SARATOGA COUNTY PROVIDES TIPS AND RESOURCES IN RECOGNITION OF NATIONAL EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS MONTH
Urges Residents to enroll in County's CodeRed Emergency Notification System & Special Needs Registry as part of Readiness Planning

SARATOGA COUNTY, NY – Saratoga County Office of Emergency Services (OES) today reminds residents to be ready and to have a plan in recognition of National Emergency Preparedness Month. Officials recommend residents take advantage of resources from Saratoga County including the CodeRed emergency notification system and Special Needs Registry in their readiness planning.

Residents can sign up for the County's CodeRed emergency notification system to stay informed of emergency situations such as storm advisories, boil water advisories, road closures or important COVID-19 information. By enrolling in this free service, residents will receive text messages or emails in the event of a critical event near them. Residents can sign up for Saratoga County CodeRed by visiting www.SaratogaCountyNY.gov.

Residents with special needs may choose to sign up for the county's Special Needs Registry. The program is a voluntary registry designed to assist residents with special needs who would need assistance to evacuate their homes during an emergent situation such as a natural or manmade disaster. To sign up for the Saratoga County Special Needs Registry, residents can visit https://www.saratogacountyny.gov/special-needs-registry/.

"Emergencies and natural disasters can strike anywhere and at any time. It's important for everyone to be prepared and have a plan," said, Theodore T. Kusnierz, Jr., Town of Moreau Supervisor and Saratoga County Board of Supervisors Chairman. "Saratoga County residents can take the first step in protecting themselves and their families by signing up for our CodeRed emergency notification system and, for those with special needs, enrolling in the Special Needs Registry."

"We have seen extreme weather events right here in Saratoga County. So, we encourage residents to prepare now and be ready if an emergency occurs in their community," said Carl Zeilman, Commissioner of the Saratoga County Office of Emergency Services. "The mission of the Office of Emergency Services is to protect life and property during disasters and emergencies and part of that plan is to remind our residents and business owners to have a plan in place and be ready."

This year's campaign focuses on the following weekly themes:

Week 1 September 1-4: Make A Plan. Your family may not be together if a disaster strikes, so it is important to know how you'll contact one another and reconnect if separated. Establish a family meeting place that's familiar and easy to find.

Week 2 September 5-11: Build A Kit. Being prepared means having your own food, water and other supplies to last for several days. A disaster supplies kit is a collection of basic items your household may need in the event of an emergency. Don't forget to consider the unique needs each person or pet may have in case you have to evacuate quickly. Update your kits and supplies based on recommendations by the Centers for Disease Control.

Week 3 September 12-18: Low-Cost, No-Cost Preparedness. Limit the impacts that disasters have on you and your family. Know the risk of disasters in your area. Learn how to make your home stronger in the face of storms and other common hazards. Check your insurance coverage to make sure it is up-to-date.

Week 4 September 19-25: Teach Youth About Preparedness. Talk to your kids about preparing for emergencies and what to do in case you are separated. Reassure them by providing information about how they can get involved.

For more tips and resources related to each weekly theme, follow Saratoga County OES on Facebook @SaratogaOES, Instagram @saratogaemergencyservices, and Twitter @SaratogaOES. More information and resources for emergency preparedness are also available at https://www.ready.gov/.

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