



NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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The Woodridge Police Department Announces Participation in September's National Preparedness Month

This September: You Can Be the Hero

Woodridge, IL – This September is National Preparedness Month (NPM). The Woodridge Police Department has committed to participate in order to increase preparedness throughout DuPage, Will and Cook counties. The event began in 2004 and is a nationwide, month-long effort hosted by the Federal Emergency Management Association's *Ready* campaign, as well as Citizen Corps.

The purpose of NPM is to encourage households, businesses and communities to prepare and plan for emergencies. NPM's key message is: be prepared in the event an emergency causes you to be self-reliant for three days without utilities, water service, access to food stores or without response from police, fire or rescue. Preparation for such emergency starts with four important steps:

- 1) Be informed about emergencies that could happen in your community and identify sources of information in your community that will be helpful before, during and after an emergency.
- 2) Make a plan for what to do in an emergency
- 3) Build an emergency supply kit
- 4) Get involved.

Community preparedness requires all local organizations and individuals' participation. This year's National Preparedness Month focuses on turning awareness into action by encouraging all individuals and all communities nationwide to make an emergency preparedness plan.

Woodridge Police Department's local Emergency Management Coordinator, Sergeant William Hoogland, encourages your household to prepare a supply kit including water and daily medications that can sustain your family and pets for 3 to 5 days. The Woodridge Police Department would also like to remind residents to sign up for local emergency alerts through the Village's website at <http://www.vil.woodridge.il.us/list.aspx?Mode=Subscribe#newsFlash>.

For more information about the *Ready* campaign and National Preparedness Month, visit <http://community.fema.gov/connect.ti/READYNPM>, call 1-800-BE-READY, 1-888-SE-LISTO, TTY 1-800-462-7585 and “like” the Woodridge Police Department’s Facebook page to receive updates on local emergency preparedness news, as well as updates from FEMA and the *Ready* campaign.

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