



THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS  
EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF PUBLIC SAFETY & SECURITY



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**GOVERNOR PATRICK PROCLAIMS 'EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS MONTH'**

FRAMINGHAM, MA – Governor Deval Patrick has proclaimed that September is ‘*Emergency Preparedness Month*’ in the Commonwealth. Working with the Executive Office of Public Safety and Security (EOPSS) and the Department of Public Health (DPH), the Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency (MEMA) will promote public preparedness and safety throughout the month. These efforts are in conjunction with a nationwide effort to encourage all Americans to take simple steps to better prepare for emergencies at home, work and school

MEMA Director Kurt Schwartz stated, “During the month of September, individuals and families are encouraged to take the steps necessary to ensure the safety and security of themselves and their families during times of emergency.”

To help the public better prepare themselves and their families, MEMA will focus its outreach and activities on four concepts: 1) Be informed, 2) Develop a plan, 3) Build a Kit, and 4) Get involved. MEMA will share information on each of these concepts including: highlighting potential community hazards or risks; ways to obtain information from local and state emergency managers; tips on how to build comprehensive emergency plans for you and your family; tips on how to build a kit that can help sustain your families in times of disasters; and how to become involved.

All citizens of the Commonwealth are encouraged to participate in citizen preparedness activities and asked to use the preparedness resources at [www.mass.gov/mema/ready](http://www.mass.gov/mema/ready) to become more prepared.

Governor Patrick’s Proclamation can be found at: <http://www.mass.gov/eopss/docs/mema/2014-preparedness-month-proclamation.pdf>.

MEMA is the state agency charged with ensuring the state is prepared to withstand, respond to, and recover from all types of emergencies and disasters, including natural hazards, accidents, deliberate attacks, and technological and infrastructure failures. MEMA’s staff of professional planners, communications specialists and operations and support personnel is committed to an all hazards approach to emergency management. By building and sustaining effective partnerships with federal, state and local government agencies, and with the private sector - individuals, families, non-profits and businesses - MEMA ensures the Commonwealth’s ability to rapidly recover from large and small

disasters by assessing and mitigating threats and hazards, enhancing preparedness, ensuring effective response, and strengthening our capacity to rebuild and recover. For additional information about MEMA, go to [www.mass.gov/mema](http://www.mass.gov/mema). Continue to follow MEMA updates on *Twitter* at [www.twitter.com/MassEMA](https://www.twitter.com/MassEMA) and *Facebook* at [www.facebook.com/MassachusettsEMA](https://www.facebook.com/MassachusettsEMA). Also, sign up for *Massachusetts Alerts* to receive emergency information on your smartphone, including severe weather alerts from the National Weather Service and emergency information from MEMA, download the *Massachusetts Alerts* free app. To learn more about *Massachusetts Alerts*, and for information on how to download the free app onto your smartphone, visit: [www.mass.gov/mema/mobileapp](http://www.mass.gov/mema/mobileapp).