

# FEMA Preparedness Update



August 15, 2012



**FEMA**

# Agenda

- Welcome/Technical Overview
- Welcoming Comments, Aretha Carter, Ready.gov
- Joe McKenna, Research Specialist, Texas School Safety Center
- Lisa Janak Newman, Public Information Officer, Georgia Emergency Management Agency
- Daniel DeSantis, School Preparedness Toolkit
- Jeannie Moran, Individual and Community Preparedness Division Update
- Aretha Carter, Ready Campaign Update
- Question and Answer Session



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# Back to School Preparedness Activities for Youth

Joe McKenna  
Research Specialist  
Texas School Safety Center  
Texas State University-San Marcos

# The Texas School Safety Center

“Preparing Today for a Safer Tomorrow”

- What does the TxSSC do?
- How does the center achieve its goals?
- What is the role of the TxSSC in youth preparedness?

# Youth Preparedness Camp

- “Texas 27” Pilot Project
- “Texas 30” Youth Preparedness Camp



# Back to School Preparedness Activities for Youth

- Building Emergency Preparedness Kits for the Classroom and the Community (Go-Kits)
  - In-Class Activity
  - School scavenger hunt
  - Youth assisting the community

# Back to School Preparedness Activities for Youth

- Development and Understanding of Emergency Plans
  - Youth created emergency procedures book
  - “Problem scenario” skits
  - Poster contest

# Back to School Preparedness Activities for Youth

- Other Activities
  - Youth preparedness committee for the campus
  - Student-led assembly
  - Student-led emergency drills



# Take Home Message

- Make the activities:
  - Engaging
  - Powerful
  - FUN!!
- Allow the youth to take control and ownership of the activity

# Thank you!!!

- **Contact Information:**

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“The Texas School Safety Center envisions a world where all schools and communities are safe, secure, and healthy.”



# Ready. Georgia

Prepare. Plan. Stay Informed.



[www.Ready.GA.gov](http://www.Ready.GA.gov)

# NPM Kids Contest Goals



- Increase awareness and interest in the importance of disaster preparedness
- Educate children, and through them, their parents, about Ready Georgia and how to prepare for different disasters
- Motivate families to take action to prepare, plan and stay informed through Ready Georgia so they can become more resilient in a disaster



- Nearly 2,000 entries submitted over three years
- Video component added last year
- Contest expanded this year, now open to 3<sup>rd</sup> - 5<sup>th</sup> graders
- Theme: Georgia Kids are Super Ready

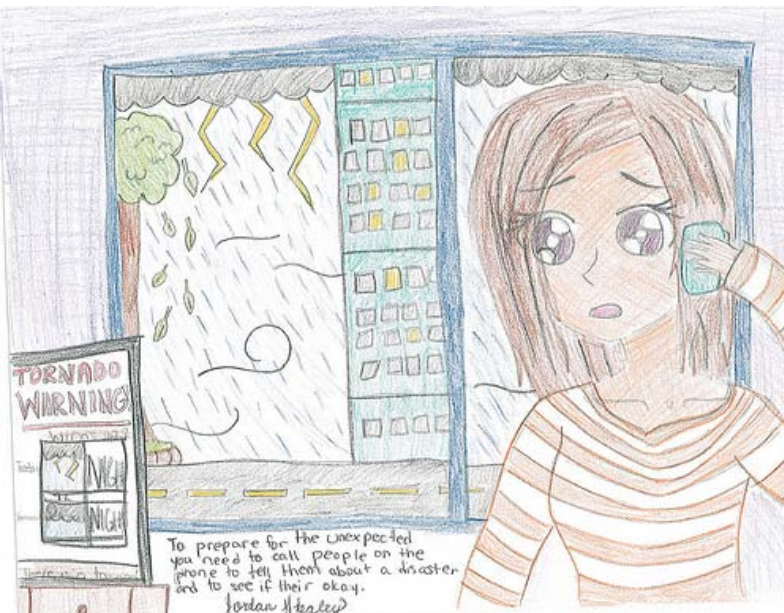
# Contest Rules



- Entries should creatively portray the Ready Superhero theme and demonstrate an understanding of at least one step of emergency preparedness
- Essays limited to 500 words
- Video category open to individuals, groups and classes and are no longer than four minutes
- Contest concludes on September 30

# Promotion

- Contest announced in a statewide press release
- Announcement emailed to school superintendents and principals and promoted through School Safety
- Contest also promoted on website and social media; shared with kid contest websites and sites for home schooling resources





# And the Winner is ...



- Entries reviewed by a panel of judges
- First, second and third prizes are awarded in the art and essay categories, one winner in the video category
- All winners are featured on the Ready Georgia website, Flickr page and Facebook



# Benefits to Campaign



- Generates fresh, fun content for the Ready Georgia website, social media channels and media relations
- Provides students an opportunity to internalize preparedness messages and generate their own creative take on what it means to get ready

# Other NPM Activities for Kids



- The Home Depot will host a Ready-themed workshop for kids
- Every child who attends receives a Ready Kids activity book featuring Rex the Ready Kids mascot, a kid-sized orange apron and an achievement pin

# School Toolkit

- Finalizing school toolkit for 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> graders
- Includes lesson plans for teachers, activities for children and handouts for parents

# Contact Information

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# The School Toolkit

Daniel DeSantis

*Individual and Community Preparedness Division  
(Contractor)*



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UNITING COMMUNITIES  
PREPARING THE NATION

[www.citizencorps.gov](http://www.citizencorps.gov)



# The School Toolkit

- Provides tips, tools, suggestions and links on school preparedness
- It is composed of two resources
  - Preparedness Tips for Parents and Guardians
  - Preparedness Tips for Administrators



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# Preparedness Tips for Parents and Guardians

- Take advantage of resources ranging from a communication plan to zombie preparedness!
- Use materials collected in an easy to access location to help ensure that your children are safe whether at home or in school



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# Preparedness Tips for Administrators

- Share a portion of the school or district emergency plan to parents and guardians
- Explain administrator and parent roles in responding to an emergency
- Focus on youth preparedness



Ready. FEMA

PREPAREDNESS TIPS FOR SCHOOL ADMINISTRATORS

### Beyond Back to School Night: Helping Schools, Students and Families Prepare for Emergencies

ARE YOU PREPARED?

Do you know which hazards are more common in your area of the country? Are some of your schools more vulnerable than others? Have you planned for weather and man-made emergencies with local first responders, staff, and students? What if you have to evacuate your school?

You are the future of this country and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) wants to help you ensure your staff, students, and their families are safe during an emergency by helping them prepare before one occurs. This document provides tips, talking points, and emergency planning resources for school administrators.

**DID YOU KNOW?**

- Children comprise almost a quarter of our nation's population.
- About 50 million children are enrolled in public elementary and secondary schools across the country.

**What to Share**

Back to School Night and PTA meetings are some of the best opportunities you'll have to communicate about preparedness information with parents and guardians. Here are some suggestions for what to share during these events as well as throughout the year:

- Your school's roles and responsibilities in planning for or responding to emergencies.
- Your communications plan(s) in place for emergencies. This could include a phone system that plays a message for all subscribers, an alert system that sends a text message to parents and guardians, a combination of these, or a more traditional "phone tree." However, messaging using phone numbers require maintaining current information for parents and guardians. This document provides [message scripts](#) by

the type of incident. You can also download and share copies of Ready.gov's Family Emergency Plan with families and encourage them to create their own communication plans.

- Your school's procedures for evacuation, lockdown and reunification. One of the most important things for parents and guardians to do during an event that calls for students to be evacuated to another site or schools to be locked down is to remain calm. Knowing their children will be well taken care of until they are reunited with them will make lockdown and evacuation processes easier. Make sure you share information on your lockdown procedures, evacuation procedures and effects, and reunification plans with parents and guardians. It may be helpful to summarize these plans, and, if possible, translate the plan or summary into languages spoken by parents and guardians with children who attend your school. This [page](#) defines terms and explains lockdown, evacuation and reunification steps to parents.
- What you have done in response to emergency (e.g., hurricanes, earthquakes) to improve your plans, and how parents and guardians can help plan for such an event.

**Help with Planning**

The Department of Education (ED) sponsors the Readiness and Emergency Management for Schools (REMS) Technical Assistance website, which includes a resource repository and links to publications. [Click here](#) to visit and search the REMS website. Below we highlight



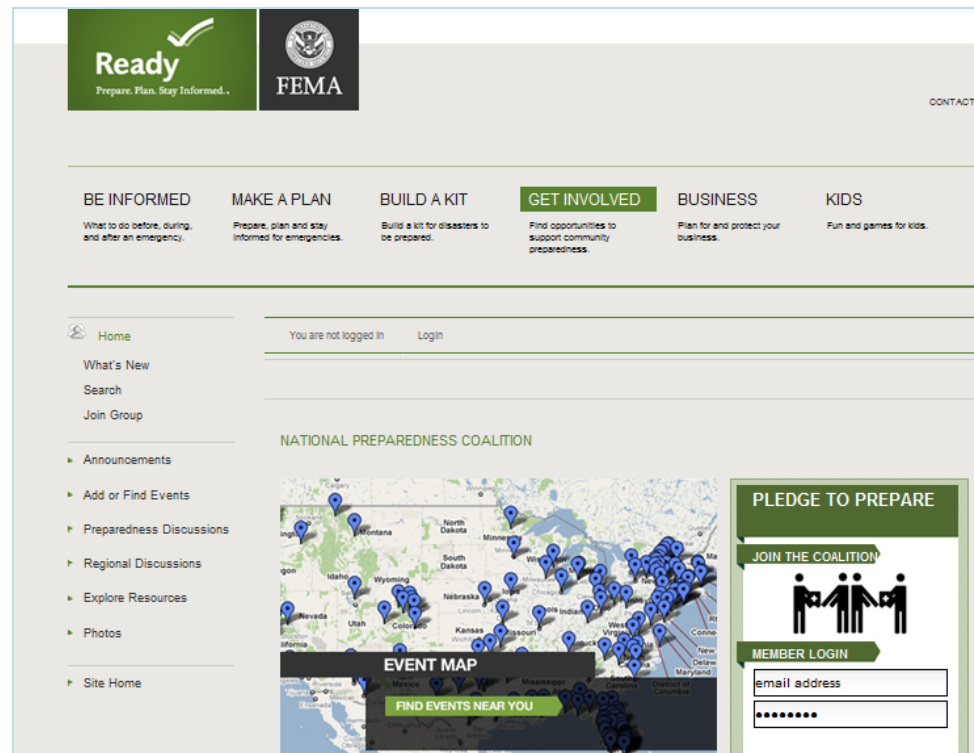
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# Access the School Toolkit: Pledge to Prepare

- Join the National Preparedness Coalition at [ready.gov/pledge](https://ready.gov/pledge)
- Take advantage of exclusive resources, downloadable for members on our resources page
- Post your point of view on the National Preparedness Coalition discussion boards
- Share your community events, pictures and best practices with us on the site!



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## ● *FEMA Youth Updates*

- Project Idea: Message Pushing
- FEMA Youth Preparedness Council
- Youth Discussion Boards
- Youth Preparedness State Workshops
- Technical Assistance Available



**NPM COALITION MEMBERS**  
**10,532 August YTD**

**Goal**  
**12,500**

# Join the NPM Coalition

go to:

<http://community.fema.gov>

## Tools, Resources, & Features

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The National Preparedness Coalition website is updated every year to provide members with relevant information, innovative ideas, and tools they can use to help prepare their communities:

- **Discussion Forums**
- **\*\*\*Events Calendar\*\*\***
- **Events Ideas**
- **Photos**
- **National Preparedness Month Outreach Resources**

# Events Calendar

## CALENDAR



### ADD YOUR EVENT

Get started by selecting the appropriate calendar from the drop down list below.

State/Territory List:



### FIND EVENTS

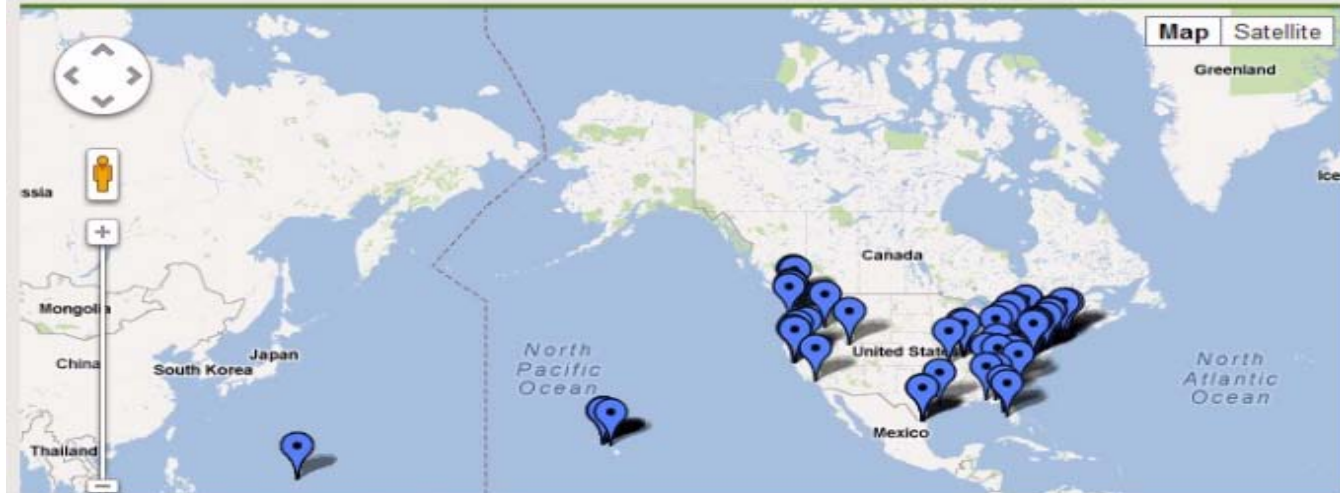
Search by Zip Code below.



### FIND NATIONAL OR VIRTUAL EVENTS

Click here to browse webinars and other online events.

[View Events >](#)





- ▶ Announcements
- ▶ Add or Find Events
- ▶ Preparedness Discussions
- ▶ Regional Discussions
- ▶ Explore Resources
- ▶ Photos
- ▶ 2012 Coalition Members
- ▶ Site Home

### ADD OR FIND EVENTS



#### ADD YOUR EVENT

Get started by selecting the appropriate calendar from the drop down list below.

Virginia [go]



#### FIND EVENTS

Search by Zip Code below.

22030 [go]



#### FIND NATIONAL OR VIRTUAL EVENTS

Browse webinars and other online events.

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# Join the NPM Coalition

go to:

<http://community.fema.gov>

## Questions?

[citizencorps@fema.gov](mailto:citizencorps@fema.gov)

[Ready@fema.gov](mailto:Ready@fema.gov)