



MEDIA CONTACT: Justin Caporusso/Caporusso Communications justin@caporussocommunications.com (916) 412-0571

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Visit READY Mono to Celebrate National Preparedness Month!!!

Know Your Zone and Sign Up for Alerts to Stay Informed and Up-to-Date

MONO COUNTY, Calif. (SEPTEMBER 3, 2024) – National Preparedness Month is observed each September to raise awareness about the importance of preparing for disasters and emergencies that could happen at any time. In Mono County, these disasters could include wildfires, earthquakes, weather-related events, and public health outbreaks. This National Preparedness Month, Mono County's Office of Emergency Management is encouraging residents and visitors to become prepared by visiting <u>Ready.Mono.ca.gov</u>.

"READY Mono is designed to provide residents and visitors with emergency readiness, response, and recovery resources, and share real-time information and critical updates before, during, and after an emergency or natural disaster," said Chris Mokracek, Director of Mono County's Office of Emergency Management. "The first step in becoming prepared for an emergency is visiting our portal to identify your evacuation zone and to sign up for emergency alerts."

In recognition of National Preparedness Month, Mono County residents and visitors are encouraged to visit the Ready Mono portal to:

- Sign Up for Emergency Alerts: Mono County utilizes a cloud-based, public alerting and residential safety tool that allows government agencies to send geo-targeted urgent alerts to subscribers. Mono County utilizes READY Mono to send out alerts and encourages all residents and visitors to sign up to stay alert. Click <u>here</u> to register for READY Mono alerts.
- Enable Your Smartphone for IPAWS: The Integrated Public Alert & Warning System (IPAWS) is the Federal Emergency Management Agency's integrated wireless emergency alert and warning system. Click <u>here</u> to learn how to enable IPAWS on your device.

- <u>Find Your Zone</u>: Zonehaven is an interactive app-based software system that provides real-time updates on local emergencies to communicate with targeted communities as it relates to evacuation orders. Click <u>here</u> to find your evacuation zone.
- Sign Up for the Access & Functional Needs (AFN) Registry: The Access & Functional Needs (AFN) Registry is a list of individuals who may need extra assistance, transportation, or a place to stay during an evacuation, disaster, or emergency. Mono County residents and visitors can visit the READY Mono portal or click <u>here</u> to sign up for the AFN Registry.
- Organize a NeighborFEST: A NeighborFEST block party offers neighbors a chance to connect, have fun, enjoy great food and games, and strengthen their community's resilience. NeighborFEST events can prepare local communities to work together during times of stress to protect vulnerable residents. Click <u>here</u> for details on organizing a NeighborFEST for your community!
- **Download Apps:** Technology can be helpful in providing real-time warnings, updates, and information during an emergency. Mono County residents and visitors are encouraged to download the Genasys Protect application from their app store. Mono County Office of Emergency Management utilizes the Genasys Protect app for emergency alerts and updates. The MyShake application provides early earthquake warnings, and brings users together to build a global earthquake early warning network.

Bookmark <u>Ready.Mono.ca.gov</u> for easy reference! Click <u>here</u> to learn more about National Preparedness Month.

-###-