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Media Advisory

September is National Preparedness Month and the Nevada Division of Emergency Management/Homeland Security encourages citizens to Get Involved

As National Preparedness Month comes to an end, the Nevada Division of Emergency Management/Homeland Security (NDEM) is urging the citizens of Nevada to Get Involved before a disaster occurs. Through registering for America's PrepareAthon and practicing your preparedness action plan on September 30, 2014, we can all be safer. Register at www.ready.gov/prepare.

NPM Step 4: Get Involved

Community leaders agree that homeland security requires volunteers, a trained and informed public and increased support of emergency response agencies during disasters. Major disasters can overwhelm first-responder agencies, empowering individuals to lend support. In order to give support effectively when needed, citizens should register to participate in America's PrepareAthon, participate in a posted readiness event, or sponsor an event.

Get Involved before disaster strikes! Here are a few more ways you can help:

- Volunteer with a non-profit organization and be trained before the next event to find meaningful volunteer opportunities following a disaster in your community.
- Affiliate with existing non-profit organizations before coming to the disaster area.
- Be part of the community planning process. Connect and collaborate with your local emergency planning group, Citizen Corps Council or local emergency management agency
- Find an event or identify local resources, build a team, choose a project, set goals and serve your community by improving the preparedness of your friends, colleagues and neighbors.
- Support relief efforts by donating cash or goods that may help meet the needs of your community in times of disaster.

This represents only a few of the many ways that individuals and community organizations can Get Involved to help communities lessen, prepare for, respond to and recover from disasters.

For more information on how to be prepared through practice go to: <http://www.ready.gov/get-involved>

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