

Preparedness Month Proclamation Background

The Preparedness Month Proclamation is requested in order to raise awareness of risks and the importance for Wake County residents to have a plan, prepare a disaster kit, and know how to stay informed during emergencies. Increasing preparedness at the individual level leads to more resilient communities better able to recover after disasters. To better keep Wake County residents informed and encourage preparedness, Ready Wake is being re-launched with an improved website and the addition of real-time Weather Alerts available via Ready Wake Alerts.

Preparedness Month is a nationwide initiative aimed at raising awareness of the importance of all-hazard preparedness for individuals, businesses, and communities. Declaring September as Preparedness Month, in conjunction with the Wake County Board of Commissioners' leadership in the 100 Counties Prepared Initiative, highlights Wake County's commitment to building resilient communities better able to recover after disasters.

This proclamation also supports several Board Goals including: Objectives Community Health and Vitality 3: Support a higher quality of life for vulnerable residents and communities, Growth and Sustainability 5: Promote sustainability and address issues associated with climate change, and Public Safety 3: Provide sustainable, high-quality public safety services to meet the community's current and future needs.

Since its inception in 2004, National Preparedness Month is observed each September in the United States of America. Sponsored by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) within the Department of Homeland Security, National Preparedness Month encourages Americans to take steps to prepare for emergencies in their homes, businesses, schools, and communities.

National Preparedness Month is a part of a governmental effort to strengthen the United States' preparedness capabilities. The national preparedness architecture encompasses prevention, protection, response, and recovery efforts to prepare the United States for all hazards – whether man-made or natural disasters.