland include flooding, high wind, severe thunderstorms and winter storms.

“Hurricane Harvey is a grim reminder that you can never be overly prepared for severe weather,” said Commissioner President Randy Guy. “We are in the middle of the Atlantic hurricane season and I encourage all county citizens to have an action plan in place in the event a storm, such as Harvey or Irma, should strike our area.”

The following online sources provide good emergency preparedness information for these and additional threats:

- St. Mary's County: <http://prepare.stmarysmd.com>
- MEMA: <http://mema.maryland.gov/Pages/emergencies.aspx>
- Federal Emergency Management Agency: www.ready.gov
- National Weather Service: www.weather.gov/safety

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