

September is National Preparedness Month

posted by Frank Thomason on Friday, September 02, 2011 12:00 AM

A Time to Remember - A Time to Prepare

This month, our nation will mark the ten year anniversary of 9/11, Rowan County Emergency Services' Emergency Management Division has committed to participate in National Preparedness Month (NPM) in September, an event founded after 9/11 to increase preparedness in the U.S. The event, now in its eighth year, is a nationwide, month-long effort hosted by the Ready Campaign and Citizen Corps, encouraging households, businesses and communities to prepare and plan for emergencies. Rowan County is participating this year by helping to encourage all citizens and businesses to take a moment of **time and while recognizing the events of 9/11/2001, to also check your preparedness plans.**

One of NPM's key messages is: be prepared in the event an emergency causes you to be self-reliant for three days without utilities and electricity, water service, access to a supermarket or local services, or maybe even without response from police, fire or rescue. Preparing can start with three important steps:

1. Get an emergency supply kit
2. Make a plan for what to do in an emergency
3. Be informed about emergencies that could happen in your community, and identify sources of information in your community that will be helpful before, during and after an emergency.

Preparedness is a shared responsibility; it takes a whole community. This year's National Preparedness Month focuses on turning awareness into action by encouraging all individuals and all communities nationwide to make an emergency preparedness plan. Preparedness information and other materials are available at www.ReadyROWAN.org, or by calling the Emergency Management Division with Rowan County at 704-216-8900.