

GOVERNOR GREG ABBOTT

Each year Texas experiences a variety of emergencies and natural disasters that pose significant dangers to our communities and affect the lives of many Texans. Whether facing the pandemic, damaging floods or drought, winter weather, or the lasting effects of Hurricane Harvey, it is vital that Texans remain prepared for any disaster.

Across Texas, we have seen communities band together to support their fellow neighbors in the face of disaster. Our individual and collective preparedness is vital to handle any threats and reduce the loss of life and property. It is imperative that we all work together to develop preparedness plans which can help minimize the impact of disaster for ourselves, our families, and our communities.

Individuals and families are encouraged to develop and practice emergency plans to protect their household and property by taking time to create a communication strategy, decide on an emergency meeting location, build a three-day disaster preparedness kit, and sign up for emergency alerts. Additional preparedness considerations should be taken with regards to young children, Texans who are older, individuals with access and functional needs, those with medical devices, and family pets.

Preparedness plans should also include financial preparedness. Saving money is the best defense against disasters. Individuals, families, and business owners should ensure they have access to financial, insurance, and medical records. Property owners in flood-prone areas are encouraged to research and consider obtaining flood insurance through the National Flood Insurance Program, as well as review any existing policies. By staying prepared, we can mitigate the lasting and damaging effects of disasters.

Each September, the State of Texas participates in National Preparedness Month and renews our commitment to promoting emergency preparedness in homes, businesses, and communities across the Lone Star State. At this time, I encourage all Texans to remain mindful of both natural and manmade disasters. As the conditions of potential threats can change rapidly, it is essential to understand and heed warnings from local officials and emergency management personnel. In order to ensure a better and brighter future for the state of Texas, we must prepare today for a safer tomorrow.

Therefore, I, Greg Abbott, Governor of Texas, do hereby proclaim September 2021 to be

Preparedness Month

in Texas, and urge the appropriate recognition whereof.

In official recognition whereof, I hereby affix my signature this the 19th day of August, 2021.

& appart

Governor of Texas