

# Emergency Preparedness Month

September is nationally recognized as Emergency Preparedness Month. The “Ready” campaign was started by the federal government to assist the public in preparing for natural disasters. Allegheny County Emergency Services is proud to join that effort as we educate and empower our residents to prepare for and respond to emergencies including natural and man-made disasters.

Please look at all of our Fact Sheets to educate yourself, get involved and increase your basic preparedness. Don't forget to follow us on Facebook ([www.facebook.com/Allegheny\\_County](http://www.facebook.com/Allegheny_County)) and Twitter (@Allegheny\_Co) for more tips.



## Tornado Readiness

Tornadoes can develop so rapidly that advanced warning is not possible. Remain alert for signs of an approaching tornado, such as a dark, often greenish sky, large hail, or a loud roar similar to a freight train.

- ⇒ The safest place to be in the event of a tornado is an underground shelter, basement or safe room.
- ⇒ If none of those options are available, use a small, windowless interior room or hallway on the lowest level of a sturdy building.
- ⇒ If in a mobile home, use the bathroom and cover your head with your hands or a blanket.
- ⇒ If you are caught outdoors; immediately get into a vehicle and drive to the closest sturdy shelter. If there is flying debris, pull over and park. Stay in your vehicle, put your head down below the windows and cover your head with your hands.
- ⇒ If you can safely get lower than the roadway, exit your car and lie in that area, covering your head with your hands.