

A p a r t m e n t

SAFETY NOTES

SPOKANE FIRE DEPARTMENT

September 2012

IS EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS MONTH ON YOUR CALENDAR?

You may have already marked Labor Day, the first day of school, and “National Self Improvement Month” on your September calendar. Add to your notes a “*Get It Together This Time!*” since September is also designated as National Emergency Preparedness Month!

During the past seven years of the Ready Campaign, some folks put together survival kits and created some basic plans with their families. Unfortunately, the peanut butter, water, medications and list of important phone numbers are now out of date and the Go Kit is of limited use if there were need to immediately evacuate. For these individuals or organizations, September is the perfect time to re-stock and re-organize.



Given the turmoil that is associated with any unexpected emergency, it only makes sense for every family and community to have their preparedness act together at all times. However, it's fair to guess that there are still many individuals and businesses that haven't yet made a dent in their basic “Get Ready!” list during the past seven years!

Here are some emergency readiness questions for your tenants as well as for your staff and their families:

- ✓ Do you have a “To Go Kit” together with the basics you would need to survive for at least 72 hours, including medications, in the event you had to immediately leave your home?
- ✓ Do you have enough food and water on hand to survive 72 hours if the emergency required that you “shelter in place” and prevented you from leaving the building?
- ✓ Do you have an emergency plan that includes a way to gather family members even if phones aren't working?



- ✓ Could you handle an earthquake if one struck while you were visiting in Seattle?
- ✓ Have you thought about the important daily needs of every member of your family or tenant unit: babies, young children, teens, grandparents, family pets, individuals who are hard of hearing or speak a different language, persons with mental health challenges or family members in motorized wheel chairs?

Fortunately there are four good resources for guiding us all towards preparedness:

- **A hot-off-the-press 12-page booklet compiled by the Spokane Department of Emergency Management that provides key readiness information for households, pets, and the emergency notification system known as ALERT Spokane.**

To order a limited number of copies, contact Jan Doherty at (509)625-7058 or jdoherthy@spokanefire.org.

- www.ready.gov
- www.spokaneprepares.org
- Webinars each Wednesday in September at 11:00 AM through <http://www2.agilityrecovery.com/npm>



Plan Now. Work Together. Be Ready.

NATIONAL PREPAREDNESS MONTH
September 2010 | ready.gov

TRAINING OPPORTUNITY!

Mark your calendar again for September 20 and 27 and the chance to enroll in the very successful Crime Free Multi-Housing Program. CFMH assists landlords in reducing crime and calls for police service in addition to promoting safety in apartment communities.

Presentations include crime victim advocacy and I.D. theft, crisis resolution, evictions, Landlord/Tenant Laws, warning signs for drug usage and gang involvement, domestic violence situations and fire safety requirements. Instructors are from Spokane C.O.P.S., S.C.O.P.E. (i.e. Sheriff Community Oriented Policing Effort), Spokane Sheriff, Police and Fire Departments, the Northwest Fair Housing Alliance and the YWCA.

Benefits of becoming a certified Crime Free Multi-Housing community include the fact that fully certified properties have reported reductions in police calls for service up to 70%. Crime Free sites provide a safe and secure environment for their residents. They invite a more stable and satisfied long-term resident base. Crime Free Multi-Housing units not only improve personal safety for tenants and managers, but they lower maintenance and repair costs as they increase property value.

The cost of the class (September 20 and 27 from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM) is \$75 per person. You can register by phone (509) 835-4572 or e-mail mvulcano@spokanepolice.org.

For more information, go to <http://www.spokanecops.org/crime-free-multi-housing-cfmh>.



Be sure to visit our website at www.spokanefire.org

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