

Washington State EMERGENCY NEWS/Mitigation & Preparedness



Washington
Military
Department
Emergency
Management
Division
Camp Murray,
Washington
www.emd.wa.gov

For immediate release:

Aug. 26, 2009

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September is National Preparedness Month and NOAA Weather Radio Month

Camp Murray, Wash. – Washington State will observe National Preparedness Month and NOAA Weather Radio Awareness Month in September. Special events and promotions are scheduled across the state to focus individuals and businesses on the importance of preparing for disasters and emergencies.

These events include:

- **State Capitol Campus Safety and Preparedness Fair, Sept. 11.**
- **A statewide Drop, Cover and Hold earthquake drill at 10:15 a.m. on Sept. 16.**
- **Business Resiliency webinar, Sept. 23 to highlight ways businesses can prepare.**
- **Special retail promotions on Sept. 26 to encourage disaster preparedness and the use of all-hazard weather radios.**

“Citizens, companies and governments agencies should review individual preparedness plans, contact information, and emergency kits” so they can be ready in the event of an emergency, said Gov. Chris Gregoire. These actions should enable citizens “to be self-sufficient for a minimum of three days following an act of terrorism, natural or man-made disasters.”

Preparedness month information materials, including Drop, Cover, Hold drill instructions and 72-hour comfort kit fact sheets, will be available Sept. 1 from the Washington Emergency Management Division at www.emd.gov/preparedness/prep_infocus.shtml The web site also will include a list of additional preparedness events to be held around the state.

The Washington Emergency Management Division, the U.S. Internal Revenue Service, U.S. Small Business Administration, Federal Emergency Agency and the state Insurance Commissioner will sponsor a free webinar called “A Roadmap to Business Resiliency” on Sept. 23 from 1 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. This webinar will provide tools and resources to help businesses recover more quickly from unexpected events. Webinar details and registration are available at: http://www.emd.wa.gov/preparedness/business/documents/Webinar_BusinessResiliency.doc

A National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Weather Radio is an important preparedness tool for homes, businesses, government offices and schools. The radios are personal all-hazard warning systems. They help protect lives and property with a warning alarm feature that activates for immediate life-threatening events such as windstorms, tsunamis and hazardous materials releases. The goal of the Weather Radio campaign is to make All-Hazard Weather Radios as common and necessary as smoke detectors in the home, workplace and classroom. September 26 special retail weather radio promotions will be offered in multiple locations.

For more information, please contact Rosanne Garrand, EMD public education program coordinator, (253) 512-7419.

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