



# Emergency Preparedness Month

In cooperation with the office of Assemblywoman Quijano and the New Jersey State Library, the New Jersey Library Association is asking libraries, "What can we do to make our communities better prepared for emergencies?" With over 450 locations across New Jersey, our libraries can play a major role in community preparedness and resiliency. Let's check each of these off and make our communities safer. Be sure to register your event with <http://community.fema.gov/>



**1. Plan a blood drive** - Close to 2,000 donations are needed each day in the New York/New Jersey community for patients who require a lifesaving blood and/or platelet transfusion. Donating blood today will save many lives tomorrow. Contact: Shauna Lynch, 732.616.8736, [slynch@nybloodcenter.org](mailto:slynch@nybloodcenter.org)



**2. Contact Local OEM** - Distribute handouts about being prepared for emergencies, including emergency kit checklists. Promote CERT Teams/Teen CERT & Medical Reserve Corps. CERT teams are designed to make individuals, their families and their communities safer, stronger and better prepared to deal with a terrorist attack or a natural disaster.



**3. Learn more about Emergency Preparedness** - Attend Emergency Preparedness Training presented by the FEMA Region II staff on September 24th @ Elizabeth Public Library, Elmora Branch. Want to bring the training to your consortium, county library or library group? Contact: Eric Goldman, 212.680.8640, [Eric.Goldman@fema.dhs.gov](mailto:Eric.Goldman@fema.dhs.gov)



**4. Create/update your library's Emergency Response Plan** - Is your library prepared to operate through and after an emergency? Take the Red Cross Assessment: <http://www.redcross.org/prepare/location/workplace>



**5. Have a program in your library** - Invite a fireman, policeman, or local OEM for a program about preparedness. See reverse for children's programming ideas, and check out our site on Pinterest, <https://www.pinterest.com/newjerseylibrar/> for ideas, including having library users create their own emergency preparedness items.



**6. Review the Librarian's Disaster Planning and Community Resiliency Toolkit** - From the *New Jersey State Library*, presented as a series of "how to" resources, the toolkit will allow any public library to proactively respond to community disaster. (Available in September)



BE SMART. TAKE PART. PREPARE.

## **Children's Resources for Emergency Preparedness Month**

### **Resources:**

NJ OEM Be Prepared for Emergencies Handout (Available from Local Office of Emergency Mgt)  
Website lists on library website  
Book displays  
Emergency kit display with copies of list  
Resources for parents about how to help kids before/during/after

### **Passive programs:**

Post tips around the library  
Scavenger hunt contest in library (find all the emergency kit items)  
Worksheets, coloring pages  
Disney Coloring Pages: <http://tinyurl.com/n4lyccy>, in Spanish: <http://tinyurl.com/q944hot>

### **Elementary age:**

Science programs: hurricanes, tornadoes, blizzards, etc.  
Book club selections: I Survived series, Tornado, Night of the Twisters, etc.  
FEMA and Flat Stanley: <http://www.ready.gov/flatstanley>

### **Host a Family Safety Event:**

- Invite community helpers: EMT, Police, Fire, Red Cross
- Good time to offer Child I.D.s (Check with Police)
- Have emergency vehicles for kids to check out
- Make a Plan* worksheet families can fill out
- Have kids decorate a bag, pillowcase or box for emergency kit
- Practice dialing a phone
- Learn Basic First aid
- Create Preparedness Games
- Offer a certificate or other small incentive for kids who have attended

### **Storytime ideas:**

"All about me"

Incorporate:

Name (Important for children to know their full names)

Family members' names

Phone number and address

"Community Helpers"

Incorporate:

Helpers keep you safe

How to ask for help

How you know help is on the way/emergency sounds

"Weather"

Incorporate:

How to be safe in different weather

**Children's Resources: Courtesy of Megan McCarthy**